

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

April 24, 2026

In this Issue:

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

Connect with us!

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**Heritage Support Grants for Indiana
History Organizations**

[Learn more](#)

Updates from Local History Services



[Artwork Display on Car, Talbot Street Art Fair, 1956](#) (Gift of Reba A. Weaver, 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. *Heritage Support Grants are provided by the Indiana Historical Society and made possible by Lilly Endowment Inc.* **[APPLY TODAY!](#)**

NEW! COLLECTIONS CONUNDRUMS WORKSHOP SERIES

Join us for a [Collections Conundrums workshop](#) at one of three sites (same presentation at each site) around Indiana!

This full-day workshop will focus on the decisions we make about our collections. First, we'll address the decision-making and processes connected to incoming donations. Then, we'll turn our attention to the other side of collecting – how to legally and ethically remove objects from our permanent collections.

Cost: \$35; \$30 IHS members; \$25 Local History Partner Members

Workshop Details:

Each workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. local time.

> **May 28: Evansville** – [Register Here](#)

Hosted by the Evansville Wartime Museum

> **June 11: Fort Wayne – [Register Here](#)**

Hosted by the History Center

> **Aug. 13: Franklin – [Register Here](#)**

Hosted by the Johnson County Museum of History

JOIN US IN MAY FOR A REGIONAL MEETING IN VALPARAISO

May 18: Valparaiso, noon to 1:30 p.m. (Central) – Join the Local History Services Department and your colleagues from nearby organizations for a [FREE in-person regional meeting](#), hosted by the Porter County Museum.

Our hosts will share tips, tricks, and lessons learned from developing exhibits for their site. There will also be time for networking and a tour of the museum. You are welcome to bring your lunch; Drinks and desserts will be provided.

[Sign Up Here!](#)

Around Indiana



[Children with Coloring Books](#) (Gift of Rachel K. Pannabecker, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

The Indiana Historical Bureau is now [accepting applications for new Indiana State Historical Marker topics](#) for the 2026-2027 marker cycle. **Applications are due July 8.** (IHB)

The Association of Indiana Museums seeks your input in a [short survey](#) to help them design programs and events for Indiana's museum professionals. The survey closes on April 30. (AIM)

Indiana filmmakers selected for inaugural LIFT program – Learn about the [five filmmakers](#) selected to produce short, uplifting stories of Hoosiers working to connect, strengthen, and celebrate their communities. (Hoodoox, Indiana Humanities, Heartland Film, and Free Press Indiana)

A new documentary, [South Bend: Built by Baseball](#) shares how baseball has shaped the city across generations. (PBS Michiana WNIT)

A news outlet in Owensboro, Ky. spotlights the [former Colonial Brick Corporation brick factory](#) in Vermillion County with a bit of history and a series of photos. (99.1 WOMI)

Journey Indiana highlights [the colorful history of Orange County](#) with visits to the Orange County Historic Museum and the French Lick West Baden Museum. (Indiana Public Media)

The IU South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center has recently processed and made available new local history materials, including a [1990s LGBTQ+ newsletter called "Open Arms"](#), the [Renee Francisco Garza, Sr. photograph collection](#), and a newly processed [oral history interview about the Latinx experience in Goshen](#).

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

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:

[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)

[Presentation on the DAR Captain Harmon Aughe Chapter](#)

April 28, Frankfort – Join Sherry Stowers and Reanna Stover to learn about the Captain

Harmon Aughe Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. (Frankfort Community Public Library)

[Historic Preservation Month Events](#)

May 1-31, Evansville – For Historic Preservation Month, events across the city will celebrate America’s Semiquincentennial. (City of Evansville)

[Derby Day](#)

May 2, Elkhart – Watch live races from Churchill Downs, enjoy mint juleps, fine food, fashion and more. (Ruthmere)

[Miami Indian Heritage Days: Finger Weaving](#)

May 2, Fort Wayne – Learn about Finger Weaving with Jared Nally. (Chief Richardville House, or *akima pinšiwā awiki*)

[Logs to Lustrons Tour 2026](#)

May 2, Porter – See a century of architecture in the Indiana Dunes—from log homes to Modernist residences. (Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Dunes National Park)

[Bailly Homestead Hike](#)

