

# INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

January 23, 2026

## In this Issue:

- [Updates from LHS](#)
- [Around Indiana](#)
- [What We're Reading This Week](#)
- [Learning Opportunities](#)
- [Funding Available](#)
- [Job Openings](#)

## Connect with us!

[Local history services](#)



## Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

[Learn more](#)

## Updates from Local History Services



[Indiana University Marching Hundred, 1960](#) (Gift of Lawrenceburg Public Library District, Indiana Historical Society)

## **BUILD YOUR ORGANIZATION'S WINNING PLAYBOOK WITH THESE RESOURCES**

Indiana history organizations can borrow these and other books at no charge from our [LHS Lending Resources](#), and we'll even ship them to you!

Email [localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org](mailto:localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org) to borrow a book. Here's a selection to get you started:

- *Execution: The Discipline of Getting Things Done*
- *Forces for Good: The Six Practices of High-Impact Nonprofits*
- *Nonprofit Hero: Five Easy Steps to Successful Board Fundraising*
- *Positioning Your Museum as a Critical Community Asset*
- *Strategic Thinking and Planning*
- *Winning Grants Step by Step*

### **Further Reading from the Field:**

- [Museum 101: Success Guides](#) (Association of Independent Museums, UK)
- [Ethics, Standards, and Professional Practices](#) (AAM)
- [How to Build a Successful Museum Strategy](#) (Lucidea)
- [What's the Purpose of Your Museum?](#) (MuseumNext)

And find more [resources](#) and [recorded trainings](#) from Local History Services.

## **APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN FOR 2026 HERITAGE SUPPORT GRANTS**

Heritage Support Grants 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.

[Mini Grants](#) (\$500 to \$4,999)

Applications due March 30

[Project Grants](#) (\$5,000 to \$50,000)

Summaries of Proposal due April 30

[LEARN MORE AND APPLY](#)

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

**Around Indiana**



[WTTV Television truck, 1957](#) (Gift of Reba A. Weaver, Indiana Historical Society)

## NEWS

**History made** – Impossible to Google: [Indiana completes unlikely turnaround in sports history](#). Congratulations! (Sports Illustrated)

**The Indiana State Archives** is trying to determine what days and hours they should be open when they move into their new downtown building later this year. [Please take this four-minute survey](#) to advise them on improving access.

**Indiana Arts Commission** [invites proposals for the Creative Convergence program](#), a team-based workshop and funding opportunity aimed at creative community development. Applications are due Feb. 20. (Indiana Arts Commission and the Indiana Communities Institute at Ball State University)

**Minnetrستا** announces a transition to a [dual leadership model](#). (Minnetrستا Museum & Gardens)

**Destination Wabash County** announces the [release of a new podcast, The Woodward Chronicles](#), with Wabash County Historian Emeritus Ronald Woodward. (Visit Wabash County)

## 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.*

### [Exhibit: Emmett Till & Mamie Till-Mobley: Let the World See](#)

**Jan. 24-April 12, Muncie** – This powerful exhibition tells the story of 14-year-old Emmett Till, whose brutal murder in 1955 shocked the nation and became a catalyst for the civil rights movement. (Minnetrista Museum & Gardens)

### [History On Stage – A Presentation from Madame C.J. Walker & her sales agent, Mrs. Pinkston](#)

**Jan. 24, Indianapolis** – Experience a live performance from a pair of two historic women, followed by a Q&A session. (Wayne Branch, Indianapolis Public Library)

### [Adventures with Roger](#)

**Jan. 27, Corydon** – Featured speaker Roger Turpen, creator of the YouTube channel Adventures with Roger, will give a lecture on Indiana history. (Historical Society of Harrison County)

### [Kurt Fehrenbach Blacksmithing Talk](#)

**Jan. 27, Greencastle** – Hear from prominent Indiana Blacksmith Kurt Fehrenbach as he discusses his craft and his work. (Putnam County Museum)

### [Ken Burns' American Revolution Screening and Discussion](#)

**Jan. 29, Berne** – The event features a highlight screening event and panel discussion of The American Revolution. (Ball State PBS and Swiss Village Retirement Community)

### [Better Together: Celebrating US – U.S. 250 program](#)

**Jan. 31, Indianapolis** – Through hands-on activities, storytelling, artmaking, and conversation, we'll reflect on our nation's history and imagine our collective future. (WFYI and Indiana Humanities with partners; event at the Indianapolis Public Library)

### [A Life-Saving Guide: Black Existence and The Green Book](#)

**Feb. 1, Fort Wayne** – Learn about The Negro Motorist Green Book, published between 1936-1967, which served as a safety net for Black people during a time of intense segregation, overt prejudice, and prevalent violence in America.

