

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

October 17, 2025

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

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Updates from Local History Services



[Mill, Dam, and Bridge at Bridgeton, Indiana Over Big Raccoon, 1931](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M0836)

GETTING PEOPLE TO LOVE OUR HISTORY ORGANIZATIONS

Join us on Zoom for this free virtual brown bag presentation! This is the first in a series of four virtual presentations this fall.

[Virtual Brown Bag: Getting People to Love Our History Organizations](#)

Oct. 21, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (EST) – We'll chat with special guests Karen DePauw, Development Officer at Steep Rock Association, Inc., and Julie Zasada, Executive Director of the Cedar Lake Historical Association, about how we can get our communities to care about our local history organizations and the work we do. [Register here](#).

Join us for additional presentations in this series:

- **Oct. 30** – [Interpreting Complex Histories](#)
- **Nov. 6** – [Stop Yelling at Kids to Care!](#)
- **Nov. 13** – [Intro to A.I. for Museums and History](#)

Around Indiana



[Flamingo Club, 1984](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

A 4,270-year-old human skull was [found on the eroded bank of the Whitewater River](#) in Fayette County. (WTHR)

Brad Ward, Historic Preservationist: An interview with the new [President and CEO of Indiana Landmarks](#). (Indianapolis Monthly)

The T.C. Steele House and Studio is on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's list of [11 historic artists' homes and studios to enjoy the changing seasons](#). (Saving Places)

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.

[New Exhibit – Red's Roots](#)

Now Open, Vincennes – Red Skelton was told that his father was a clown. Research does not support this. See a new permanent exhibit on Red Skelton's family. (Red Skelton Museum of American Comedy)

[Secret Lives of Buildings: Sharing Their Stories](#)

Oct. 18, Columbus – Join Sarah Marsom for a hands-on workshop on caretaking strategies for your cherished objects. (Bartholomew County Public Library)

[Old Northside Spooky Tour](#)

Oct. 18, Indianapolis – Enjoy an evening of spooky fun and local lore in Indianapolis's historic Old Northside neighborhood. (Indiana Landmarks)

[Syracuse Ghost Tour](#)

Oct. 18, Syracuse – Meet the “ghosts” of the past and hear the stories that shaped the town. (Chautauqua Wawasee)

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

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

[Historical Society Meeting: Savanna Conservation Project](#)

Oct. 21, La Porte – Paul Vicari will present a talk on the new savanna conservation project that is happening on the property of the Museum. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

[Spook-tacular Nighttime Rides](#)

Oct. 23, Elkhart – For one night only, experience free spooky nighttime rides aboard the museum's vintage amusement train, the Century Flyer. (National New York Central Railroad Museum)

[Trick-or-Treat at the Museum](#)

Oct. 25, Elkhart – An all-day event filled with Halloween treats, activities, games, and free spooky train rides all day! (National New York Central Railroad Museum)

[Halloween Open House](#)

Oct. 25, Greensburg – Enjoy free, fun children's activities, green screen photos, and more. (Historical Society of Decatur County)

[The Untold Legacy of Morgan's Terrible Men](#)

Oct. 28, Corydon – The topic for the quarterly meeting will be presented by Gerald Fischer from Brandenburg, Ky. (Historical Society of Harrison County)

[House of a Thousand Spirits](#)

Oct. 28, Indianapolis – The event will feature a short presentation about ghosts that are said to haunt the Hoosier State and an intimate tour of the Nicholson House. (Indiana Humanities)

[In the Mood – 1940's-Inspired Gala](#)

Nov. 1, Evansville – Enjoy live big band music, period-inspired performances, dancing, and a delicious dinner. (Veterans Coliseum Preservation Foundation)

[Miami Indian Heritage Days: Traders Days](#)

Nov. 1, Fort Wayne – Shop for traditional crafts, goods and wares, and enjoy hands-on demonstrations and interactive educational programs. (Chief Richardville House, or *akima pinšīwa awiiki*)

[‘Runaway Hunts’: Uncovering the Hidden History of Indiana’s Two Indian Boarding Schools](#)

Nov. 2, Fort Wayne – Learn how two Indian boarding schools in Indiana shaped and often shattered Native lives, languages, and traditions in the late 1800s. (The History Center)

[LaFayette Motors & Indy’s Lost Industrial Suburb](#)

Nov. 6, Indianapolis and Online – Learn about the rise and fall of luxury automaker LaFayette Motors. (Indiana Automotive and Indiana Landmarks)

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.

