

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

June 13, 2025

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

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Updates from Local History Services



Call for

Nominations!

2025 Indiana Historical Society Awards

2025 IHS AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE JULY 1

Do you know an individual or organization who does outstanding work in Indiana's state and local history? Each year, the [Indiana Historical Society Awards](#) recognize outstanding individuals and organizations whose efforts have enriched the lives of others by conveying

awareness and appreciation of Indiana's history on local, regional and statewide levels.

We are accepting nominations for the following awards:

- Caleb Mills Indiana History Teacher of the Year
- Dorothy Riker Hoosier Historian Award
- Eli Lilly Lifetime Achievement Award
- Hubert Hawkins Local History Award
- Willard C. Heiss Family History/Genealogy Award
- Indiana History Outstanding Event or Project Award
- Outstanding Collaborative Project Award
- Outstanding Historical Organization Award

The nomination deadline is July 1, 2025. [Start your nomination today!](#)

HERITAGE SUPPORT MINI GRANTS AVAILABLE

[Heritage Support Mini Grants](#) from \$500 to \$4,999 are available for projects that will help Indiana's local history organizations meet high-priority needs in areas of: Collections Stewardship; Capacity Building; Sustainability; and Planning.

Heritage Support Grants are provided by the Indiana Historical Society and made possible by Lilly Endowment Inc.

Around Indiana



[Businesses on Illinois Street near the Intersection of Ohio Street and Indiana Avenue, ca. 1950s](#)
(Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

The Elkhart County Historical Museum has [won a Leadership in History Award from the American Association for State and Local History](#) for their *Clues Through the Lens* exhibit. See the list of winners [here](#). (AASLH) Congratulations!!

The \$30 million renovation of Spring Mill Inn in Mitchell has won [Indiana Landmarks' Renaissance Award](#). (Indiana Landmarks)

Local Attorney and civic leader Merritt Alcorn of Madison has been selected to receive [Indiana Landmarks' 2025 Williamson Prize](#) for outstanding leadership in historic preservation. (Indiana Landmarks)

Indiana University's [new bison mascot](#) links back to a forgotten piece of Indiana history. (Indy Star)

IN-PERSON EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

PLEASE NOTE: For in-person programs, please check with the hosting organization regarding any COVID-19 restrictions and/or requirements.

[Indiana's America 250 Kick-off](#)

June 14, Indianapolis – Indiana's Semiquincentennial Commission will hold a program to begin Indiana's celebration of America's 250th anniversary. The program will begin at 11 a.m. (Event in the Pershing auditorium at the Indiana War Memorial)

[Summer Lecture Series: Unlock the Power of Using DNA to Enhance Your Genealogy](#)

June 14, Indianapolis – In three sessions, you will learn how to leverage DNA to uncover your family history. (Indiana State Library)

[Kick-off America's Semiquincentennial – Starke County](#)

June 14, North Judson – Speakers will share information about local plans for the semiquincentennial, and there will be music, a historic trivia walk, and more. (Starke County Historical Society; event at the North Judson-Wayne Township Public Library)

[Historical Society Meeting and Presentation – Historical Preservation](#)

June 16, Knox – Sallie LaRocco will speak on the historical preservation of homes and buildings. (Schricker House, Starke County Historical Society)

[Making the Most of County Histories](#)

June 17, Frankfort – Learn how the Indiana State Library County History Collection can be useful for finding biographical sketches of your ancestors. (Clinton County Genealogical Society; event at the Frankfort Community Public Library)

[Black Resilience in Indiana: Building on the Heritage of Survival](#)

June 19, Indianapolis – In observance of Juneteenth, Indiana Landmarks welcomes poet and scholar Dr. Lasana D. Kazembe for an exploration of Black resilience. (Indiana Landmarks)

[Black Heritage Oral History Harvest](#)

June 21, Lyles Station – Researchers with Indiana Landmarks Black Heritage Preservation program will be conducting 30-minute oral history interviews. On-site registration is available that day. (Lyles Station)

[Talking History: Repurposing](#)

June 21, New Harmony – The discussion will center on the concept of repurposing: finding a new use for an idea, object, or building by adapting it for a different purpose than originally intended. (Historic New Harmony)

[Legacy Reception & Book Chat: An Afternoon with A'Lelia Bundles](#)

June 22, Indianapolis – Join an unforgettable afternoon with the remarkable A'Lelia Bundles. (Madam Walker Legacy Center)

