

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

October 31, 2025

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

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Updates from Local History Services



[*Grinstead Children's Halloween Party, 1945*](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

STOP YELLING AT KIDS TO CARE!

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

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

Nov. 6 – Young people often hear the phrase "kids just don't care about history". Join us for a virtual brown bag exploring why that's just not true and what your organization can do to get young people involved with and interested in your mission. The discussion will last approximately one hour, with additional time for audience Q&A.

And join us for the final presentations in this series:

- **Nov. 13** – [Intro to A.I. for Museums and History](#)

NO TRICKS, ONLY TREATS HERE

We've scared up a selection of frighteningly good resources!

Collections Advisors Articles

Prowl through the complete selection [here](#)

- [Things That Go Bump in the Night: Museums and Haunted Events](#)
- [Collection Horror Stories](#)
- [Tips for Your Historic Costume Collection](#)
- [Give it a Rest: Thoughts on Exhibiting Light-Sensitive Objects](#)

BOOKS! from our Lending Resource Center

Indiana history organizations can [borrow these and other books at no charge](#), and we'll even ship them to you! Here's a selection to get you started:

- *A Practical Guide to Costume Mounting*
- *Feeding the Media Beast: An Easy Recipe for Great Publicity*
- *Old Poisons, New Problems: A Museum Resource for Managing Contaminated Cultural Materials*
- *Real or Fake: Studies in Authentication*
- *Telling Children About the Past: An Interdisciplinary Perspective*

Around Indiana



[Wheeler Boys Club Halloween Party, 1981](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

Haunted Indiana – [See a 1992 episode of Across Indiana](#) that presents a sampling of tales of hauntings and oddities in the Hoosier State. (WFYI)

Southern Indiana Goes Upside Down – With the final season of Netflix's sci-fi thriller *Stranger Things*™ dropping this fall, [SoIN is going "upside down" to reveal the "stranger things" of Southern Indiana](#). (SoIN Tourism)

Hamilton County headless history – How columnist Sharon McMahon donated a horse and a husband to Conner Prairie's [first Headless Horseman event in 1983](#). (WISH-TV)

Irvington, which was named after *Sleepy Hollow*, [has spooky history](#). And, see photos from the [79th Historic Irvington Halloween Festival](#). (Fox 59, Indy Star)

Trick-or-treating photos: [See Halloween in Indianapolis](#) through the years. (Indy Star)

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.

[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 pinšiwā 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)

[Gallery Talk: Freshwater Fury: Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes](#)

Nov. 5, Elkhart – This Gallery Talk will be presented by Travis Childs, Archivist at The History Museum and St. Joseph County historian. The talk will accompany a new exhibit now on display. (Ruthmere)

[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)

[The Thursday Parlay: 6 Stories of Wabash County You May Not Know](#)

Nov. 6, Wabash – Enjoy coffee and conversation then listen as Pete Jones shares 6 unknown stories about Wabash County. (Wabash County Museum)

[Art Market](#)

Nov. 8, Franklin – Get a start on your holiday shopping with a wide selection of local artists selling their works. (Johnson County Museum of History)

[The Strange Disappearance of Fletcher Wagner in 1905](#)

Nov. 9, Indianapolis – This lecture will explore the history of the talented young heir from a prominent Indianapolis family who vanished in 1905. (Indianapolis Public Library)

[Classical Architecture in Indianapolis](#)

Nov. 10, Indianapolis – Join author Dr. James Glass for an illustrated talk on the origins and revival of Classical design. (Indiana Landmarks)

[History Dinner and Program: *Murder in the House of God*](#)

Nov. 14, Scottsburg – Mr. David L. Taylor, author of several books including *Murder in the House of God*, will present the program. (Scott County Heritage Center and Museum)

[Indiana State Library Lunch and Learn: Introduction to Native American Research](#)

Nov. 18, Indianapolis – Learn about basic methodologies of Native American research and sources in the Indiana State Library and other venues. (Indiana State Library)

[Holiday Artisan Fair](#)

Nov. 22, La Porte – There will be local artisans offering unique holiday gift items. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

[Annual Holiday Open House at the Museum](#)

Nov. 23, Paoli – Tour the museum and shop the history mart at this annual event. (Orange County Historical Society)

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.

Indiana Disasters

Through Nov. 17, Butler ([Butler Public Library](#))

Going Pro, Basketball Origins in Indiana

Through Nov. 30, Huntingburg ([Huntingburg Public Library](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

ON YOUTUBE

[Hoosier Voices from Vietnam – Time Lapse of Exhibit Setup](#)

Watch the Indiana Historical Society's newest exhibit come to life in this behind-the-scenes time-lapse video!

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Stories Beyond Combat: Conversation and Documentary Screening](#)

Nov. 11 – Join us this Veteran's Day for an insightful and moving conversation with Emmy Award-winning filmmaker and Vietnam War veteran Ron Osgood.

[Storytelling is in our Nature](#)

Nov. 11 – Hear stories from El Salvador, Ukraine, Greece, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, and more.

[2025 Festival of Trees](#)

Nov. 14-Jan. 3 – This year's Festival of Trees will feature a winter wonderland of more than 80 trees.

