

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

May 1, 2026

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**Heritage Support Grants for Indiana
History Organizations**

[Learn more](#)

Updates from Local History Services



[Moving of the Heritage Learning Center. 1994](#) (Gift of Lucia M. Spears, M.D., Indiana Historical Society)

WE'RE HEADED ON THE ROAD IN MAY!

Join the Local History Services department for a regional meeting in Northern Indiana and a collections training in Southern Indiana this month.

[In Your Neighborhood Meeting: Northwest Indiana](#)

May 18: Valparaiso – Join LHS and your colleagues from nearby organizations for a free in-person regional meeting! The Porter County Museum 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. **Free to attend** – [RSVP Here!](#) (Hosted by the Porter County Museum)

[Collections Conundrums Workshop: Southwest Indiana](#)

May 28: Evansville – 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. [REGISTER HERE.](#) (Hosted by the Evansville Wartime Museum; additional workshops will be held in [Fort Wayne](#) and [Franklin](#))

Around Indiana



[Studebaker Fountain: Howard Park, 1919](#) (Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

May is National Historic Preservation Month, and the [Indiana DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology](#) will be promoting events across the state and will post related items on the DNR Facebook Page.

Indiana Landmarks offers [tools and resources](#) that help you preserve and restore historic places.

Researching demolished Green Book sites: Read about the Indiana DHPA's [project to conduct research on Green Book sites](#) in Indiana.

Indiana has opened a new Welcome Center on [I-64 in Posey County](#), drawing

inspiration from the boyhood home of Abraham Lincoln and offering interactive exhibits on the 16th president, as well as the culture, history, and attractions of southern Indiana. (44 News)

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:

[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)

[A Sense of Place: The Story of the Immigrant](#)

May 2, Vincennes – Learn about different immigrant populations in Vincennes and how they have contributed to the vibrant culture of the city. (Territorial Capitol, Vincennes State Historic Sites)

[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)

[A Revolutionary War Reenactor’s Perspective](#)

May 7, Michigantown – Reenactor Raymond Beets will share Revolutionary War history and demonstrate items from the Colonial period. (Frankfort Community Public Library; event at the Michigantown Community Center)

[The American Revolution Screening](#)

May 7, Kendallville – See an excerpt screening of *The American Revolution* documentary series. (PBS Fort Wayne and Community Learning Center)

[The Thursday Parlay: Unique Eateries of Indiana](#)

May 7, Wabash – Carrie Steinweg will share about the Hoosier State’s most interesting diners, restaurants, people and stories behind the food. (Wabash County Museum)

[Gallery Talk: Preserving Your Family History: Caring for Family Heirlooms](#)

May 8, Elkhart – Learn simple, effective techniques for preserving and handling family heirlooms, documents, and photographs. (Ruthmere)

[America 250 Annual Event and Meeting](#)

May 8, Frankfort – The event will feature a Colonial Market, demonstrations, presentations, music, and the exhibit Landscapes of America. (Frankfort Community Public Library)

[State Historical Marker Dedication: Dr. Harold C. Urey](#)

May 9, Corunna – Join the dedication ceremony for a new Indiana state historical marker commemorating scientist Dr. Harold C. Urey in DeKalb County. (Indiana Historical Bureau)

[175 Series: Refrigerator Cars](#)

May 9, Elkhart – Learn about the history of an unassuming piece of rolling stock: refrigerator cars, and how they revolutionized the way we live and eat. (National New York Central Railroad Museum)

[Old Northside Neighborhood Walking Tour](#)

May 9 and 16, Indianapolis – Stroll one of Indianapolis's most intriguing neighborhoods on a 90-minute guided tour. (Indiana Landmarks)

[Bass Lake-Boston Tea Party Reenactment](#)

May 9, Knox – Join the Starke County Historical Society to see a historic reenactment of the Boston Tea Party. Bring your lawn chairs and watch this historic, one-of-a-kind event. (Event at Bass Lake Beach)

[Mother's Day Tea at The Barker Mansion](#)

May 9, Michigan City – Enjoy an afternoon tea service and a guided tour of the Mansion. (The Barker Mansion)

Plan Ahead:

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 16, Elkhart – [175 Series: Waterways to Railways Tour](#)

May 16, Ossian – [State Historical Marker Dedication: Lt. Col. William Swaim](#)

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

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

May 26, Corydon – [Adventures with Roger Turpen](#)

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

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.

