

# INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

May 8, 2026

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## Connect with us!

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**Heritage Support Grants for Indiana  
History Organizations**

[Learn more](#)

## Updates from Local History Services



[Slide 55 Hillside Covered with Trees. ca. 1925](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0305)

## JOIN US FOR A REGIONAL MEETING IN NORTHWEST INDIANA MAY 18

[In Your Neighborhood Meeting](#)

**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; additional meetings will be held this summer in Bloomington, Terre Haute, and Noblesville)

## COLLECTIONS CONUNDRUMS WORKSHOP SERIES BEGINS MAY 28

Join us for a Collections Conundrums workshop at one of three sites (same presentation at each site) around Indiana! [Learn more and sign up here.](#)

## Around Indiana



[Japanese American Citizens League. Hoosier Chapter Photo Album 1976-1981, page 36](#) (Gift of the Hoosier JACL, Indiana Historical Society)

## NEWS

The Indiana DHPA has announced the [winners of the 2026 Historic Preservation Month](#)

[Photo Contest](#). (WBIW)

**The Indiana State Budget Committee has approved the release of an additional \$7.4 million** for [repair and rehabilitation work at the Whitewater Canal Historical Site](#). (Eagle Country)

**Crown Hill Cemetery offers guided and self-guided tours** to [explore the rich history of the Indy 500 and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway](#) through the lives of key figures interred at the site. (WISH TV)

## 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:

[Public Investigation Ghost Tours](#)

**May 8-9, Scottsburg** – Tours are held from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. with Access the Paranormal. Reservations required. (Scott County Heritage Center and Museum)

[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)

[Mothers & Music: A Celebration of Mothers and Daughters Concert](#)

**May 10, Michigan City** – Enjoy a one-hour concert performed by Marissa Kerbel, pianist, and see select personal items belonging to Mrs. Katherine Barker on display. (The Barker Mansion)

[Unearthing the Past at Henry Street Bridge](#)

**May 12, Indianapolis** – Hear a panel discussion on archaeological discoveries at the site of Indianapolis's historic Greenlawn Cemetery. (Indiana Landmarks)

[LaFF-Vin Comedy Film Series: George Washington Slept Here](#)

**May 12, Vincennes** – See the classic movie about a couple who purchases a dilapidated house in the countryside where George Washington was once rumored to have slept. (Red Skelton Museum)

### [Ancestry Lock-in](#)

**May 15, Frankfort** – Staff will be on-hand to answer questions and assist participants in using Ancestry Library Edition. (Frankfort Community Public Library)

### [Frederick Douglass Returns to Pendleton](#)

**May 15, Pendleton** – Learn about Frederick Douglass's historic 1843 visit to Madison County through a first-person reenactment. (Fall Creek Meeting House)

### [175 Series: Waterways to Railways Tour](#)

**May 16, Elkhart** – Discover Elkhart's origins as a small village at the confluence of three important waterways. (National New York Central Railroad Museum in collaboration with Ruthmere)

### [State Historical Marker Dedication: Lt. Col. William Swaim](#)

**May 16, Ossian** – Join the dedication ceremony for a new Indiana state historical marker commemorating farmer and Civil War soldier Lt. Col. William Swaim. (Indiana Historical Bureau)

### **Plan Ahead:**

May 19, La Porte – [From Tobacco Plantation to La Porte Pioneer Woman: The Remarkable Life of Susannah Pottenger-Brown](#)

May 20, New Harmony – [New Harmony, Robert Dale Owen and the Politics of 1860](#)

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

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

May 21, Zionsville – [National Historic Preservation Month Event](#)

May 22, Vincennes – [Ribbon Cutting for "The Year of the Pledge" Exhibit](#)

May 26-30, Bloomington – [Bloomington Early Music Festival](#)

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

May 30, Indianapolis – [White River State Park Walking Tour](#)

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.*

### ***The Great War: From Ration Lines to the Front Lines***

Through June 3, Greensburg ([Greensburg-Decatur County Public Library](#))

### ***Faces of the Civil War***

Through June 4, Greenfield ([James Whitcomb Riley Boyhood Home and Museum](#))

### ***Who is a Hoosier***

Through June 14, Elkhart ([Ruthmere](#))

## **Indiana Historical Society Spotlight**

### **BE HEARD VIRTUAL EXHIBITS**

Our ["Be Heard" exhibits](#) provide insight into what it's like to be part of a cultural community within the Hoosier context.