A Visual Journey: From AIDS to Marriage Equality

Through Nov. 23, Muncie ([Maring-Hunt Library](#), [Muncie Public Library](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

FROM THE BLOG

[Cost of a Meal – 1908 to 2025](#)

Take a look at the difference in prices for goods purchased in 1908 and 2025.

NEW UNBOXED EPISODE

[Unboxed: Judging Books by Their Cover](#)

This video explores the unique books that can be found in the Indiana Historical Society collections.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Vietnam War Documentary Screenings](#)

Oct. 23 – Join us for a screening of Ron Osgood’s groundbreaking and moving documentaries, *My Vietnam Your Iraq* and *Just Like Me: The Vietnam War/The American War*.

[The Vietnam War Through Comics \(Homeschool Workshop\)](#)

Oct. 28 – Uncover the real stories, emotions, and decisions behind one of America’s most complex conflicts.

[Vietnam War Through Comics: Media Literacy Workshop](#)

Oct. 28 – Explore the pages of comics created during the Vietnam War.

U.S. 250 News From the Field



[Robenson's Factory Dam, Wild Cat Creek, Indiana, 1860](#) (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 – Visit a series of interactive stations, each hosted by a civic partner organization and see a video premiere preview of The American Revolution documentary. (Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site)

NEWS & RESOURCES

The Great American Road Trip initiative invites Americans to [explore the nation's highways and byways](#) in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. (U.S. Department of Transportation, America 250)

Monticello has launched Declaration Book Club, [featuring short readings, lively videos, and probing questions](#) to spark discussion of our past, present, and future as one people,

created equal. [Here are tips for hosting a Declaration Book Club](#) in your community. (Thomas Jefferson's Monticello)

FUNDING AVAILABLE

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

Applications accepted on a rolling basis (NEH)

What We're Reading This Week



[Fall Festival Card, Richmond, Indiana, 1908](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0391)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Introducing CCAHA's New Toolkit: [Assessing the Preservation Needs of Paper-Based Collections](#), designed to guide individuals and institutions through every step of evaluating and planning for the care of paper-based holdings. (Conservation Center for Art and Historical Artifacts)

The Tenement Museum immerses students in U.S. history: ['You can smell it, touch it, see it'](#). (NPR)

Are you the "exhibit team?" Check out the tips in [the solo exhibit designer's survival guide](#). (ExhibiTricks)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Making your videos as accessible as possible: [A video accessibility guide](#) for content creators and viewers. (Adobe Blog)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

Community engagement is a strategic skill: [Tips for nonprofits](#) to strengthen community engagement. (Mid-America Arts Alliance)

Immersive projects: How museums are creating [experiences that stir the senses and envelop visitors](#). (Blooploop)

20+ volunteer survey questions [to improve your program](#). (Bloomerang)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Culture before strategy: Why organizational culture [must come before strategy](#). (Museum 411)

Nonprofit Collaboration: How nonprofits can [better collaborate and share resources](#) with each other. (Blue Avocado)

NEED A BREAK?

Autumn views: A beautiful collection of [art that captures the mood, color, and light of the fall season](#). (Smithsonian)

What is flannel? [The history of our favorite fall fabric](#). (Rocky Mountain Flannel Company)

Why warm beverages are comforting, [according to science](#). (MUDWTR)

Covered bridges are among Indiana's most beloved icon: [nearly 100 still exist](#). Plus learn about the [history of covered wooden bridges](#). (Indy Star; York Bridge Concepts)

Learning Opportunities



[School no. 1, student weaving, 1916](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

[AMM Virtual Awards Event – Rahim Thompson](#)

Oct. 21 – Learn how Thompson has developed more than 200 public programs addressing today's most urgent issues. (AMM)

[Beyond Bylaws: Making Boards Work](#)

Oct. 22 – Learn practical strategies to make your board stronger, happier, and better equipped to help your site reach its full potential. (Texas Historical Commission)

[Handling for Digitization](#)

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

[Webinar Series: You've Got This! How Arts Orgs Can Navigate Risk and Change](#)

This series brings together experts in change and risk management to help you stay nimble and prepared.

