

# INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

April 17, 2026

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## Connect with us!

[www.indianahistory.org/LHS](http://www.indianahistory.org/LHS)

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**Heritage Support Grants for Indiana  
History Organizations**

[Learn more](#)

## Updates from Local History Services



[Motorcyclists on Monument Circle, ca. 1902](#) (Gift of John C. Rugenstein, 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) will be due June 30.

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

## Around Indiana



[Locomotive Engines, 1927](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

### NEWS

**Three Hoosier churches important to Black heritage secure national recognition –** Sites in Indianapolis, Terre Haute and Washington are [now listed in the National Register of Historic Places](#). (Indiana Landmarks)

**Finding the unexpected and pondering family history in Bloomington:** [Atlas Obscura CEO Louise Story](#) didn't have a plan in Bloomington. She just had the app, her kids, and an open afternoon – and ended up somewhere she never expected. (Atlas Obscura)

**Four Indiana towns** were [named among best small places in the Midwest](#) by USA TODAY 10BEST Readers' Choice Awards, with Vevay topping the list. (Indy Star)

### 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:**

[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)

[The American Revolution with Dr. James Fadely](#)

**April 19, Salem** – Get a fascinating look at America's fight for independence, including the key figures, pivotal battles, and inspiring stories that shaped our nation's founding. (Depot Railroad Museum, John Hay Center)

[Historical Society Meeting: History of La Porte County Lakes](#)

**April 21, La Porte** – La Porte County Historian Bruce Johnson will discuss the history of lakes in La Porte County. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

[Archives of the Midwest with Amber Oldenburg](#)

**April 25, Frankfort** – Learn about important Midwest archives and get highlights about select records in each. (Frankfort Community Public Library)

[Wine, Cheese, and All That Jazz](#)

**April 25, Franklin** – Enjoy local wine, hors d'oeuvres, live music, and a silent auction fundraiser to support ongoing renovations for the Hendricks Log Cabin. (Johnson County Museum of History)

[Author Fair](#)

**April 25, Greensburg** – Meet local authors and buy books signed by the authors themselves. (Greensburg Public Library)

[Arbor Day Community Celebration](#)

**April 25, Knox** – The day will feature a ceremonial Liberty Tree planting, activities, community lunch, and more. (Starke County: Celebrating USA 250th)

### **Plan Ahead:**

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

May 1-31, Evansville – [Historic Preservation Month Events](#)

May 2, Elkhart – [Derby Day](#)

May 2, Fort Wayne – [Miami Indian Heritage Days: Finger Weaving](#)

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

May 3, Michigan City – [Lassen's Resort & The Golden Age of Cedar Lake](#)

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

May 7, Frankfort – [A Revolutionary War Reenactor's Perspective](#)

May 8-9, Muncie – [Garden Fair](#)

May 12, Indianapolis – [Unearthing the Past at Henry Street Bridge](#)

May 15, Frankfort – [Ancestry Lock-in](#)

May 21, Indianapolis – [Genealogy for Night Owls](#)

May 21, Shelbyville – [Research Tips for Using Library Resources](#)

May 30, La Porte – [Patton Cemetery Walking Tour](#)

## Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

### EXHIBITS

[Freedom's Framework](#)