May 2, Porter – Experience the deep history of Indiana Dunes National Park’s Bailly Homestead on a two-hour guided hike. (Indiana Landmarks)

[History Hour: Lassen’s Resort & The Golden Age of Cedar Lake](#)

May 3, Michigan City – Discover how the Cedar Lake community enriched lives around the Calumet Region and the amenities that Lassen’s Resort offered to visitors seeking summer fun. (The Barker Mansion)

[America 250 Celebration](#)

May 3, Munster – Enjoy a luncheon and see “George Washington: The Battle for Independence” portrayed by Terry Lynch. (Munster Historical Society; event at Center for Visual and Performing Arts)

Plan Ahead:

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

May 7, Kendallville – [The American Revolution Screening](#)

May 7, Wabash – [The Thursday Parlay: Unique Eateries of Indiana](#)

May 8, Elkhart – [Gallery Talk: Caring for Family Heirlooms](#)

May 8-9, Muncie – [Garden Fair](#)

May 9, Knox – [Bass Lake-Boston Tea Party Reenactment](#)

May 9, Michigan City – [Mother’s Day Tea at The Barker Mansion](#)

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

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

May 15, Pendleton – [Frederick Douglass Returns to Pendleton](#)

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

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

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

June 27, Zionsville – [Gardens of Zionsville Tour: Century Homes in Bloom](#)

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 Through the Mapmaker’s Eye

Through May 28, Rome ([Rome Courthouse](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

UNBOUND PODCAST

[Law and Disorder: Indiana Territory History](#)

In this episode of Unbound, Casey and Regan are looking back to the early days of the newly minted Territory and then State of Indiana.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Appeals on Wheels](#)

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

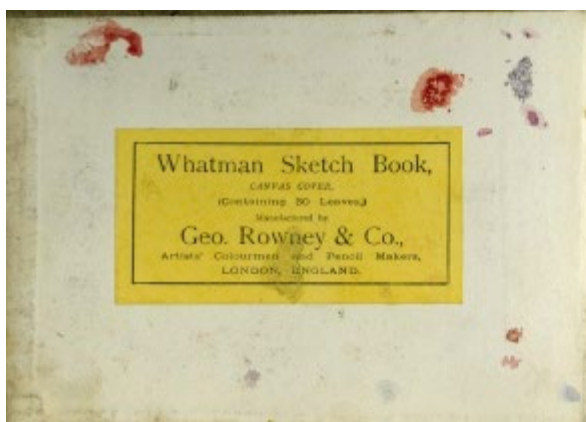
[The Junction – Crafts and Hobbies](#)

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

[Flavors of the Heartland – Jyoti Verderame, making Bhel Puri](#)

May 6 – Take a break to enjoy the stories and smells of the dishes that make up our food heritage.

What We're Reading This Week



[Sketch Books, 1900-1926, pages 25 and 26](#) (Gift of the Clowes Family, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Mars Inc. is accepting nominations for the [History Tellers Award](#). The nominee must be a frontline history teller at a museum or historic site in the U.S. or its territories, regularly working with a public audience, either paid or as a volunteer. In addition to promoting the honoree and the site they represent, Mars will award the winner \$15,000. **Nominations are due May 4.** (Mars Inc.)

The Mellon Foundation is building a [National Preservation Atlas](#): the first-ever consolidated, public repository of information about the country's historic places. (Mellon Foundation)

Reminder! Nominations are due April 30 for the [2026 Association of Midwest Museums Awards](#) to recognize organizations and individuals throughout the Midwest region for their leadership, career achievements, creativity, and best practices. (AMM)

U.S. 250 NEWS & UPDATES

History and Democracy: AASLH's new [History & Democracy Initiative](#) offers inspiration, guidance, and connection from within and beyond the history field to help repair and fortify American civic culture.

Culture of, by, and for the People: The Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage's new [initiative and StoryMap](#) features three interwoven programs designed to cultivate curiosity, understanding, and belonging across the nation.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

Outdoor Accessibility: Five ways to [make the outdoors more accessible](#) for people with disabilities. (The Wilderness Society)

FUNDRAISING

How to plan a fundraising event that [actually raises money](#). (Bloomerang)

Find your ideal member engagement strategy in [these 4 steps](#). (Ohio Museums Association)

Top five fundraising risks: [What you need to know and do](#). (Nonprofit Risk Management Center)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Five practical ways to lead behavior change [when there's resistance](#). (Suzi McAlpine Leadership)

Making work more meaningful and satisfying for staff: Five ways to [increase job satisfaction](#) in nonprofits. (The Nonprofit Prof)

NEED A BREAK?

