

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

October 3, 2025

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

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Updates from Local History Services



[Photoshoot Contact Sheet, n.d., cropped](#) (Madam C.J. Walker Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FREE VIRTUAL BROWN BAG LEARNING SERIES

Grab your lunch and join us on Zoom for these free virtual brown bag presentations from Local History Services and guest speakers!

Each meeting will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (EST).

[Developing Meaningful Local Programming for the U.S. 250th](#)

Oct. 6 – Join us for a discussion on developing meaningful local programming around the U.S. 250th.

[Getting People to Love Our History Organizations](#)

Oct. 21 – We'll chat about how we can consider our core purpose and get our communities to care about our local history organizations and the work we do.

[Interpreting Complex Histories](#)

Oct. 30 – History is made up of many communities, voices, and events. We'll talk about interpreting and sharing complex histories as well as exploring some of the ways staff and volunteers can talk to visitors about those stories.

[Stop Yelling at Kids to Care!](#)

Nov. 6 – Young people often hear the phrase "kids just don't care about history". We'll explore why that's just not true and what your organization can do to get young people involved with and interested in your mission.

[Intro to A.I. for Museums and History](#)

Nov. 13 – We'll delve into the timely topic of Artificial Intelligence and the work of history and museums, including the basics of A.I., its potential and limitations for our work, and some of the ways it is being used in the history and museum fields.

Around Indiana



[Progress Clothing Co., Evansville, ca. 1917](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0611)

NEWS

The Indiana Music History Project's new Oral History Project documents [in-depth video interviews with musicians, producers, and other influential figures](#) connected to Indiana's musical past and present. The interviews are being added to the website as they become available. (Indiana Entertainment Foundation)

The 2025 Statehood Day Essay Contest for 4th Graders is now [open for submissions](#). The theme of this year's contest is "Explore Indiana!" Essay submissions are **due Oct. 20**. (Indiana Statehouse Tour Office and the Indiana Center for the Book)

Fort Wayne's Pennsylvania Produce Terminal Historic District, in the East Central Neighborhood, was recently [added to the National Register of Historic Places](#). (21 Alive)

IN-PERSON EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

PLEASE NOTE: For in-person programs, please check with the hosting organization to confirm date, time, location, and any restrictions and/or requirements.

[Woodruff Place Neighborhood Walking Tour](#)

Starting Oct. 3, Indianapolis – Follow lantern-carrying guides on a twilight stroll through Woodruff Place featuring extra spooky insights and haunting historic tales. (Indiana Landmarks)

[GhostWalk](#)

Oct. 3 and 4, Zionsville – Experience reenacted ghost stories drawn from Zionsville's past on this 45-minute guided walking tour. (SullivanMunce Cultural Center)

[All Aboard the Spook-tacular Express!](#)

Saturdays in October, Elkhart – Experience the spookification of the museum's vintage amusement train, the Century Flyer, with special rides every weekend in October. (National New York Central Railroad Museum)

[Miami Indian Heritage Days – Wiikiaami Cattail Matting](#)

Oct. 4, Fort Wayne – M.I.A.M.I. (Miami Indian Alliance of Miami Indians) will demonstrate Wiikiaami Cattail Matting. (Chief Richardville House, or *akima pinšhiwa awiiki*)

[Greenwood Cemetery Walking Tour](#)

Oct. 4, Michigan City – The tour will highlight the stories of ten monuments and the people they commemorate. (La Porte County Historical Society)

[Murder at the Disco](#)

Oct. 4, Winamac – It's 1978, and the disco dance contest at the Pitch Black Disco is the hottest ticket in town. Enjoy dinner and a murder mystery! (Pulaski County Historical Society)

[Fort Wayne's World War II Veterans and Landmarks](#)

Oct. 5, Fort Wayne – Ronald P. May will present on the historical significance of Fort Wayne veterans and the city of Fort Wayne during World War II. (The History Center)

[The Dreams and Furies of Frank Lloyd Wright](#)

Oct. 5, Indianapolis and Online – Author Paul Hendrickson delves into lesser-known aspects of the famed architect's life. (Indiana Landmarks)

[Gallery Talk – Charles Dana Gibson, Illustrator of the Victorian Era](#)

Oct. 7, Elkhart – Karen Nicholson, Ruthmere Docent, will discuss Charles Dana Gibson, the American illustrator who created the Gibson Girl. (Ruthmere)

[Heart City Heritage: Landmarks of Justice](#)

Oct. 8, Elkhart – This presentation highlights what makes Indiana's 92 county courthouses special and irreplaceable. (Ruthmere)

[Mapping Memories: A Family Write-in Workshop](#)