**Now Open!** – 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

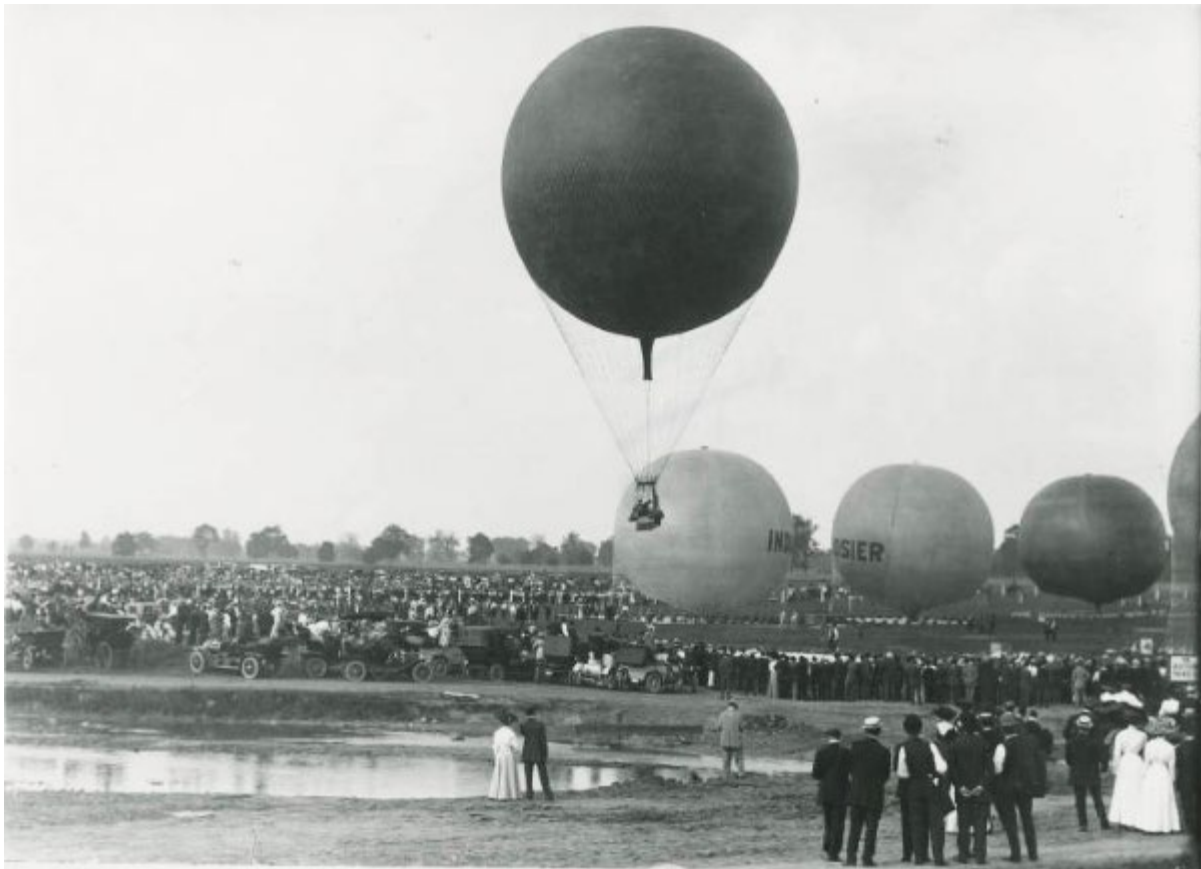
[Appeals on Wheels](#)

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

[The Junction – Crafts and Hobbies](#)

**April 30** – Whether you like the ever-growing “grandma” hobbies, group activities, or board games, this is the place to be.

## What We're Reading This Week



[Balloon race in infield. June 5, 1909](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

### RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Museums can sign up to participate in the [Blue Star Museums program](#), offering free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families, from Armed Forces Day (May 16) through Labor Day (Sept. 7). (NEA and Blue Star Families)

[The Heartland, Heartwork Field Guide](#) is designed to empower rural leaders in planning

and executing effective place-based projects centered in arts, culture and creativity. A free downloadable PDF is available by request. (Springboard for the Arts)

**Reminder! Nominations are due April 30** for the [2026 Association of Midwest Museums Awards](#). (AMM)

## U.S. 250 NEWS & UPDATES

[First America](#) is a new 6 episode narrative podcast series premiering June 22 that will tell the true story of how the United States came to be, featuring leading Indigenous scholars and historians.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights discusses their approach to [inclusive design interfaces for exhibit interactives](#). (CMHR)

## FUNDRAISING

The ultimate cheat sheet for grant proposal documents: [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#). (Candid)

Top strategies to [leverage](#) your small to mid-sized nonprofit's secret advantages. (Clairification)

## LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Live for tomorrow with a [personal internal checklist](#). (Nonprofit Risk Management Center)

A compilation of management tips for [dealing with organizational change](#). (Harvard Business Review)

Nonprofit leaders answer: How does your nonprofit [onboard new board members effectively](#)? (Blue Avocado)

## NEED A BREAK?

Balloonmania: Go up, up, and away with this [fantastically fun collection](#). (Smithsonian)

Take a mesmerizing side-by-side [virtual trip on the world's oldest electric suspension railway](#) in 1902 and 2015 to see how a city changes over a century. (Open Culture)

See some of the [wackiest vehicle and transportation ideas](#) ever devised. (Interesting Engineering)