### **UNBOUND PODCAST**

### [Trouble in Paradise: Utopia in Indiana](#)

On this episode of Unbound, Casey and Regan are headed to New Harmony, site of not one, but two attempts at a utopian society.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### [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



[Japanese American Citizens League. Hoosier Chapter Photo Album 1976-1981, page 46, cropped.](#) (Gift of the Hoosier JACL, Indiana Historical Society)

## RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

**May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month** – [Explore events and resources](#) to celebrate our nation's rich Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander heritage. (Smithsonian)

**JSTOR Daily shares their best stories** about the [vast histories and cultures](#) of Americans with ancestry in Asia and the Pacific. (JSTOR)

**AASLH is accepting applications** for the next year of the [Executive Insight Circle](#) – a high-impact, cohort-based leadership experience for chief executives and senior leaders in the field. **Applications are due June 26.**

## U.S. 250 NEWS & UPDATES

**Starting May 13**, AASLH will host [weekly facilitated conversations in Telegraph](#), the free online discussion space, where participants can reflect on the challenges and opportunities that will shape the next 250 years of our shared history. (AASLH)

**Telling the whole story of our founding:** The United States is turning 250 years old; [for history teachers, it's a complicated lesson](#). (The 19th)

**Union Pacific's famed Big Boy No. 4014**, the world's largest operating steam locomotive, is [taking a historic coast-to-coast tour](#) to celebrate America's 250th anniversary. **It will be in Indiana on June 5.** (Union Pacific)

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

**“Growing Your Elders”:** “Tell Clyfford I Said ‘Hi’”: Learn about an [exhibition curated by the children of the Colville Confederated Tribes](#). (AAM)

## AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

**Beyond museum walls:** [A new generation of video games](#) is helping museums bring history to life and reach audiences far beyond their walls. (Innovation News Network)

## FUNDRAISING

**Is this money worth the cost?** Here's a [flexible framework to help evaluate the upside and downside risks](#) a new funding opportunity presents. (Nonprofit Risk Management Center)

**New research** reveals [what motivates recurring donors](#). (Nonprofit Tech for Good)

## LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

**How to handle a board member who** [won't stop talking](#). (Joan Garry Consulting)

**If perfectionism is sabotaging your leadership**, here are some practical ways to [stop chasing the impossible standard](#). (Suzi McAlpine Leadership)

## NEED A BREAK?

**Explore the history of Studio Ghibli:** [Everything you need to know](#) about legendary Japanese animation house. And here are some of the [gorgeous real-life locations](#) that inspired many of the films. (My Modern Met; Tokyo Weekender)

**Unearthing the mysteries of Hawai'i's ancient agriculture:** At the [Kōhala Field System](#), researchers are rediscovering lost ancestral knowledge. (Atlas Obscura)

**2,000 years ago, a traveler from India graffitied his name** on [five ancient tombs in Egypt's Valley of the Kings](#), providing new evidence that people from South Asia visited ancient Egypt. (Smithsonian Magazine)

**Watch as Korean lacquer master Lee Kwang-woong** demonstrates [the artistry and skill involved](#) in making a fine lacquerware box. (V&A on YouTube)

## Learning Opportunities



[K.P. Singh with His Brother, Gurbatap Singh, 1964](#) (K.P. Singh, Indiana Historical Society)

### IN INDIANA

#### Upcoming:

[Government Information Day Conference 2026](#)

**May 15, Indianapolis** – This is a free one-day hybrid conference that promotes federal, state, and local government information and resources. (Indiana State Library)

#### Plan Ahead:

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

May 27, Cedar Lake – [Preserving History Networking Seminar](#)

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

### FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

#### Upcoming:

[The Stories We Carry: Exploring our Implicit Bias and Creating Equitable Change](#)

**May 11** – Learn how empathy and emotional intelligence help interrupt automatic

assumptions and strengthen leadership. (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

[What's Up Wednesday – From Grant to Gathering Place: A Library Placemaking Journey](#)

**May 13** – This workshop will walk participants through the full lifecycle of a successful community placemaking project. (Indiana State Library)

[Monitoring What Matters Part 3: Making Sense of the Squiggly Lines – Understanding and Using Your Monitoring Data](#)