Oct. 11, Indianapolis – Families will collaborate to write a story about a specific experience using guided prompts. This event is part of [Proof: A Midwest Lit Fest](#). (Indiana Humanities; event at the Harrison Center)

[Venoge Farmstead Marker Dedication](#)

Oct. 11, Vevay – Join the dedication ceremony for the new Indiana state historical marker commemorating Venoge Farmstead. (Indiana Historical Bureau; Switzerland County Historical Society)

[The 58th Feast of the Hunters' Moon](#)

Oct. 11-12, West Lafayette – At this historic reenactment you can recapture 18th century life at Fort Ouiatenon. (Fort Ouiatenon, Tippecanoe County Historical Association)

[Indiana State Library Marker Dedication](#)

Oct. 14, Indianapolis – A dedication will be held for a new historical marker commemorating the State Library. (Indiana Historical Bureau, Indiana State Library)

[Wabash and Erie Canal Park Annual Meeting](#)

Oct. 21, Delphi – The featured program speaker will be Dr. Christopher Moore from the University of Indianapolis, who will discuss “Hidden Treasures of Canal Park.” (Canal Park)

[An Autumn Homecoming](#)

Oct. 25, Paoli – Enjoy guided farmhouse tours, heritage activities, and more. (Historic Thomas Elwood Lindley House; Orange County Historical Society)

[Indiana Road Trip with Rex Bowman](#)

Oct. 28, Frankfort – Join Rex Bowman for his presentation, “A Road Trip Through Northeastern Indiana.” (Clinton County Genealogical Society, event at the Frankfort Community Public Library)

TRAVELING EXHIBITS

Indiana organizations can borrow professional-quality [traveling exhibits](#) from the Indiana Historical Society. You can visit exhibits at the sites below. Please check with the hosting organization to confirm open dates and times.

Hoosiers and Their Hooch: Perspectives on Prohibition

Through Nov. 14, Bristol ([Elkhart County Historical Museum](#))

Auto Indiana

Through Oct. 30, Odon ([Odon Winkelpeck Public Library](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

FROM THE BLOG

[It's Sew Fun!: September is National Sewing Month](#)

Explore the history of sewing in Indiana through images from our collection.

[Wake Up and Smell the September Celebration Day!](#)

Take a look at some of the advertising that goes into preparing and making available coffee beans.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Hoosier Latino Celebration – Free Admission](#)

Oct. 4 – Explore how Latino communities have influenced Indiana for more than 100 years.

[The Exciting Future of the Nation's Last Interurban Railroad](#)

Oct. 7 – Mike Noland, President of the South Shore Line, the nation's last interurban railroad, will discuss the historical investment being made to the 117 year old system.

[Flavors of the Heartland – October](#)

Oct. 8 – Bethany Hrachovec and Marie Gurevitz will be making Shuerz Kuchen and Wurzberger Schmarren while exploring German heritage.

[Walking the Electric Rail](#)

Oct. 10 – Join us on a walk along the interurban lines that connected key locations through Indianapolis.

U.S. 250 News From the Field



[Suits Model for the Indianapolis Engraving & Electrotyping Company. 1920](#) (The Bretzman Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

INDIANA PROGRAMS

PLEASE NOTE: For in-person programs, please check with the hosting organization to confirm date, time, location, and any restrictions and/or requirements.

[America 250 Pre-Party](#)

Oct. 27, Indianapolis – Enjoy refreshments as you visit a series of interactive stations, each hosted by a civic partner organization. The evening also includes a special video premiere preview of The American Revolution documentary. (Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site)

Reminder! Join Local History Services on Oct. 6 for a free virtual brown bag, [Developing Meaningful Local Programming for the U.S. 250th](#).

NEWS & RESOURCES

The Young People's Continental Congress will provide an [opportunity for 28 student-teacher teams](#) (one student and one teacher) to study history and civics in Philadelphia, Pa., from July 19 to 25, 2026. **Applications are due Nov. 14.** (National History Day® and Carpenter's Hall)

What We're Reading This Week



[Norell Fashion Slides, ca. 1960s](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M1028)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

The 2026 National Council on Public History awards cycle is [now open for nominations](#). Nominations for the NCPH Book Award and the Robert Kelley Memorial Award are due Nov.

1; all other award nominations are due Feb. 1. (NCPH)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

3 ways to [combat ageism](#) in the workplace. (University of Washington)

AUDIENCE AND COMMUNITY

Corporate memberships 2.0: [a guide for museums](#) big and small. (Museum 411)

Three questions to rethink volunteering: [who, how, and why?](#) (AAM)

MEDIA & MARKETING

How are Google's AI Overviews [affecting search traffic for arts and culture websites?](#)
(Cultural Content)

FUNDRAISING

What's your event ROI? [The complete guide to understanding return on investment](#) for your events. (Wild Apricot)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

A risk and resilience checklist for [purpose-driven boards](#). (BoardSource)

NEED A BREAK?