[The history and future of jetpacks](#): Mankind's obsession with personal flight. (Pocket-Lint)

# Learning Opportunities



[\*Johnson Brothers Airplane, ca. 1900-1920\*](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

## IN INDIANA

### Upcoming:

#### [Wood Window Restoration 101](#)

**April 29, South Bend** – In this workshop, expert window restorers cover the basics of wood window restoration and repair. \$25; \$20 members. (Indiana Landmarks and South Bend TradeWorks)

#### [Summit on Information, Technology, and American Democracy](#)

**April 30, Indianapolis** – Join thought leaders in journalism, public policy, and academia to discuss the challenges of journalism and civic education in the age of AI algorithms. \$15. (Purdue University; event at The Heirloom at N.K. Hurst, Indianapolis)

### Plan Ahead:

May 21, Elkhart – [Indiana Main Street 101 Training](#)

June 4, Seymour – [Indiana Main Street 101 Training](#)

July 16, Indianapolis – [Indiana Main Street 101 Training](#)

## FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

### Upcoming:

#### [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)

#### [Building Frameworks for Response in the Aftermath of the 2025 Los Angeles Wildfires](#)

**April 21** – This webinar will present the experiences of conservators' ongoing and evolving response in Los Angeles, as well as the perspective of insurance adjusters and more. (AIC & FAIC)

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

**April 22** – This webinar provides a practical roadmap for implementing a monitoring program that fits your resources. (Connecting to Collections Care)

[Succession Planning for Sustainability](#)

**April 22** – Learn how succession planning is absolutely necessary for the long-term sustainability of arts and culture nonprofits. (Arts Midwest)

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

**April 23** – With the 250th right around the corner, this webinar will include tips for how to prioritize for preservation at the last minute. (NEDCC)

**Plan Ahead:**

April 27 – [How Web Visitors Digest Complex Information](#)

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

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

April 28 – [Grantseeking Solo: Secure Awards with Limited Staff](#)

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

May 13 – [Monitoring What Matters Part 3: Making Sense of the Squiggly Lines](#)

## VIRTUAL TRAINING

**Upcoming:**

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

**April 22** – Attendees will learn about data and insights that can support making informed decisions, advocate for needed change, and building more sustainable institutions. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

[Strategies to Secure General Operating Funds](#)

**April 23** – This webinar will provide practical knowledge and actionable strategies you can use right away to unlock general operating funds. \$69.

**Plan Ahead:**

April 29 – [Core Issues Briefing Series #4: Disaster Preparedness](#)

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

May 6 – [Core Issues Briefing Series #5: Engaging Younger Generations](#)

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

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

May 14 – [Cracking the Code: Six Messages that Drive Online Giving](#)

## 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](#)

June 16-21, Dearborn, Mich. – [2026 ALHFAM Annual Meeting & Conference](#)

July 26-29, Chicago, Ill. – [Association of Midwest Museums Conference](#)

## APPLICATIONS & REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

The Owen-Maclure 200 Committee [invites proposals for the 2026 Conference: \*Innovative Communities: Past, Present, and Future\*](#), to be held Nov. 12-15 in New Harmony.

**Proposals are due May 1.**

## Funding Available



[New York Central railroad engine. undated](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

### FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### [NEH Public Scholars Program](#)

**Due April 22** – Grants are available to individual authors for research, writing, travel, and other activities leading to the creation and publication of well-researched nonfiction books in American history and culture and Western civilization written for the broad public. Writers with or without an academic affiliation may apply, and no advanced degree is required. (National Endowment for the Humanities)

#### [Indiana Landmarks Black Heritage Preservation Program College Scholarships](#)

**Due May 2** – This program is offering four \$5,000 college scholarships for Indiana residents who identify as Black or African American and who are attending or planning to attend an accredited college or university. (Indiana Landmarks)