**May 13** – This webinar demystifies data analysis and shows you how to turn numbers into compelling advocacy tools. (Connecting to Collections Care)

**Plan Ahead:**

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

May 20 – [May Day 2026: Assessing Risk to Protect Your Collections](#)

## VIRTUAL TRAINING

**Upcoming:**

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

**May 11** – Gain ideas and strategies to recognize, interpret, and promote African American history within local contexts. \$20; \$15 members; register by today, May 8. (Ohio Museums Association)

[Honoring African American History in America's 250th](#)

**May 12** – Panelists will share how they've leveraged funding, built meaningful partnerships, and developed programs that center community voices while challenging traditional narratives. \$15; free for members. (SEMC)

[Small Budget, Big Exhibit Impact](#)

**May 13** – Learn how to create budget-friendly exhibits that deliver strong visitor experiences. \$45; \$25 members. (Iowa Museum Association)

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

**May 14** – Learn about the six essential messages that drive donor engagement online. \$19.74. (Lilly Family School of Philanthropy)

[Managing Moving Image Collections](#)

**May 14** – Learn about the care and management of moving image collections. \$55. (NEDCC)

**Plan Ahead:**

May 21 – [Creating a Staff Safety Plan](#)

May 21 – [Digital Preservation Storage 101](#)

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

May 27-28 – [Museum AI Summit](#)

## IN-PERSON TRAINING

**Plan Ahead:**

May 20-23, Philadelphia, Pa. – [2026 AAM Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo](#)

June 16, Canton, Ohio – [Risk Assessment and Disaster Plan Development Workshop](#)

June 22-26, York, Pa. – [2026 Lincoln Highway Conference](#)

## APPLICATIONS & REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

[The Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences invites proposals](#) for the 97th annual conference that will be held on Oct. 9 in Valparaiso. Early bird submissions are **due May**

29. (IASS)

[The Midwest Open Air Museums Coordinating Council seeks proposals](#) for workshops, sessions, and presentations for the 2026 Fall Conference in Delphi. Proposals are **due Aug. 1**. (MOMCC)

## Funding Available



[California Trip, 1928, page 10](#) (Gift of Michael H. Miller, Indiana Historical Society)

### FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### [Historic Preservation Fund \(Indiana\)](#)

**Due June 5** – The Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology is now accepting grant applications for the fiscal year 2026 Historic Preservation Fund. Eligible activities include Architectural & Historical, Archaeological, and Acquisition and Development (rehabilitation) projects. (Indiana DHPA)

#### [Landmarks of American History and Culture and Summer Institutes Grants](#)

**Due June 25** – This program supports humanities education through professional development for K-12 teachers and higher education faculty members. (NEH Division of Lifelong Learning)

### UPCOMING DEADLINES

#### [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 May 22 – [MRC Travel Stipends for AMM Conference](#)

Due May 26 – [Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation Grants](#)

Due May 29 – [CFM Foresight Scholarship](#)

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

Due June 5 – [Amazon Web Services Imagine Grants](#)

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

Due June 25 – [Media Projects Grants](#)

## Local & Regional Job Openings



[Actress and Producer Li Ling Ai at the Claypool Hotel, 1945](#) (Gift of Reba A. Weaver, Indiana Historical Society)

**LOCAL**

[Historical Site Interpreter \(Intermittent\)](#)

**Corydon** – Corydon Capitol State Historic Site, Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

[Assistant Librarian: Reference Archivist/Curator](#)

**Gary** – Indiana University Northwest

[Assistant Librarian: Digital Processing Archivist](#)

**Gary** – Indiana University Northwest

[Director of K-12 Education](#)

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

## **REGIONAL**

[Digitization & Metadata Assistant \(term\)](#)

**Evanston, Ill.** – Northwestern University

[Museums Director and Chief Curator](#)

**Ames, Iowa** – University Museums at Iowa State University

[Curator of the Iowa Women's Archives](#)

**Iowa City, Iowa** – University of Iowa

[Senior Exhibit Developer](#)

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

[Special Collections Curator – Eugene Field Library](#)

**St. Louis, Mo.** – Field House Museum

[Site Director, NAAMCC](#)

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

## **PAID INTERNSHIPS**

[Summer Internship Program](#)

**Buffalo Grove, Ill.** – Raupp Museum

[Historic Preservation Internship](#)

**Aurora, Colo.** – Aurora History Museum and Historic Sites

## **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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