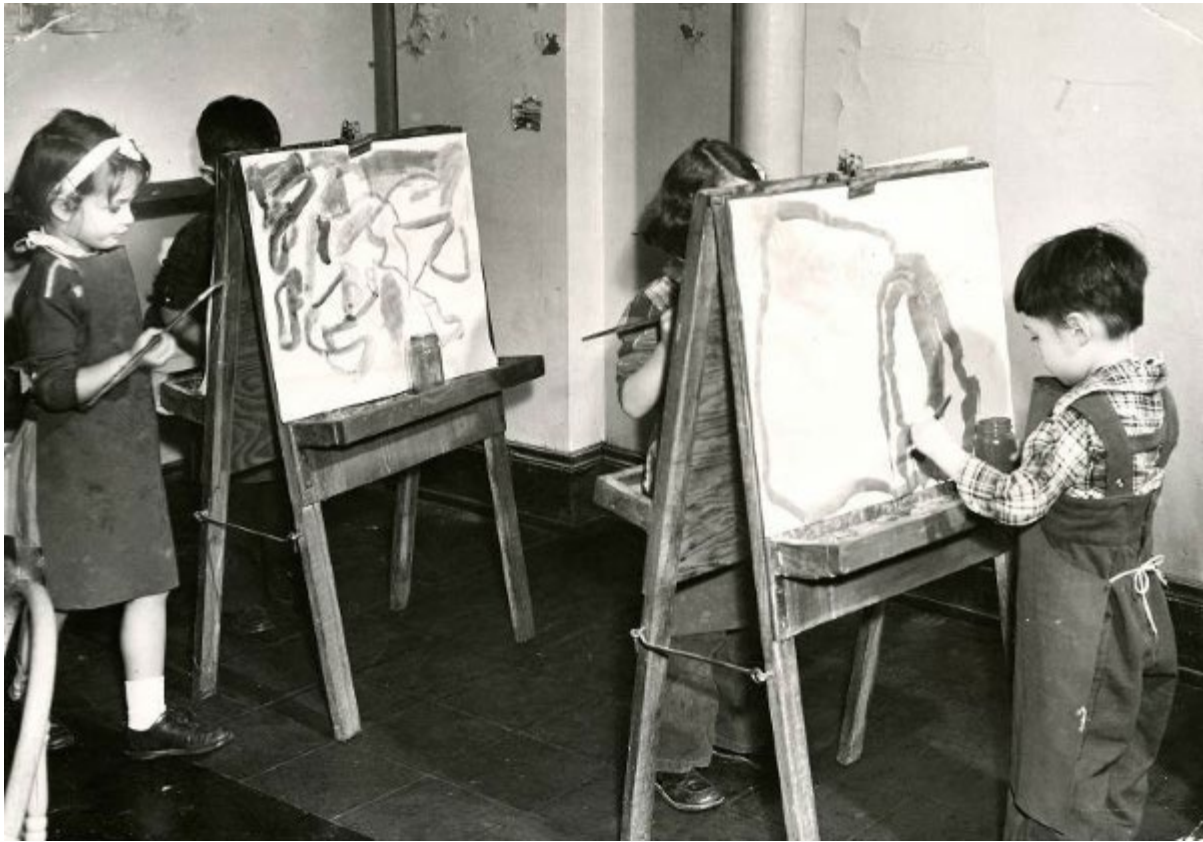
Name the springtime colors around you with [the guidebook Charles Darwin used](#); delve into the complete Werner's Nomenclature of Colors [here](#). (Smithsonian Magazine; Nicholas Rougeux)

Explore Harvard's colorful library of rare pigments in this [fascinating short video](#) and [take a virtual tour of the stories](#) behind some of history's most fascinating colors. (Great Big Story; Forbes Pigment Collection, Harvard)

