

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

April 3, 2026

In this Issue:

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

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**Heritage Support Grants for Indiana
History Organizations**

[Learn more](#)

Updates from Local History Services



[Alpha Delta Chapter of Pi Omicron Rho Omega Sorority, 1983](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

PROJECT GRANT SUMMARIES OF PROPOSAL DUE APRIL 30

Due April 30 – [Heritage Support Project Grants](#) of \$5,000 to \$50,000 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. Summaries of Proposal are due April 30. Full Proposals (upon approval of Summary of Proposal) are due June 30.

[Heritage Support Grants](#) are provided by the Indiana Historical Society and made possible by Lilly Endowment Inc.

Around Indiana



[Gardens at Home and Abroad. Slides. Circa 1940s-1950s](#) (Gift of the Clowes Family, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

Nominations are due April 30 for the [2026 John Arnold Award for Rural Preservation](#). (Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Farm Bureau)

The Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site has [opened a new exhibit, Presidential Ink](#), highlighting the signatures of every U.S. President. (WISH-TV)

Conner Prairie has [unveiled a newly designed Museum Experience Center](#), featuring six signature hands-on learning experiences. (Indianapolis Recorder)

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.

Upcoming:

[Documentary Showing: *Discovering Naomi Anderson*](#)

April 4, La Porte – See documentary *Discovering Naomi Anderson* by Rana Segal, followed by a Q & A session with Rana and others who were involved in the documentary. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

[Virtual: Calumet Revisited Forum](#)

April 7, Online – Hear about progress made after Purdue University Northwest acquired the Acme Steel archival collection in 2022. Email michael@wolflakeinitiative.org for the link to participate. (Calumet Revisited)

[Talking Track with Dave Wilson and Mark Jaynes](#)

April 9, Indianapolis – These veteran broadcasters chat about racing and track culture at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. (Indiana Landmarks)

[Historical Society of Decatur County Annual Dinner: A Ride Through History](#)

April 11, Greensburg – Bill Corya will present “A Ride Through History: 1924 – Greensburg to Mammoth Cave” detailing his modern reenactment of a 1924 bicycle trip. (Historical Society of Decatur County)

[Starke County Treasures Tour](#)

April 11, Knox – On this bus tour, you’ll see historic local sites in Knox, Aldine, North Judson, & San Pierre. (Starke County America250 IN)

[Maclure's Design for American Education: Integrating the Boatload of Knowledge with Pestalozzian Pedagogy](#)

April 11, New Harmony – Dr. Gerald Gutek will examine the impact of the Boatload of Knowledge on William Maclure's design for American education. (Working Men’s Institute Museum and Library)

[Speaker Series – Fall of Fort Sackville. Joe Herron](#)

April 11, Vincennes – This event is part of the Knox County 250 Celebrations & Second Saturday Speaker Series. (George Rogers Clark Visitors Center)

[Historic Trades Classes](#)

April 11-June 13, Delphi – Learn from skilled artisans in a historic village setting. (Wabash and Erie Canal)

[Night on the Titanic: The American Connections](#)

April 12, Anderson – This presentation will recount the important moments in the disastrous story of "Titanic's" maiden voyage. (Madison County Historical Society)

[Robison Park: Fort Wayne's Pleasure Resort](#)

April 12, Fort Wayne – Learn about the hugely popular Robison Park which operated from July 1896 through the 1919 season. (The History Center)

[U.S. 250 Trivia Event](#)

April 14, Indianapolis – Gather your team of 8 or less and join a lively game of U.S. 250 trivia to celebrate 250 years of American Independence. (Indiana State Library)

Plan Ahead:

April 18, Elkhart – [175 Series Keynote: “The 20th Century Limited” \(ElkhartRail175\)](#)

April 18, Odon – [Uncovering American Sculptor Ira A. Correll in Odon, IN](#)

April 25, Frankfort – [Midwest Archives: Worthy of More than Just a Flyover](#)

April 25, Greensburg – [Author Fair](#)

April 25, Knox – [Arbor Day Community Celebration](#)

April 28, Frankfort – [Presentation on the DAR Captain Harmon Aughe Chapter](#)

May 2, Porter – [Logs to Lustrons Tour 2026](#)

May 3, Munster – [America 250 Celebration](#)

IHS TRAVELING EXHIBITS OPENING THIS WEEK

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 April 30, Marion ([Marion Public Library Museum](#))

Endangered Heritage

Through April 30, Huntington ([Huntington County History and Education Center](#))

Hoosiers and their Hooch: Perspectives on Prohibition

Through May 3, Scottsburg ([Scott County Heritage Center and Museum](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

EXHIBITS

[Freedom's Framework](#)

Opening April 11 – See how the ideals of the Declaration of Independence were tested as the nation expanded into the Old Northwest and confronted the challenges of liberty, equality, and nationhood.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Flavors of the Heartland – Rachel Serago, Making Koulourakia](#)

April 8 – Take a break to enjoy the stories and smells of the dishes that make up our food heritage.