[Gallery Talk – Blondes Have More Fun: How Yellow Bricks Have Made Vibrant Great Lakes Region Communities](#)

July 2, Elkhart – This talk will be presented by Lauren Finnigan, Ph.D, Adjunct Professor of Anthropology at Indiana University South Bend and the University of Notre Dame. (Ruthmere)

[Pulaski County Historical Society and Museum Grand Opening](#)

July 10, Winamac – See the new Cultural Center, and enjoy light refreshments and a short program. (Pulaski County Historical Society)

[17th Annual Old Car Show](#)

July 19, La Porte – See classic cars, enjoy food trucks and vendors, and visit the museum. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

FROM THE BLOG

[Lost Barrios of Indiana: “Block and Pennsy” of Indiana Harbor, Part II](#)

Part two of this blog series examines the aftereffects of Urban Renewal Project No. 1 from 1964-1969.

UNBOUND PODCAST

[May I Have This Dance?: Indiana Dance Halls](#)

Make your way to the dance floor and bust a move, cut a rug, or boogie down on this all-new episode of Unbound!

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Courage in the Face of Hate: Hoosiers Who Stood Against the Klan in Indiana](#)

June 17 – Join us for a thought-provoking evening with James H. Madison exploring the history of Hoosiers who resisted the Klan.

[Walking the Electric Rail](#)

June 20 – Join us on a walk along the interurban lines that connected key locations through Indianapolis.

[Juneteenth Celebration – FREE Admission](#)

June 21 – Join us for a FREE day celebrating and recognizing the impact of African American history and heritage in Indiana through crafts, videos, food and exhibits.

What We're Reading This Week



[Tune Brothers Hat Window, 1942](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Join the National Museum of African American History and Culture's [Juneteenth celebration during the entire month of June](#) and embrace the rich history of Freedom Day each week. (Smithsonian)

[Civic Season](#) begins on Juneteenth – This summer, millions of Americans will meet up in communities nationwide to learn about our past and shape the future. (Made By Us)

AASLH's [LGBTQ+ Inclusive Interpretation Resource Kit](#) shares AASLH webinars, Technical Leaflets, award winners, and conference sessions, along with external resources. (AASLH)

U.S. 250 NEWS AND RESOURCES

To mark the 250th anniversary of America's founding on July 4, 1776, [Smithsonian magazine is highlighting the people, places and events](#) that shaped the United States' fight for independence from Great Britain. (Smithsonian Magazine)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Extending the invitation: [strategies for welcoming visitors and reducing barriers to access](#). (AAM)

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

Preventive conservation: What is [active environmental monitoring](#)? (Conserv)

Order an object at the [Victoria and Albert Museum's new East Storehouse](#) to get up-close to 5,000 years of cultural heritage. (This is Colossal)

AUDIENCE AND COMMUNITY

[Liven up museum visits](#) without using expensive tech. (Museum 411)

"Stealing" ideas from everyone: What Apple Stores, airports, and playgrounds [can teach museums about visitor experience](#). (ExhibiTricks)

[Event registration forms 101](#): How-to, best practices and templates. (Wild Apricot)

FUNDRAISING

The [psychology of yes](#): What every fundraiser needs to master. (Clairification)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

In uncertain times, [ask these questions](#) before you make a decision. (Harvard Business Review)

[Enhancing leadership trust](#) in a time of accelerating change. (Forbes)

NEED A BREAK?

From hat unboxing to classic camera clicks, experience these [satisfying, tingle-inducing ASMR videos of artifacts](#). (Victoria & Albert Museum)

In the early days of harnessing electricity, a [fascinating array of electrified clothing and accessories](#) offered ways to experience and conquer a mysterious and vigorous force. (JSTOR Daily)

[11 bizarre items](#) sold by Sears in 1902. (Mental Floss)

How British college students [convinced authorities that flying saucers were invading the U.K.](#) in 1967. (Smithsonian Magazine)

Learning Opportunities



[Violet Reynolds Making a Film about Walker Products, ca. 1950](#) (Madam C.J. Walker Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

[Say What? Demystifying Preservation and Conservation Terms with CCAHA's New Glossary](#)

June 18 – Join Preservation Specialist Katie Lowe for a tour of CCAHA's new Preservation Glossary. (CCAHA)

[NAGPRA Steps to Repatriation-Summaries](#)

June 20 – This is part of a series of 10 webinars on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. (National Park Service)

[Oral History Tools & Best Practices for America's 250th](#)

June 23 – Learn how to capture and share personal stories using digital tools in the A250 Oral History & Digital Storytelling event. (TheirStory et. al.)

