

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

April 10, 2026

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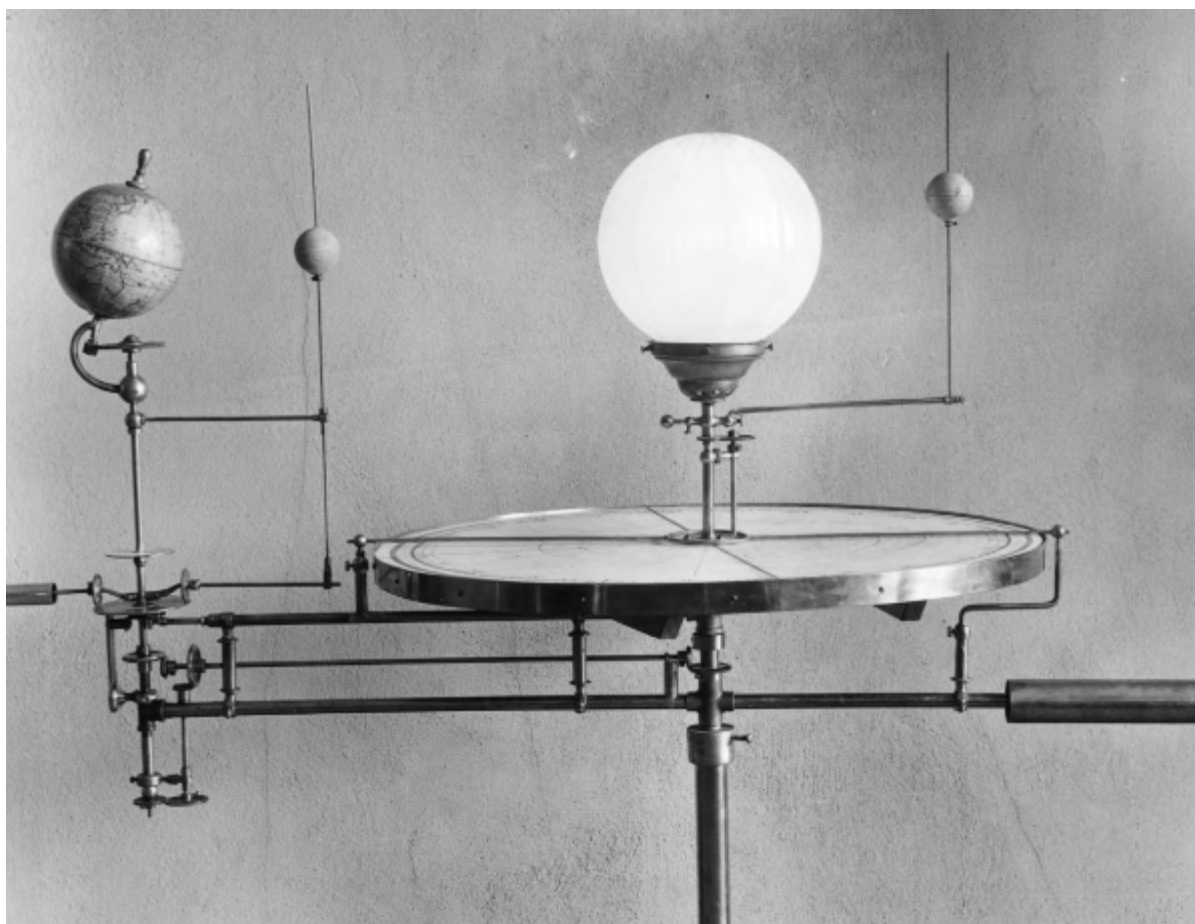
localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org



**Heritage Support Grants for Indiana
History Organizations**

[Learn more](#)

Updates from Local History Services



[Astronomical Light, ca. 1920, cropped](#) (Gilbert Munchel Family, Indiana Historical Society)

IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD REGIONAL MEETINGS

Join the Local History Services Department and your colleagues from nearby organizations for a free [in-person regional meeting](#)! At each meeting, local hosts will share tips, tricks, and lessons learned from developing exhibits for their sites. There will also be time for networking and touring the host site.

Meetings will be held at 4 locations around Indiana:

- **May 18: Valparaiso** – Porter County Museum
- **June 19: Bloomington** – Monroe County History Center
- **July 20: Terre Haute** – Vigo County Historical Society
- **Nov. 30: Noblesville** – Hamilton East Public Library

All meetings are free to attend and will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. local time. You are welcome to bring your lunch; Drinks and desserts will be provided.

[RSVP Here!](#) For questions, please email localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org.

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.