Be Heard: Asian Experiences in Indiana

Through May 31, Anderson ([Anderson Public Library](#))

From Pencils to Pixels: Hoosier Cartoons and Comics

Through May 31, Upland ([Upland Depot](#), [Upland Historical Society](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

UPCOMING EVENTS

[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.

[Asian Fest 2026](#)

May 9 – Experience Asian culture, food and arts in Central Indiana this Spring!

[Let Us Entertain You: The USO in the Vietnam War](#)

May 15 – Join us for an evening with former Vietnam War USO performer and Hoosier Bonnie Hinkel.

[Man's Best Friend: In War and At Home](#)

May 16 – Join us for a short presentation about working dogs in the Vietnam War and a demonstration by ICAN on how dogs continue to assist humans after they return home.

[The Revolutionary Power of the Printing Press](#)

May 20 – Discover how ink, paper, and bold ideas changed the course of history. As part of the Smithsonian's *Making History, Making Change* Lecture Series, the Indiana Historical Society and Conner Prairie are collaborating to delve into the revolutionary power of language.

What We're Reading This Week



[Boys Holding Miniature Houses, 1931](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

It's Preservation Month 2026, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation invites everyone to celebrate the historic sites, neighborhoods, and landmarks that tell the full American story. Find a digital marketing kit, free GIF stickers, and other resources on the [Saving Places site](#).

Call for museum learning instructors: The six U.S. regional museum associations have announced an [open call for instructor applications](#) for a new series of online learning modules for the Museum Learning Hub. **Applications are due May 29.** (AMM)

Reminder! Nominations are due May 4 for the [History Tellers Award](#). (Mars Inc.)

U.S. 250 NEWS & UPDATES

The National Constitution Center has launched [Civic Quest](#), a play-based family learning experience that brings American history to life through hands-on missions of intrigue and discovery.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

A framework for building an [inclusive rural placemaking community space](#). (Aspen Institute)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

The value of volunteer time: The current [estimated national value of each volunteer hour is \\$36.14](#). Why is this important? It is just one way for us to show the contributions individuals and organizations have made in our communities. (Independent Sector)

Practical advice for [dealing with unruly visitors](#). (Museum 411)

Your tours aren't the problem – your outcomes are: A useful corrective is a [more intentional approach to interpretation](#). (Engaging Places)

Youth service program design: How nonprofits can [maximize the benefits of youth service](#). (Candid)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

If your board isn't working: Why [a board retreat might be the best investment](#) your nonprofit makes this year. (Bloomerang)

Organizational culture: Building a [strong, positive culture](#) in nonprofit organizations. (The Nonprofit Prof)

NEED A BREAK?

Explore Indiana architecture: Here are [17 places to experience unusual architecture in Indiana](#). And explore more in the [Indiana Landmarks Historic Architecture Collection](#) online. (Atlas Obscura; IU Indianapolis)

Travel around the world to see [historic architectural oddities](#) and [unknown architectural wonders](#). (History Collection; Atlas and Boots)

"Building" with LEGO: Check out these [incredible LEGO creations from master builders](#).

Fun fact: back in the 1960s, the LEGO Group created a new kind of brick for architects. Here's the [short history of Modulex bricks](#). (Pleated Jeans; New Elementary)

Did you know that Lincoln Logs were [invented by John Lloyd Wright](#), son of the famous architect? (Smithsonian Invention Stories)

Go big or go home: In 2021, Timber Moose Lodge set the Guinness World Record for the [biggest Lincoln Logs cabin ever](#). (Timber Moose)

Learning Opportunities



[Log Cabin Under Construction, Woollen's Garden, ca. 1910](#) (Gift of Samuel E. Perkins, IV, Indiana Historical Society)

IN INDIANA

Plan Ahead:

May 15, Indianapolis – [Government Information Day Conference 2026](#)

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

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

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

[Digital Preservation on a Shoestring](#)

May 4 – This webinar will walk through realistic, budget friendly steps that museums and archives can take to protect digital files, stabilize at risk media, and build sustainable workflows. (Backlog)

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

May 5 – Experts in the field will share their perspectives, success stories, and lessons learned when engaging with research and access to collections. (Gilcrease Museum)

Plan Ahead:

- May 11 – [Exploring our Implicit Bias and Creating Equitable Change](#)
- May 13 – [From Grant to Gathering Place: A Library Placemaking Journey](#)
- 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:

[Strengthening Outcomes and Demonstrating Economic Impact](#)

May 4 – Learn how to build outcome frameworks that are specific, measurable, and aligned with funder expectations including economic and community-wide impact. \$39. (GrantStation)

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

May 5 – Hear from peer reviewers about the most common issues they find in prospective articles and manuscripts as well as best practices for responding to this feedback. Pay what you can. (NCPH)

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

May 5 – This training focuses on a step-by-step process to help you develop your grantseeking strategy for 2026-27. \$69. (GrantStation)

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

May 6 – Attendees to this webinar will hear directly from Made By Us leadership about research and insights that can help history organizations more effectively appeal to and serve youth audiences. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

[Emergency Readiness in Collections Stewardship](#)

May 6-7 – This program focuses on practical steps that build readiness and confidence, so that you can protect collections now and in the future. \$425; **register by today, May 1**. (NEDCC)

[Leadership Succession Plans and Planning](#)

May 7 – Hear from colleagues in the field about the importance of having a leadership succession plan in place; how to approach/navigate creating one; different types; and more. \$40; free for members. (AAM)

Plan Ahead:

- May 11 – [Beyond the Narrative: Elevating Diverse African American Histories in Local Communities](#)
- 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

Plan Ahead:

- May 14-16, Columbus, Ohio – [Midwest Archives Conference](#)
- May 20-23, Philadelphia, Pa. – [2026 AAM Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo](#)
- June 16, Canton, Ohio – [Risk Assessment and Disaster Plan Development Workshop](#)
- June 16-21, Dearborn, Mich. – [2026 ALHFAM Annual Meeting & Conference](#)
- June 22-26, York, Pa. – [2026 Lincoln Highway Conference](#)

APPLICATIONS & REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

The National Council on Public History is accepting proposals for the [2027 NCPH](#)

[Conference](#). Consider submitting an optional early topic proposal by May 10 to gather suggestions on your topic, seek collaborators or co-presenters, and get feedback. **Final proposals are due June 15.** (NCPH)

Funding Available



[JLI Historic Preservation Project 1980-1981](#) (Gift of Junior League of Indianapolis, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Midwest Registrars Committee Offering Travel Stipends for AMM Conference](#)

Due May 22 – The MRC is offering travel stipends at two levels (half-stipend of \$375 or full stipend of \$750) for members to attend the Association of Midwest Museums Conference. All applicants must be MRC members, but applicants may join MRC at the time of their application submission.

[Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation Grants](#)

Due May 26 – The Foundation offers funding for projects that support education, improve the environment, and/or support healthy and vibrant communities. Projects should be implemented in the communities where Cleveland-Cliffs has operations (including Indiana). (Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation)

[CFM Foresight Scholarship](#)

Due May 29 – AAM's Center for the Future of Museums offering a scholarship to attend the Foresight Certificate program at the University of Houston, Aug. 10-16. (AAM)

[AWS Imagine Grants](#)

Due June 5 – Amazon Web Services offers funding to empower nonprofit organizations to prioritize technology as a mission-critical component of their projects by providing support for organizations pursuing technology-driven goals. (AWS)

[Media Projects Grants](#)

Due June 25 – The Media Projects program supports the development, production, and distribution of radio programs, podcasts, documentary films, and documentary film series that engage general audiences with humanities ideas. (NEH)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[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)

[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)

[Exhibit Professionals AMM Conference Fellowships](#)

Due May 11 – This fellowship will award two emerging and early career museum professionals working in exhibit disciplines funding to attend the Association of Midwest Museums conference. (AMM and Museum EXP)

[Collections Stewardship Grant Program](#)