### PLAN AHEAD

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

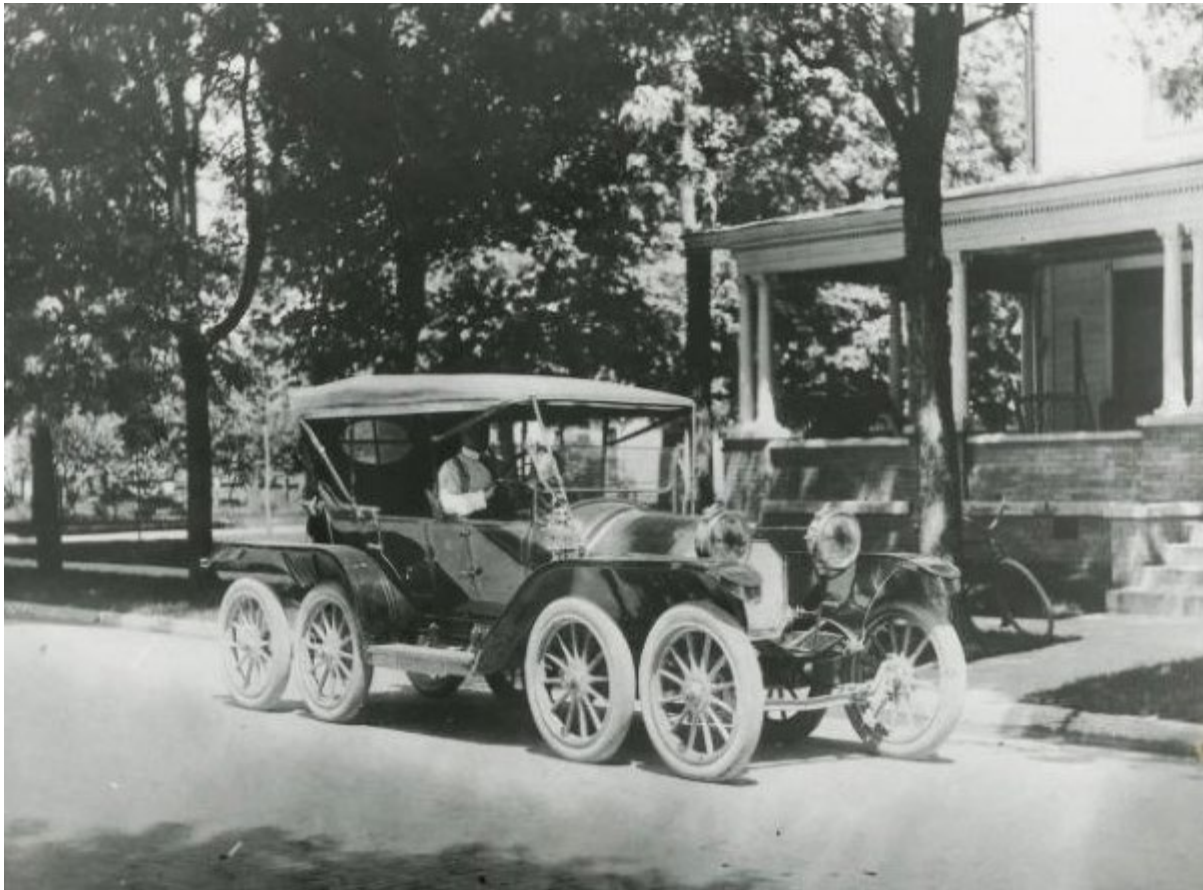
Due May 8 – [NAGPRA Repatriation Grants](#)

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



*[Reeves automobile in front of home. ca. 1911](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)*

## **LOCAL**

[Historic Clothing Manager](#)

**Fishers** – Conner Prairie Museum

[Administrative Assistant](#)

**Indianapolis** – Indiana Landmarks

[Museum Maintenance Technician](#)

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

## **REGIONAL**

[Museum Tour Guide & Operations Assistant](#)

**Bloomington, Ill.** – Funk Prairie Home Museum

[Registrar for Historic Sites \(Museum Technician II\)](#)

**Springfield, Ill.** – Illinois Department of Natural Resources

[Development Manager](#)

**Cedar Rapids, Iowa** – Bruce more

[Digitization Specialist](#)

**Ann Arbor, Mich.** – William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan

[Manager of Educational Programs](#)

**Hickory Corners, Mich.** – Gilmore Car Museum

[Digitization Technician, Collections](#)

**St. Paul, Minn.** – Minnesota Historical Society

[Director of Exhibitions](#)

**St. Louis, Mo.** – Missouri Historical Society

[Attractions Director](#)

**Madison, Wis.** – Wisconsin History Center, Wisconsin Historical Society

## PAID INTERNSHIPS

[Indiana Black Heritage Preservation Program Summer Internships](#)

**Indianapolis** – Indiana Landmarks

# 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!*

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