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

Around Indiana



[Airport Operations Control Center, ca. 1970s](#) (Gift of Robert A. Duncan for the Indianapolis Airport)

Authority, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

Join the Indiana Archives and Records Administration to celebrate [Records and Information Management Month](#) with a variety of activities planned. The 2026 theme is “Spring Cleaning” with new resources added each week this month. (IARA)

Indiana is going all out to celebrate America’s 250th birthday: From singalongs and lanterns, festivities look at [Indiana’s role in shaping America](#). (Indiana Capital Chronicle)

DNA Genealogy Detectives: Last year, the Indiana State Police hired their [first forensic investigative genetic genealogist](#); this year they are ramping up cold case investigations with a [new DNA genealogy team](#). (WTHR; Indiana Capitol Chronicle)

The Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum in Fort Wayne [reopened last week after completing months of renovations](#). The updated W. Paul Wolf War History Museum now features new exhibits, displays and updated artifacts. (WANE)

A recent podcast episode of All IN shares the [history and culture of Indiana Avenue](#) in Indianapolis. (WFYI)

A historic Indiana soap factory in Goshen was transformed into a [three-story artisan wonderland](#). (MSN Family Travel Forum)

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:

[Exhibit – America at 250: Reflections on Community](#)

Now Open, Muncie – This exhibit celebrates America’s 250th birthday through community voices: an exploration of citizenship, belonging, and identity. (Minnetrissa Museum & Gardens)

[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 the *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)

[The Sacred Center: Remembering Black Art & Black Artists](#)

April 16, Indianapolis – Dr. Lasana Kazembe presents the recovered history of unsung Black artists and writers in Indiana. (Freetown Village; Event at Indiana Landmarks Center)

[History Bites: Emily Kimbrough – From Muncie to the World](#)

April 17, Muncie – Join local historian Karen Vincent for an engaging look at the life and career of Muncie native Emily Kimbrough. (Minnetrista Museum & Gardens)

[175 Series Keynote: "The 20th Century Limited" \(ElkhartRail175\)](#)

April 18, Elkhart – In this presentation, documentary filmmaker Rich Luckin takes you onboard the New York Central's 20th Century Limited. (National New York Central Railroad Museum)

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

April 18, Odon – Learn about newly gathered information about Ira A. Correll and his Abraham Lincoln statue in Odon. (IU Center for Rural Engagement; event at the Odon Community Center)

Plan Ahead:

April 21, La Porte – [Historical Society Meeting: History of La Porte County Lakes](#)

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

April 25, Franklin – [Wine, Cheese, and All That Jazz](#)

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, Michigan City – [History Hour: Lassen's Resort & The Golden Age of Cedar Lake](#)

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

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.

UNBOUND PODCAST

[Life in the Spotlight: Hoosiers Experiencing Fame](#)

For the Season 6 premiere, Casey and Regan are going back to Tinseltown to follow the stories of two very famous Hoosiers: James Dean and Michael Jackson.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[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.

[Appeals on Wheels](#)

April 28 – Hear a REAL appeals case from the Indiana Court of Appeals.

What We're Reading This Week



[Grissom and Young Gemini Mission, 1965](#) (Gift of Carl H. Armstrong, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Defending and uplifting our field: [Read the 2025 AASLH Annual Report](#). (AASLH)

[The Byways Report: The Scenic Route to Rural Prosperity](#) was produced to leverage the centennial of Route 66, and outlines ten main themes for those wanting to strengthen or start a byway. (The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City)

U.S. 250 NEWS & UPDATES

[250 & Beyond](#) is a national initiative to create inspiring, inclusive, and enduring exhibitions to honor service in communities, schools, libraries, and museums all across the country. The site shares a [toolkit and resources to get started](#). (National Museum and Center for Service)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

Your [2026 ADA Website Compliance Guide](#): Web accessibility is no longer a nice-to-have. It's becoming an expectation – and in many cases, a requirement. (Firespring)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

[Program evaluation basics](#) every nonprofit can use. (Candid)

Community as infrastructure: Why nonprofits must [start designing for relationships](#). (Nonprofit Tech for Good)

FUNDRAISING

Three secret advantage ingredients [small to medium nonprofits have](#). (Clairification)

Five [major donor stewardship moves](#) that drive the second gift. (Gail Perry Group)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Four ways leaders can [turn difficult experiences into clarity](#). (Leadership Now)

Stop trying to remove the problem. [Do this instead](#). (Suzi McAlpine Leadership)

NEED A BREAK?