[Walking with History: Walking the Electric Rail](#)

April 11 – Learn about the rise, impact, and fall of this expansive public transit network.

[Vonnegut and Vietnam: A Conversation with Chris Lafave](#)

April 16 – Join Chris Lafave to engage and discuss Vonnegut's long-lasting legacy as an author, satirist, and playwright.

What We're Reading This Week



[Norman Norell Designs, Slides, 1943-1960](#) (Gift of the Clowes Family, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Connect to your peers with [AASLH's Telegraph Discussion Forum](#) to network, ask questions, and share resources and news. AASLH Telegraph is open to anyone. You do not need to be an AASLH member to participate in discussions.

Report: deferred maintenance is [putting U.S. museums at risk](#). (Museum 411)

U.S. 250 NEWS & UPDATES

[America's Block Party](#) will be held on July 3 and 4, as communities across all 56 states and territories come together, through neighborhood gatherings, major concerts, and shared experiences – to create one unified, coast-to-coast celebration.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

A toolkit for [creating a sensory-friendly environment](#) in museums. (Guggenheim for All Toolkit)

EXHIBITS

A guide to some [unexpected resources](#) you can use to find materials for museum exhibits. (ExhibiTricks)

Walking through time before you even enter: [lessons from an outdoor timeline](#) at Rancho Los Cerritos. (Engaging Places)

FUNDRAISING

[What funders want to see](#) from archives, libraries and museums. (YourArchive)

Creating safe, secure experiences with [data security practices](#). (The NonProfit Times)

SOCIAL MEDIA & MARKETING

What the Wright Museum's viral series [teaches us about museum content](#). (AAM)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Keep things organized: [the habit that makes collaboration feel effortless](#). (Let's Grow Leaders)

[6 simple tricks](#) for people who overthink everything. (Self)

NEED A BREAK?

Floral fashion – See how flowers inspired [Yves Saint Laurent](#) and [Christian Dior](#) and explore the [interesting history of florals in fabrics](#), which goes back centuries. (Musée YSL Paris; The Times; Startup Fashion)

Tulip mania – The [fascinating history of this iconic spring flower](#) is filled with drama, intrigue, and obsession. Want to see tulips in person? Here are some of the [best tulip festivals in Indiana this spring](#). (Rare Seeds on YouTube; Indy's Child)

Sweet history – the intriguing origins of [jelly beans](#) and [marshmallow Peeps](#). (Arcade Snacks; Tasting Table)

Learning Opportunities



[Letterman & Larsen Florists. 1955](#) (Gift of Reba A. Weaver, Indiana Historical Society)

IN INDIANA

Upcoming:

[46th Annual Indiana Association of Historians Conference](#)

April 11, Richmond – The theme for this year's conference is *History in Unexpected Places – Rethinking and Reimagining History in the Early 21st Century*. (IAH)

[2026 Society of Indiana Archivists Annual Meeting](#) – **Register by April 3**

April 16-17, Bloomington – The theme for this year's Annual Meeting is *Prioritizing Well-Being: Helping Yourself Help Others*.

Plan Ahead:

April 29, South Bend – [Wood Window Restoration 101](#)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

[Knowledge Management](#)

April 6 – Learn practical ways to map institutional knowledge, build documentation, and create repeatable systems that support long term memory for your organization. (Backlog)

[Indigenous Collections Care: Relationship Building and Consultation](#)

April 7 – This roundtable discussion will explore the importance of relationship building, the do's and don'ts of consultation, and the value of community engagement with collections. (Gilcrease Museum)

[What's Up Wednesday: The Teen Engagement Blueprint](#)

April 8 – This webinar will introduce practical, beginner-friendly steps for building effective

teen outreach. (Indiana State Library)

[Accessibility: How to Make Your Website Usable for Everyone](#)

April 9 – Learn about the core principles of accessibility, exploring real-world examples of disabilities and situational challenges users face. (Firespring)

[Museum Workers Advocacy Day 2026: Broadening Our Horizons](#)

April 9-10 – This year's theme, Broadening our Horizons, is about more than expanding perspectives; it reminds us that advocacy isn't something we can do alone. (National EMP Network)

Plan Ahead:

April 13 – [Competing in Saturated Funding Markets](#)

April 14 – [Boards of Directors and Nonprofit Leaders: Driving from the Passenger Seat](#)

April 14 – [Textile Preservation Tips and Tricks](#)

April 16 – [Water Management 101: Safeguarding Collections in Small and Mid-Sized Institutions](#)

April 28 – [AASLH History Hour: Historic House Museum Training](#)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Upcoming:

[How to Get Published: What Editors Want You to Know](#)

April 7 – This is the first in a three-part webinar series on publishing public history writing. Pay what you can. (NCPH)