[AASLH History Hour: Walking Tours](#)

June 24 – This month's event will feature a discussion of walking tours at museums, historic sites, and public spaces. (AASLH)

[Preserving Our Past as Place-Based Care Work](#)

June 26 – Hear insights from preservation professionals on the type of care work it takes to preserve our past using similar techniques as archivists. (Connecting to Collections Care)

[Future Chat – Covering Your Assets: Museum Insurance in a Warming World](#)

June 26 – Join a discussion on the future of museum insurance and what museums can do to prepare for changes in coverage. (AAM)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

[Systems, Stories, and Stewardship: A Practical Guide to Modern Fundraising](#)

June 16 – Learn how organizations can deepen donor relationships, drive giving, and build systems that make both possible. \$20; \$15 members. (Ohio Museums Association)

[Braver Together: Strengthening Civil and Human Rights](#)

June 17 – Join a participatory virtual workshop to build cultural workers' capacity to act bravely in strengthening civic structures. Pay what you can; suggested \$10. (Braden Paynter, Linda Norris, and Stacey Garcia)

[Becoming Data Informed: Insights into Working with Data for Museum Stores](#)

June 18 – Learn what data-informed organizations do differently that lead to their proven success. \$40; \$25 members. (Museum Store Association)

[Strengthening History Communication: Reframing the Value of History and Your Institution](#)

June 25 – This half-day virtual workshop will help history practitioners learn how to communicate about their work more effectively. \$150; \$100 members. (AASLH)

[Deaccessioning History Collections](#)

June 26 – Join staff from the Valentine Museum in Richmond, Virginia, to learn about their multi-year deaccessioning process. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

[Fundraising for Small Nonprofits](#)

July 10-11, Indianapolis – Learn how to efficiently use your time and existing resources to achieve your fundraising goals. \$199. (Lilly Family School of Philanthropy)

[Registration Now Open for the 2025 AASLH Annual Conference](#)

Sept. 10-13, Cincinnati, Ohio – Join the national history community for this year's conference, which will feature more than 70 learning sessions, fun evening events, and tours to experience the area's history. \$453; \$395 members early bird by July 25. (AASLH)

Funding Available



[Eureka Sales Company Booth, 1925](#) (Bass Photo Co Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

[2025 AASLH Annual Conference Fellowships and Scholarships](#)

Due June 27 – Applications are now open for scholarships and fellowships to attend the American Association for State and Local History Annual Conference. Three opportunities are available: the Cinnamon Catlin-Legutko Memorial Scholarship, Douglas Evelyn Diversity Fellowships, and Small Museums Scholarships. The 2025 conference will be held Sept. 10-13 in Cincinnati, Ohio. (AASLH)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[Wyeth Foundation for American Art Grants](#)

Due June 15 (Wyeth Foundation for American Art)

[Rural Youth Leaders Initiative](#)

Due June 16 (Partners for Rural Impact and Clear Creek Creative)

[Preservation and Access Education and Training Grants](#)

Due June 17 (NEH)

[2025 AASLH Annual Conference Fellowships and Scholarships](#)

Due June 27 (AASLH)

[Levitt Music Series Grants](#)

Due June 30 (Levitt Foundation)

[The Winning Grant Proposal Competition](#)

Due June 30 (GrantStation)