History made – The Artemis II astronauts have just [flown farther from Earth than any humans in history](#). (Live Science)

Revisiting a [1958 map of space mysteries](#) – What have we learned about the cosmos over the past 60 years? Explore the map in detail [here](#). (Atlas Obscura; David Rumsey Map Collection)

Ten strange and amazing historical artifacts we've [launched into space](#). (Smithsonian Magazine)

Did you know? [Purdue is known as the Cradle of Astronauts®](#) because of its extraordinary influence on the U.S. space program. (Purdue)

The history of the most polarizing novelty treat of all time: [astronaut ice cream](#) (although it is unclear [whether it was ever actually eaten in space](#)). (Yahoo Life; Space.com)

Learning Opportunities



[Carrier Kite Contestants, ca. 1970](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, 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)

[Indiana Genealogical Society Annual Conference](#)

April 17-18, Plainfield or Virtual on Zoom – The 2026 IGS Annual Conference, *Roots of a Nation*, will be held in person at the Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library and remotely on Zoom. \$80 for both days or \$40 per day. **Register by April 12.** (IGS)

Plan Ahead:

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

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

[Remote Access to Film and Video for Research, Teaching, Exhibition and Learning in Libraries, Archives and Museums](#)

April 10 – Join a panel of experts to examine the possibilities that enable remote access, discuss the distinctions between identifiable audiences and the public, and more. (OCEAN)

[Competing in Saturated Funding Markets](#)

April 13 – Learn how to strengthen your organizational background, executive summary, and strategic positioning so funders see why your organization is the right investment. (GrantStation)

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

April 14 – There are few other relationships like that of a board and its executive leader. Hear insights and tips to achieve success for staff and board members alike. (Firespring)

[Textile Preservation Tips and Tricks](#)

April 14 – Learn about proper methods for textile documentation, labelling, and terminology. (CCAHA)

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

April 16 – Learn how to preempt moisture issues, large and small, detect leaks and their sources, understand your building's waterproofing, and more. (Connecting to Collections Care)

[National NAGPRA Program Series: Simplifying NAGPRA](#)

April 17 – This webinar will provide participants with examples to simplify the steps in the NAGPRA regulatory process when things get difficult. (National Park Service)

[Introduction to Web Accessibility for Nonprofits](#)

April 20 – Learn how to make your digital content truly accessible to all supporters, clients, and community members. (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

Plan Ahead:

April 22 – [Monitoring What Matters Part 2: From Observation to Action](#)

April 23 – [Celebrating with Collections: Last-Minute Preservation Reminders for the 250th](#)

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

April 28 – [Exhibits at Small Museums](#)

May 4 – [Digital Preservation on a Shoestring](#)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Upcoming:

[Strengthening the History Workforce: An AASLH Virtual Summit](#)

April 13-14 – This two-day summit explores new data about the history workforce and how we can use it to create a stronger, more equitable field. \$85; \$65 members. (AASLH)

[Practical Digitization for Small Institutions](#)

April 14 – This class will share how to implement a practical workflow for triaging digital materials in your care, low-cost and free tools and services, and more. \$150; free for members. (Lyrasis)

[Creating an Integrated Pest Management System](#)

April 14 – Learn about the phases of IPM, including prevention, monitoring, identification, and intervention. (NEDCC)

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

April 15 – This webinar will explore recent research and tested strategies to help history practitioners work more effectively in today's fractious discourse. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

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

April 15 – Learn how to use informational interviews, cultivate meaningful connections, and confidently navigate professional spaces. \$40; free for members. (AAM)

Plan Ahead:

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

April 23 – [Strategies to Secure General Operating Funds](#)

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

May 6-7 – [Emergency Readiness in Collections Stewardship](#)

May 13 – [Small Budget, Big Exhibit Impact](#)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

Plan Ahead:

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

April 30-May 1, Oxford, Ohio – [2026 Midwestern History Conference](#)

May 14-16, Columbus, Ohio – [Midwest Archives Conference](#)

APPLICATIONS & REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

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

Funding Available



[WIRE Radio Station Tower, 1937](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[NAGPRA Repatriation Grants](#)

Due May 8 – NAGPRA Repatriation grants assist museums, Indian Tribes, and NHOs to defray costs associated with the packaging, transportation, contamination removal, reburial, and/or storage of NAGPRA human remains or cultural items. (National Park Service)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[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 May 11 – [Collections Stewardship Grant Program](#)

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

Due June 12 – [Scholarships Available for 2026 AASLH and NCPH Joint Conference](#)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[David A. Wolf, ca. 1998](#) (Indiana Jewish Historical Society Collection of the Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Director of K-12 Education](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

REGIONAL

[Specialist, Exhibits Development](#)

Bowling Green, Ky. – The Kentucky Museum, Western Kentucky University

[Marketing Coordinator](#)

Perrysburg, Ohio – Fort Meigs Historic Site

[Site Director, NAAMCC](#)

Wilberforce, Ohio – National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center, Ohio History Connection

PAID INTERNSHIPS

[Summer Internships](#)

Fishers – Conner Prairie

[Local History Internship](#)

South Bend – St. Joe County Public Library

[Archives Intern](#)

Nashville, Tenn. – Vanderbilt University Special Collections and University Archives

[2026 Fall Library of Congress Intern](#)

Remote/Onsite – Library of Congress

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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Some exceptions may apply.

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[Local History Services](#)

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