[Only Human: Protecting Your Mission in the Age of AI](#)

April 7 – This virtual conference, "Only Human," will cut through the hype and address the real-world risks and opportunities of AI. \$189. (Nonprofit Risk Management Center)

[Core Issues Briefing Series #1: Understanding the US History Sector](#)

April 8 – Learn about the ins and outs of the U.S. history sector, as well as insights into audience trends. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

[I'm In Charge of a Museum Store. Now What?](#)

April 8 – This webinar will cover the core knowledge required to run a purposeful and profitable museum store that extends the institution's mission. \$40; free for members. (AAM)

[Meaningful Conversations In & Out of Public History Institutions](#)

April 10-May 8 – In this participatory virtual workshop series, the Creative Futures team will facilitate three workshops for public historians to strengthen our skills and our relationships. \$150; \$100 members; individual webinar prices available. (NCPH)

Plan Ahead:

April 13-14 – [Strengthening the History Workforce: An AASLH Virtual Summit](#)

April 14 – [Practical Digitization for Small Institutions](#)

April 15 – [Core Issues Briefing Series #2: Doing History in Polarized Times](#)

April 15 – [Gettin' to Know You: The Art of Networking](#)

April 22 – [Core Issues Briefing Series #3: Understanding the US History Workforce](#)

April 29-30 – [Museums & Schools Summit](#)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

Plan Ahead:

April 28-30, Minneapolis, Minn. – [Midwest Museums Leadership Intensive](#)

APPLICATIONS & REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

Apply by April 15 to [be part of a working group at the AASLH-NCPH 2026 conference](#).

Working groups, involving up to six facilitators and up to twelve discussants, allow conferees to explore in depth a subject of shared concern before and during the annual meeting. (NCPH)

Funding Available



[Gene Stratton-Porter Smiling with Floral Basket, ca. 1915](#) (Gift of Gene Stratton-Porter Society, Inc., Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Collections Stewardship Grant Program](#)

Due May 11 – The Collections Stewardship program funds projects to preserve and make available physical and digital collections important for research, teaching, and public engagement in the humanities. (NEH)

[Scholarships Available for 2026 AASLH and NCPH Joint Conference](#)

Due June 12 – Three funding opportunities are available for those who would like to attend the AASLH Annual Conference. The 2026 AASLH and NCPH Joint Conference will be held in Providence, R.I., Sept. 16-19, 2026. (AASLH)

- [The Cinnamon Catlin-Legutko Memorial Scholarship](#)
- [Douglas Evelyn Diversity Fellowships](#)
- [Small Museums Scholarships](#)

[Brooks and Joan Fortune Foundation Grants](#)

Accepted on a rolling basis through Dec. 31 – The foundation offers funds to support education, art, and outreach programs and projects. (Brooks and Joan Fortune Foundation)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

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

Due April 5 – Funds are available to rural communities to support a range of projects, including infrastructure enhancement, downtown revitalization, improvements to public facilities, and economic development initiatives. (Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs)

[Society of Indiana Pioneers Graduate Fellowship Awards](#)

Due April 15 – Two graduate fellowships are awarded annually: \$2,000 to support research for a master's thesis and \$3,000 for doctoral dissertation research in the pioneer period of Indiana history, defined as before 1850. (Society of Indiana Pioneers)

[READI 2.0 Arts & Culture Initiative](#) (Indiana)

Due April 15 – This initiative advances projects that strengthen regional identity, quality of life, creative workforce development, and long-term community vitality. (Indiana Economic Development Corporation)

PLAN AHEAD

Due May 1 – [Hart Family Fund for Small Towns](#)

Due June 5 – [Historic Preservation Fund](#) (Indiana)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Flowers and Crafts, Slides, ca. 1950](#) (Gift of the Clowes Family, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Historical Site Interpreter and Tour Guide](#) (Intermittent)

Fountain City – Levi and Catherine Coffin House, Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

[Associate Director, Sacred Places Indiana](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana Landmarks

REGIONAL

[Edgar D. and Deborah R. Jannotta President & CEO](#)

Chicago, Ill. – Chicago History Museum

[Exhibits Development Specialist](#)

Bowling Green, Ky. – Kentucky Museum at WKU

[Director Historic Preservation](#)

Lexington, Ky. – City of Lexington

[Historic Collections Cleaning Technician](#)

Dearborn, Mich. – Henry Ford Estate, Fair Lane

[Events Experience Manager – Car Shows](#)

Hickory Corners, Mich. – Gilmore Car Museum

[Executive Director](#)

Lansing, Mich. – Michigan Historic Preservation Network

[Collections Manager](#)

Amherst, Ohio – Lorain County Historical Society

PAID INTERNSHIPS

[Summer Intern](#)

Juneau, Alaska – Alaska State Library, Archives, 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, and we'll list it for you!

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