Hand-painted knees: [the 1920s trend](#) you probably never heard of. (Vintage Everyday)

When America was besotted with [the Bedazzler](#). (Mental Floss)

A brief history of a brief trend: [paper dresses](#). (Recollections)

Some of the most iconic ['80s fashion looks](#). (Who What Wear)

Explore fashion history with the [Fashion History Timeline](#). (Fashion Institute of Technology)

Learning Opportunities



[*The Fabulous Dress Horsemen. 1985*](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

[Evaluating Accessibility in Museums: From Stories to Ongoing Practice](#)

Oct. 6 – This panel builds on the book *Evaluating Accessibility in Museums* by inviting three of its contributors to reflect on lessons learned from their original case study. (Visitor Studies Association)

[What Grantmakers Think About AI](#)

Oct. 6 – Learn about potential scenarios you may encounter when deciding whether or not to use AI in your grantwriting process. (GrantStation)

[Joy and Learning: Association of Midwest Museums Fall Awards Program Series](#)

Oct. 7-Nov. 18 – Tune in for live virtual events highlighting 2025 AMM Awards recipients this fall. (AMM)

[Fundraising Alternatives for Cultural Organizations](#)

Oct. 14 – Learn about free/low cost resources currently available from the preservation field. (Connecting to Collections Care)

[Handling for Digitization](#)

Oct. 28 – This webinar will share practical tips on safeguarding your collection during the digitization process. (CCAHA)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

[Working with Volunteers at Cemeteries](#)

Oct. 7 – This webinar will outline strategies for organizations to effectively use volunteers for cemetery projects. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

[Climate Change Data in History Collections](#)

Oct. 9 – This webinar will provide a framework on using history collections (objects and archives) and resources to document and interpret climate change. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

[Trivia Isn't Trivial 2.0](#)

Oct. 9 – Learn how to adapt this well-known game format for interpretation, build community, and connect with audiences. \$55; free for members. (National Association for Interpretation)

[The Museum Summit](#)

Oct. 15-16 – Join a global virtual event exploring urgent questions about values, mission, and participation in the museum field. \$245; \$195 members. (AAM)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

[Fall 2025 Nonprofit Program Series in Indianapolis \(FREE\)](#)

The Indianapolis Public Library is offering a series of free, in-person workshops covering a variety of nonprofit management topics. (Indianapolis Public Library)

- **Oct. 4** – [Planning Effective Programs](#)
- **Oct. 4** – [Successful Grant Proposals](#)
- **Oct. 11** – [What's Working? Utilizing Program Evaluation to Improve Service Delivery and Outcomes](#)
- **Oct. 11** – [Nonprofit Panel Discussion and Networking](#)

[Ohio Valley History Conference](#)

Oct. 9-11, Frankfort, Ky. – This year's conference encourages deeper examination of how borders shape the social, cultural, political, and legal terrains of history. \$100. (Kentucky Historical Society)

Funding Available



[*Jewelry and Purses at Holiday Mart, 1970s*](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M1530)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

[Costume Society of America Small Museum Collection Care Grant](#)

Due Oct. 15 – A grant of \$1,500 is intended to assist the costume and textiles collection of a small museum (including historical societies, historic houses or sites, and other similar institutions). (CSA)

[Archival Projects Grants](#)

Due Nov. 5 – The National Historical Publications and Records Commission seeks archival projects that will significantly improve online public discovery and use of historical records collections. (National Archives)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[CSA Small Museum Collection Care Grant](#)

Due Oct. 15 (Costume Society of America)

[Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives: Amplifying Unheard Voices Grants](#)

Due Oct. 20 (Council on Library and Information Resources)

[Community Development Block Grants: Construction Grants](#)

Due Oct. 24 (OCRA)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[*Kahn Tailoring Company. 1907*](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is [hiring!](#)

- [Assistant, Visitor Experience](#) (Part-Time)
- [Specialist, Education and Engagement](#) (Part-Time)

REGIONAL

[Executive Director](#)

Sauget, Ill. – National Building Arts Center

[Assistant Professor/University Archivist](#)

Bowling Green, Ky. – Western Kentucky University

[Communications Coordinator – Ohio Commission for the U.S. Semiquincentennial](#)

Columbus, Ohio – Ohio History Connection

[Homecoming & Picnics Project Coordinator - Ohio Commission for the U.S. Semiquincentennial](#)

Columbus, Ohio – Ohio History Connection

PAID INTERNSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

[2026 Civic Season Design Fellowship](#)

Remote – Made By Us

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!

This is a free publication. Anyone may subscribe.

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.

[Local History Services](#)

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