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

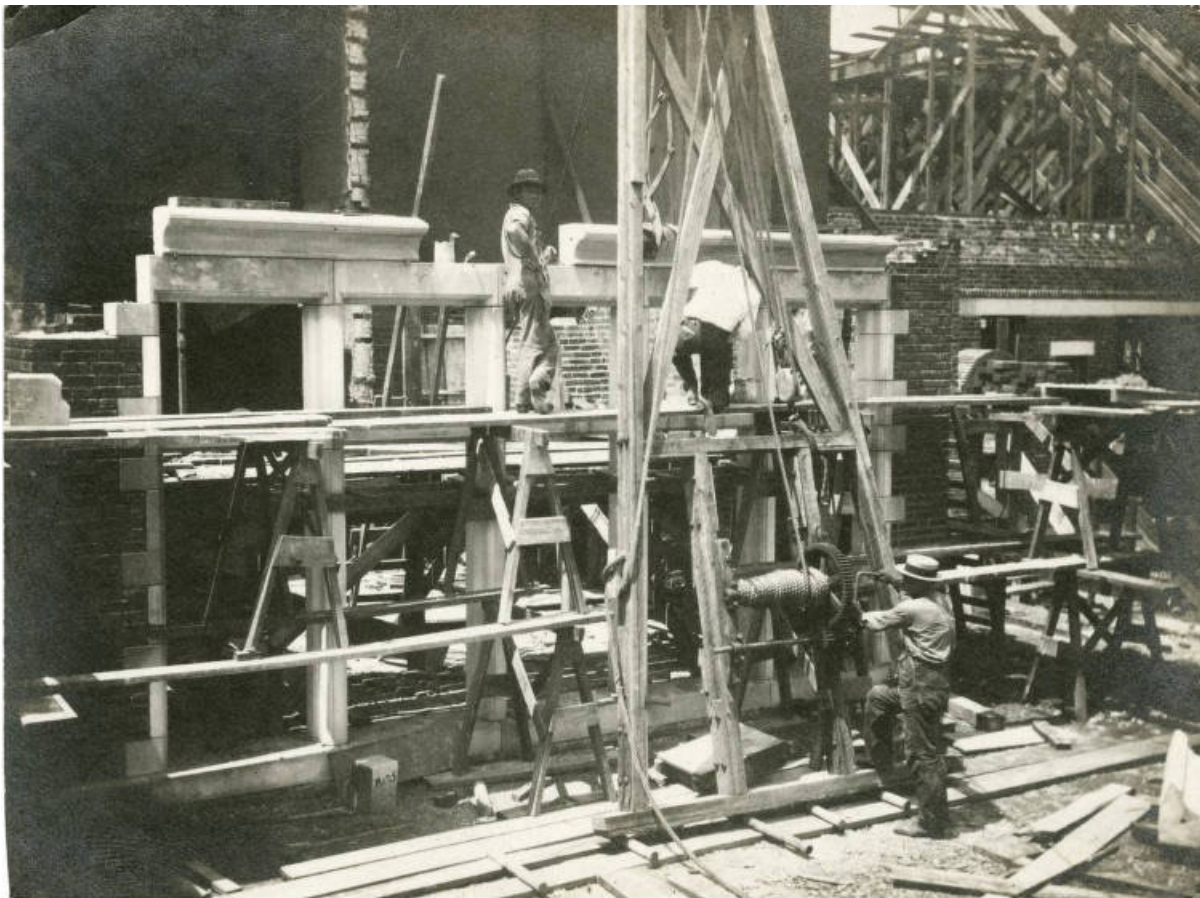
PLAN AHEAD

Due May 22 – [2026 Dottie Rosso Scholarship to Attend a Fund Raising School Course](#)

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

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

Local & Regional Job Openings



M1003_BOX4_FOLDER33_IRWIN_HOUSE_REMDEL_CA1910_001

[Irwin House Remodel. ca. 1910](#) (Irwin-Sweeney-Miller Family Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

[Historic Clothing Manager](#)

Fishers – Conner Prairie Museum

[Special Exhibits Engagement Specialist \(Temporary\)](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

REGIONAL

[Chief Executive Officer](#)

Chicago, Ill. – Frank Lloyd Wright Trust

[Conservation/Historic Preservation Worker \(Temporary\)](#)

Various Sites, Illinois – Illinois Department of Natural Resources

[Executive Director](#)

Pontiac, Mich. – Oakland History Center

[Interpreter I](#)

Minneapolis, Minn. – Mill City Museum, Minnesota Historical Society

[University Archivist, Assistant Professor of Practice](#)

Dayton, Ohio – University of Dayton

[Site Director, National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center](#)

Wilberforce, Ohio – Ohio History Connection

[Attractions Director, Wisconsin History Center](#)
Madison, Wis. – Wisconsin Historical Society

PAID INTERNSHIPS

[Summer Collections Internship](#)

Marco Island, Fla. – Marco Island Historical Society

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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