- **Oct. 22** – Managing in the Midst of Change: Creative Approaches for Arts Orgs
- **Oct. 29** – Surviving the Storm: Risk Management for Nonprofits
- **Nov. 5** – The Cloud Ate My Homework: Building an Archive for Digital Materials

[IU Rural Placemaking Studio Webinar Series](#)

Learn about strengthening quality of place, community engagement, and arts and cultural development in rural Indiana.

- **Nov. 6** – Ways to Collaborate with Indiana Humanities on Public Programs and Community Storytelling
- **Nov. 12** – The Impact of Creative Spaces in Rural Communities

VIRTUAL TRAINING

[Evolving Membership Models: A CMA Case Study & Collaborative Discussion](#)

Oct. 20 – Discover how Columbus Museum of Art adapted its membership program to better meet evolving member behaviors and expectations. \$20; \$15 members. (Ohio Museums Association)

[Interpreting Slavery with Children and Teens Virtual Workshop](#)

Oct. 22 and 24 – Learn pedagogically-sound and emotionally-aware techniques for developing school programs on the subject of enslavement. \$200; \$175 members. (AASLH)

[Museum Interview Lab](#)

Oct. 22 – This workshop is designed to help museum professionals master the art of interviewing with confidence and clarity. \$77. (Your Museum Career Coach)

[Cemetery Programming and Tours](#)

Oct. 23 – Learn how to utilize historic cemeteries for programming and events that draw locals and visitors into these fascinating spaces. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

[Preservation 101](#)

Nov. 3-21 – This course introduces you to preservation basics with a focus on affordability, achievability, and sustainability. \$300. (CCAHA)

[Small Museums, Important Collections – A Virtual Summit](#)

Nov. 12-13 – Learn about caring for collections and the challenges and opportunities for small museum collections care in the future. \$75; \$60 members. (AASLH)

Funding Available



[*Brookville Landscape*, J. Ottis Adams, 1900](#) (Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

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

Proposals due Oct. 24 – Grants are available to rural communities to support a range of projects, including infrastructure enhancement, downtown revitalization, improvements to public facilities, and economic development initiatives, including historic preservation. (OCRA)

[Community Development Block Grants: Planning Grants](#) (Indiana)

Due Nov. 14 – Grants are available for planning, including Historic Preservation plans and Downtown Revitalization plans. The goal of the program is to encourage Indiana communities to plan for long-term holistic improvement. (OCRA)

[Greenways Foundation Grant Funding for Trails](#) (Indiana)

Due Nov. 30 – Funding is available for the development, improvement, maintenance, accessibility, and sustainability of trails in Indiana. (Greenways Foundation, Inc.)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[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](#) (Indiana)

Due Oct. 24 (OCRA)

[Archival Projects Grants](#)

Due Nov. 5 (National Archives)

[Community Development Block Grants: Planning Grants](#) (Indiana)

Due Nov. 14 (OCRA)

[Greenways Foundation Grant Funding for Trails](#) (Indiana)

Due Nov. 30 (Greenways Foundation, Inc.)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Roy Elliott Picking Corn, 1966](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0586)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Learning and Community Engagement Manager](#)

Bloomington – IU Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology

[Director of Development](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana Landmarks

[Museum Production Manager](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

[Intermittent Celebration Crossing Specialist](#) (Seasonal)

Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

REGIONAL

[Development Director](#)

Lansing, Mich. – Michigan History Foundation

PAID INTERNSHIPS

[Women in History Intern](#)

Orlando, Fla. – Orange County Regional History Center

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](#)

(317) 232-1882 | localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org