### [Ruthmere Book Club](#)

**Through November, Elkhart** – The club meets on the third Thursday of each month to discuss history-focused fiction and non-fiction selections. (Ruthmere Museum)

## Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO HOST COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES: OF THE PEOPLE

In honor of the United States Semiquincentennial in 2026, the Indiana Historical Society is presenting a series of community performances across the state featuring Visions Jazz Ensemble and their program, Of the People. IHS invites proposals from Indiana's community performance venues to partner in hosting these performances.

**For more information and the complete RFP form, please email [msheline@indianahistory.org](mailto:msheline@indianahistory.org). Proposals are due Feb. 28.**

## UNBOUND PODCAST

### [Crime Doesn't Pay: True Crime in Indiana](#)

Hear the story of a renowned crime reporter from Indiana, John Bartlow Martin, and follow the trail of Herman "Baron" Lamm, who employed his famous bank robbery method throughout Indiana.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### [History of Firefighting with Koorsen Fire Museum \(Homeschool Workshop\)](#)

**Jan. 27** – Koorsen Fire Museum will demonstrate how the inventions of the past have impacted the fire safety measures we see today.

### [Flavors of the Heartland – Felicia Grady, making Chicken Veracruz](#)

**Feb. 11** – Take a break to enjoy the stories and smells of the dishes that make up our food heritage.

## What We're Reading This Week



[\*Time Capsule Re-Placement. 1961\*](#) (Gift of Reba A. Weaver, Indiana Historical Society)

## RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

From standards to spectrums: [why museum practice is better understood as a matrix.](#)  
(Engaging Places)

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

A toolkit on [Accessible Instructional Practices](#) suggests instructional strategies that support a wide variety of cognitive, sensorimotor, and communication needs and preferences. (Arts and Culture Accessibility Hub)

## FUNDRAISING

Beyond the ask: securing the future with [community-centric fundraising.](#) (AAM)

How do you get [board members to “fundraise”?](#) (Bloomerang)

## LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

**3 leadership conversations** that will [set the tone for your entire year.](#) (Forbes)

**5 expert tips** for how to [stop being lazy and get more done.](#) (Barking Up the Wrong Tree)

## NEED A BREAK?

**17 awesome and mysterious [time capsules](#)** that contained far more than just old newspaper clippings. (Mental Floss)

**How did the pigskin get its shape?** Turns out, [it just sort of happened.](#) (Smithsonian Magazine)

**How does a Jumbotron work?** The interesting [technology and history](#) behind the giant screen. (ThoughtCo.)

**Revisit 40,000 music videos and commercials** from the golden age of MTV [with MTV Rewind.](#) (Open Culture)

# Learning Opportunities



*Television Special Film Editing. 1973 (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)*

## **FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING**

### [AASLH History Hour: Dealing with Disruption](#)

**Jan. 27** – Join peers to discuss how to navigate potential disruptions in 2026 business strategies. (AASLH)

### [Capturing Feedback from Visitors in Museum Spaces](#)

**Jan. 28** – Learn how museums can use intercept surveys to collect meaningful visitor data in real time and build a clearer picture of who is showing up and why. (AAM)

### [From Chaos to Calm: Three Proven Strategies for Busy Museum Professionals](#)

**Jan. 28** – Learn from the director of a small museum about her tried-and-true time management and workflow strategies that have transformed her work life. (New England Museum Association)

### [Revisiting Basic Condition Reporting: Updated Insights and Digital Methods](#)

**Jan. 28** – This updated session provides practical, actionable insights to strengthen and modernize your condition reporting practices. (Connecting to Collections Care)

[Succession Planning for Cultural Institutions: What's Next?](#)

**Jan. 28** – This webinar will look back and think about the future of the Collections Stewardship Succession Planning Initiative. (CCAHA and Lyrasis)

[Mapping Stories, Managing Places, Connecting Communities: GIS for Historic Preservation](#)

**Jan. 28** – Join Preservation Leadership Forum for a panel discussion on how organizations can leverage GIS in historic preservation. (National Trust for Historic Places)

[Indigenous Collections Care Speaker Series: Intellectual Care of Collections](#)

**Feb. 3** – This conversation, facilitated by the co-founders of the ICC Guide, highlights the real-world work being done around this topic. (Gilcrease Museum)

## VIRTUAL TRAINING

[Making the Case: Story + Data Advocacy for Museums](#)

**Jan. 26** – Learn a simple framework to turn your mission into a sharp, stakeholder-ready case backed by the right data. \$20; \$15 members. (Ohio Museums Association)

[Disaster Preparedness for History Organizations and Sites \(Core Issues Briefing Series #4\)](#)

**Jan. 28** – Get a deeper understanding of the risks an organization should consider and how to mitigate them. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

[Museum Wellness Summit](#)

**Jan. 28-29** – See inspiring case studies and fresh research from around the world on how museums can strengthen the health of their communities. Cost varies. (MuseumNext)

[Documenting Historic Cemeteries](#)

**Jan. 29** – This webinar will explore both digital and non-digital resources available through a variety of repositories. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