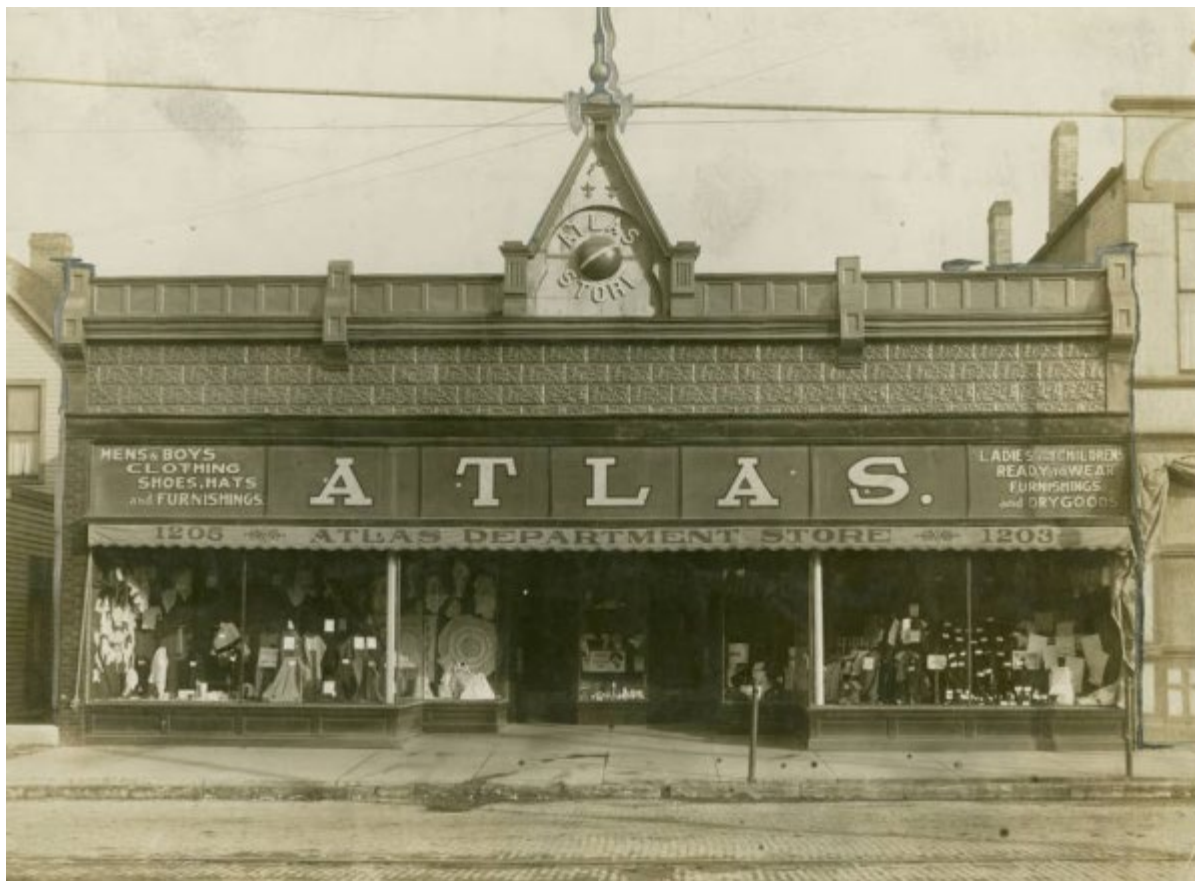
[THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION Library Microgrant Opportunity](#)

Due July 7 (PBS)

[Celebrate America! Grants in Honor of America's 250th Anniversary](#)

Applications accepted on a rolling basis (NEH)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Atlas Store, Evansville, ca. 1915](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0611)

LOCAL

[Human Resources Generalist – Volunteer Management and Payroll](#)

Fishers – Conner Prairie

[Librarian-Local History & Genealogy](#)

Greenfield – Hancock County Public Library

[Manager, Center for Black Literature & Culture](#)

Indianapolis – Indianapolis Public Library

[Membership Coordinator](#)

Indianapolis – National Council on Public History, IUI

[Historic Site Interpreter \(Part-Time\)](#)

New Harmony – Historic New Harmony, University of Southern Indiana

REGIONAL

[Grants Specialist](#)

Chicago, Ill. – The Field Museum

[Labor Relations Coordinator](#)

Chicago, Ill. – Chicago History Museum

[Executive Director](#)

Des Plaines, Ill. – Des Plaines History Center

[Historical Research Specialist](#)

Springfield, Ill. – Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum

[Archivist](#)

Wheaton, Ill. – Cantigny

[Executive Director](#)

St. Ignace, Mich. – Michilimackinac Historical Society

[Museum Supervisor](#)

New Bremen, Ohio – The Bicycle Museum of America

[Director of Visitor Experience](#)

Nashville, Tenn. – Andrew Jackson's Hermitage

PAID INTERNSHIPS

[Archives Intern – Fall 2025](#)

Rochester, N.Y. – Rochester Public Library/Office of Rochester & Monroe County History

Orphans Corner

Do you have an item you would like to donate to an Indiana museum or nonprofit? We'll list it here! Email us at col@indianahistory.org and we'll list it for you!

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To submit a news release, email col@indianahistory.org by noon Wednesday for same-week publication.
Some exceptions may apply.

We'd love your input on this e-newsletter! [Use this form](#) to give us your feedback.

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