What We're Reading This Week



[*Halloween Theme Dance at SMC, ca. 1957*](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M1225)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

For Fun: If Museums Were a Horror Movie... People in the museum pitch [titles for a horror movie set in a museum](#). (AAM)

Curating the [collections] code: [The secrets behind accession numbers](#). (National Building Museum)

Reminder! NCPH Award Nominations are due Nov. 1 for the [2026 Book Award and the Robert Kelley Memorial Award](#). All other award nominations are due Feb. 1. (National Council on Public History)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Historic does not mean inaccessible: Understanding [how the ADA applies to historic properties](#). (DREDF)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

Creative Halloween programming at museums: Discover how different museums are approaching [Halloween programming and partnerships](#). (Museum 411)

FUNDRAISING

11 museum fundraising events that [turn giving into a challenge](#) (including one from Indiana!). (Museum 411)

When donors ghost you: [3 smart fundraising strategies](#) to re-engage elusive donors. (Gail Perry Group)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

What's in Your Board Manual? [Here's what a strong board manual should include](#) and how to make it a living document rather than a forgotten binder. (Engaging Places)

Self-coaching: How to [coach yourself through complex problems](#). (Harvard Business Review)

NEED A BREAK?

12 (mostly) spooky Halloween [superstitions and folklore](#). (Mental Floss)

Halloween Postcards, ca. 1900-1920: Explore a [fun picture postcard collection](#) featuring hobgoblins, joyous skeletons, and truly terrifying gourds. (Public Domain Review)

The startling history of the [jump scare](#). (Atlas Obscura)

Take your Halloween Jack-o'-Lantern to the next level with these [simple science-based special effects](#). (Thought Co.)

Halloween food traditions [go way back](#) – and didn't always involve candy. (CNN)

Learning Opportunities



[Edith's Christening and Kenyon College. Slides. 1952. Slide 11](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M1028)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

[Free Kickoff Event for Small Museums. Important Collections – A Virtual Summit](#)

Nov. 3 – Join AASLH and the Small Museums Committee for a preview gathering to help set the tone for the following week's [summit event to be held Nov. 12-13](#). (AASLH)

[AMM Virtual Awards Event – State Historical Society of Iowa](#)

Nov. 3 – Learn about Accessibility efforts at the State Historical Society of Iowa. (Association of Midwest Museums)

[What is STEPS and Can It Help My Site?](#)

Nov. 4 – Learn about STEPS (Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations), a self-paced, self-assessment program. (AASLH)

[Snapshots of the Past: Indiana's State Historical Marker Program](#)

Nov. 5 – Learn about the process and criteria for obtaining a state historical marker, why markers matter, and their continued relevance in today's digital age. (Indiana State Library)

[IU Rural Placemaking Studio Webinar Series](#)

Learn about strengthening quality of place, community engagement, and arts and cultural development in rural Indiana.^[1]_[SEP]

- **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

[Preservation 101](#)

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

[Moving Beyond “We’ve Always Done It That Way”](#)

Nov. 20 – Learn how to rewire three major levers that can keep your team spinning their wheels: board management, fundraising events, and supporter engagement. \$69. (GrantStation)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

[Plaster Repair 101](#)

Nov. 5, South Bend – Learn the basics of plaster wall construction and repairs for historic homes and buildings. \$25; \$20 members. (Indiana Landmarks and South Bend TradeWorks)

[GIS Day](#)

Nov. 18, Indianapolis – This free event will feature presentations from state agencies and organizations that use Geographic Information Systems in their work. Free. ([Indiana Geographic Information Office](#))

[Association of Registrars and Collections Specialists 2025 Conference](#)

Nov. 18-21, St. Louis, Mo. – Join colleagues to share bold, ambitious, and unique actions in service of the care of our collections. \$700; \$550 members. (ARCS)

[History Leadership Institute Seminar](#)

Applications are due Dec. 31 for the 2026 History Leadership Institute that will be held both in-person and virtually throughout next summer. Scholarships are available. (AASLH)

Funding Available



[*Pumpkin Wagon, 1910s*](#) (Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

[Hometown Heritage® Marker Grant Program](#)

LOI Due Nov. 3 – The Hometown Heritage® grant program commemorates people, places, things or events that are historically significant to the larger community and beyond with historical roadside markers. (William G. Pomeroy Foundation)

[Hank and Dottie Rosso Scholarships](#)

Due Nov. 17 – The Fund Raising School is accepting scholarship applications for 2026. The Dottie Rosso Scholarship provides a 50% tuition scholarship for individuals working in nonprofit organizations with annual operating budgets of \$1 million or less. The Hank Rosso Scholarship provides a 50% tuition scholarship for a team of two nonprofit professionals and/or volunteers from organizations with annual operating budgets of \$1 million or less. (IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[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.)

[Pacers Foundation Grants for Indiana Communities](#)

Due Dec. 15 (Pacers Foundation)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Junior League Ball at Woodstock Club. 1946](#) (Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Collections Manager, Archaeology](#)

Bloomington – IU Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology

[Digital Imaging Specialist](#)

West Lafayette – Purdue University

REGIONAL

[Museum Curator](#)

Glenview, Ill. – Glenview History Center

[Agricultural Programs Coordinator](#)

Schaumburg, Ill. – Volkening Heritage Farm (Schaumburg Park District)

[Public Engagement & Marketing Coordinator](#)

Owosso, Mich. – Steam Railroading Institute

[Director, Center for Historic Preservation](#)

Murfreesboro, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee State University

[Temporary Website Project Assistant](#)

Madison, Wis. – Wisconsin Historical Foundation

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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