[Ethics, AI, and the Public Humanities Speaker Series](#)

**Jan. 29-March 17** – This four-part speaker series will bring together experts to help us consider the ways that artificial intelligence is reshaping our world and our work. Pay what you can. (NCPH)

[Preparing for the US 250th at History Organizations \(Core Issues Briefing Series #5\)](#)

**Feb. 4** – Learn about general approaches to commemoration and to the 250th in particular; the landscape of 250th planning at the local, state, and national levels; and more. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

## IN-PERSON TRAINING

[2026 Lincoln Highway Conference](#)

**June 22-26, York, Pa.** – Join the 2026 conference, “Road to Independence,” for five unforgettable days of tours, talks, music, and celebration along America’s first coast-to-coast highway. \$425 early bird by Jan. 31. (Lincoln Highway Association)

## REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

**Reminder – Proposals are due today, Jan. 23** for the [2026 Association of Midwest Museums Conference](#). (AMM)

**Preserving Historic Places, Indiana’s Statewide Preservation Conference, [seeks](#)**

[session proposals](#) highlighting heritage tourism, Main Street revitalization, natural disaster response, historic theater renewal, and more for the 2026 conference. **Proposals are due Feb. 6.**

## Funding Available



[Junior League Parade, April 20, 1929](#) (Gift of Junior League of Indianapolis, Indiana Historical Society)

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPOTLIGHT

#### [SAA Foundation Catalyst Grants](#)

**Due Jan. 31** – This grant program supports complex, carefully planned projects such as the processing, cataloging, and digitization of archival collections or the creation of new or further development of existing guidelines and best practices that benefit the archival field. (Society of American Archivists)

#### [Inspire! Grants for Small Museums](#)

**Due March 13** – This program is designed to support small museums of all disciplines in project-based efforts to serve the public through educational programs and exhibits, community partnerships, and collections stewardship activities. (IMLS)

#### [LIFT Film Program, for Hoosiers, by Hoosiers](#)

**Due March 15** – LIFT is a new film program seeking proposals for the creation of high-quality short films (five minutes or less) that feature stories of Hoosiers who have a vision for how to strengthen their communities and are working to do so. Selected filmmakers will receive a \$5,000 stipend to produce films that are both uplifting and rooted in Hoosier

experience. (Hoodox and Indiana Humanities)

## **UPCOMING DEADLINES**

[Mini-Grants for Humanities Programs](#) (Indiana)

**Rolling applications, last day of each month** (Indiana Humanities)

[SAA Foundation Catalyst Grants](#)

**Due Jan. 31** (Society of American Archivists)

[The Virginia Savage McAlester Preservation Fellowship](#)

**Due Feb. 13** (Architecture and Design Foundation)

[Historic Preservation Education Grants](#) (Indiana)

**Due Feb. 28** (Indiana Humanities and Indiana Landmarks)

[Arts Project Support Grants](#) (Indiana)

**Due March 5** (Indiana Arts Commission)

[Heritage Support Mini Grants](#)

**Due March 30** (Indiana Historical Society)

[SIA Foundation Grants](#) (Indiana)

**Due March 31** (SIA Foundation, Inc.)

[Standiford H. Cox Funds](#) (Indiana)

**Due April 1** (Indiana Landmarks)

## **Local & Regional Job Openings**



[College Avenue, Bloomington, IN, 1920](#) (Gift of Wisconsin Historical Society, Indiana Historical Society)

## **LOCAL**

***The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!***

See open positions [here](#).

[Local History and Genealogy Librarian](#)

**Anderson** – Anderson Public Library

[Lanier Mansion Historical Site Interpreter](#)

**Madison** – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

## **REGIONAL**

[Director of Learning](#)

**Frankfort, Ky.** – Kentucky Historical Society

[Archivist for Community Collections](#)

**Ann Arbor, Mich.** – Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan

[Digital Archivist](#)

**Detroit, Mich.** – Detroit Sound Conservancy

[Director of Communications](#)

**Lansing, Mich.** – Historical Society of Michigan

[Digital Archivist](#)

**Lincoln, Neb.** – Nebraska State Historical Society

[Communications Manager](#)

**Youngstown, Ohio** – Mahoning Valley Historical Society

[Curator](#)

**Nashville, Tenn.** – Lane Motor Museum

[Museum Program Coordinator](#)

**Nashville, Tenn.** – Tennessee State Museum

[Program Manager](#)

**Nashville, Tenn.** – Tennessee Historical Commission

[Associate Collections Manager](#)

**Spring Green, Wis.** – Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation

**PAID INTERNSHIPS**

[Education Assistant Member](#) (American Conservation Experience)

**Lincoln City, Ind.** – Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

[Summer Internships](#)

**Jackson, Miss.** – Mississippi Department of Archives and History

[Summer Collections Internship](#)

**Waco, Texas** – Dr. Pepper Museum

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org)