When color kills: A look at [toxic pigments through the ages](#). (ARTpublika)

Fugitive pigments: [Why do they fade?](#) And [why does red fade faster?](#) (Jackson's Art Supplies; Million Advertising)

Learning Opportunities



[Children painting at Kirshbaum Community Center, Indianapolis, Indiana, Circa 1940](#) (Indiana Jewish Historical Society Collection of the 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](#)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

[How Web Visitors Digest Complex Information](#)

April 27 – Learn best practices for web content and what it means for your own communications staff, writers, and subject matter experts as you write information. (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

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

April 28 – Discuss the future of historic house museum interpretation as the Historic House Committee plans to launch a new program (AASLH)

[Exhibits at Small Museums](#)

April 28 – Join the Small Museums and Exhibits PAGs for a lunchtime conversation about generating exhibits at all levels. (New England Museum Association)

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

April 28 – Learn practical strategies to generate additional funding requests for nonprofit organizations with limited staff. (GrantStation)

[Get Your Board to Help You Fundraise](#)

April 28 – Learn how to motivate your board members to fundraise, set goals and kick off campaigns, and more. (Firespring)

Plan Ahead:

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

May 5 – [Indigenous Collections Care: Use and Access of Collections](#)

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

May 19 – [Library Collaborations to Engage Local Public Audiences](#)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Upcoming:

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

April 29 – Gain a deeper understanding of the risks an organization should consider and how to mitigate them. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

[Museums & Schools Summit](#)

April 29-30 – This two-day virtual event brings together museum educators, teachers, and cultural professionals to explore innovative ways museums are partnering with schools. \$170. (MuseumNext)

Plan Ahead:

May 5 – [Craft a Winning Grant Strategy for 2026-27](#)

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

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

May 7 – [Leadership Succession Plans and Planning](#)

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

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

May 27-28 – [History and Democracy Virtual Summit](#)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

Upcoming:

[2026 Midwestern History Conference](#)

April 30-May 1, Oxford, Ohio – The Midwest History Association hosts its 12th annual conference, “Midwestern History, Regional Humanities.” (event at Miami University)

Plan Ahead:

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

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

APPLICATIONS & REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

Reminder! Proposals are due May 1 for the [Owen-Maclure 2026 Conference](#), to be held Nov. 12-15 in New Harmony. (Owen-Maclure 200)

Funding Available



[Urban Wall Mural, ca. 1973](#) (City of Indianapolis, Department of Metropolitan Development, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Exhibit Professionals AMM Conference Fellowships](#)

Due May 11 – This fellowship for emerging and early career museum professionals working in exhibit disciplines will award an all-inclusive conference experience to two Midwest individuals to attend the Association of Midwest Museums conference July 26-29 in Chicago, Ill. (AMM and Museum EXP)

[2026 Dottie Rosso Scholarship to Attend a Fund Raising School Course](#)

Due May 22 – The Dottie Rosso Scholarship is a partial (50 percent) scholarship for individuals working in nonprofits with operating budgets of \$1 million or less to attend a Fund Raising School Course. (Lilly Family School of Philanthropy)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[Hart Family Fund for Small Towns](#)

Due May 1 – These grants are intended to encourage preservation at the local level by providing seed money for preservation projects in small towns with populations of 10,000 or less. (National Trust for Historic Preservation)

[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 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



[Julia Graydon Sharpe Bookplate. 1917](#) (Gift of Charles Latham, Jr., Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

[Curator](#)

Indianapolis – The American Legion

REGIONAL

[Vice President, Collections and Interpretation](#)

Chicago, Ill. – Chicago History Museum

[Collections Manager & Registrar](#)

Louisville, Ky. – Frazier Kentucky History Museum

[Museum Curriculum Development Consultant \(contract\)](#)

Detroit, Mich. – Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History

[Archivist, Social Welfare History Archives](#)

Minneapolis, Minn. – University of Minnesota

[Historic Farm Coordinator](#)

Bowling Green, Ohio – The Carter Historic Farm, Wood County Park District

[Project Manager \(temporary\)](#)

Cincinnati, Ohio – Union Foundation: United American Cemetery Historic Preservation Project

PAID INTERNSHIPS

[Collections Intern](#)

Indianapolis – Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art

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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