

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

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**Heritage Support Grants for Indiana
History Organizations**

[Learn more](#)

Updates from Local History Services



J. E. Wamsley and his Speedboat "Trailer". ca. 1922 (Indiana Historical Society, P0611)

COLLECTIONS CONUNDRUMS WORKSHOP IN SOUTHERN INDIANA

[Collections Conundrums Workshop](#)

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. Join us to learn about the decisions we make to manage our historical collections.

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

Location: The meeting will be held at the Evansville Wartime Museum.

(additional workshops will be held in [Fort Wayne](#) and [Franklin](#))

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Please register by May 26.

Nominations Open for Indiana Historical Society Awards



Call for

Nominations!

2026 Indiana Historical Society Awards

Do you know an individual or organization who does outstanding work in Indiana's state and local history? Each year, the [Indiana Historical Society Awards](#) recognize outstanding individuals and organizations whose efforts have enriched the lives of others by conveying awareness and appreciation of Indiana's history on local, regional and statewide levels.

We are accepting nominations for the following awards:

- > Caleb Mills Indiana History Teacher of the Year
- > Dorothy Riker Hoosier Historian Award
- > Eli Lilly Lifetime Achievement Award

- > Hubert Hawkins Local History Award
- > Willard C. Heiss Family History/Genealogy Award
- > Indiana History Outstanding Event or Project Award
- > Outstanding Collaborative Project Award
- > Outstanding Historical Organization Award

The nomination deadline is July 1, 2026.

[Start your nomination today!](#)

Around Indiana



[*Emmett and Jean Brown with Dr. Emmett Brown, 1950*](#) (Gift of Alta Jean Bellinger, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

For Indy 500 weekend, go behind the scenes of the Racing Capital of the World with [Behind the Bricks](#), a video series featuring hidden locations and untold stories of the 115-year-old racetrack. (Indianapolis Motor Speedway)

Celebrating a century in Speedway: examining the vision that [shaped the historic town's development](#). (Indiana Landmarks)

Learn about Indiana's road history in [this article with images and resources](#) from the Allen County INGenWeb Project.

Decay Devils has launched a [new NWI Landmarks & Arts Guide](#) to encourage people to

explore the Region. (Northwest Indiana Times)

A new “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” historical interpretive marker was [recently unveiled in South Bend](#) by the Indiana Jewish Historical Society and the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation. (South Bend Tribune)

The interesting history of the [Johnson County Turtles at the Indiana State Museum](#); plus, how the State Museum [restores and cares for the icons](#). (Indianapolis Monthly; Indiana State Museum)

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:

[Voices and Votes Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit in Orange County](#)

Now Open, French Lick – This is the second of seven Indiana sites to host the traveling Smithsonian exhibition, Voices and Votes: Democracy in America. (Indiana Humanities; exhibit at the Orange County Convention and Visitors Bureau)

[Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous](#)

May 23-24, Vincennes – Stroll through the encampment and interact with members of the North West Territory Alliance, see reenactment battles, an 18th century trade fair, and more. (Spirit of Vincennes)

[Taps Across the Water](#)

May 24, Syracuse – Trumpet players will be positioned around area lakes to perform an Echo Cascading Rendition of Taps. (Chautauqua Wawasee)

[Bloomington Early Music Festival](#)

May 26-30, Bloomington – This year’s festival will explore the vast variety of music and remarkable mix of people who, from across the thirteen colonies and the territories that would later join the Union, became one nation. (BLEM)

[Adventures with Roger Turpen](#)

May 26, Corydon – Hear from Roger Turpen from the Adventures With Roger YouTube Channel. (Historical Society of Harrison County)

[White River State Park Walking Tour](#)

May 30 and June 17, Indianapolis – Explore the cultural and historical significance of White River State Park, from the time of Indianapolis’s settlement to the present day. (Indiana Landmarks)

[Patton Cemetery Walking Tour](#)

May 30, La Porte – Take a walk through history with Museum staff to learn the history of Patton Cemetery and the people who are buried there. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

Plan Ahead:

June 2, Elkhart – [Gallery Talk: William Tuffs: Elkhart County’s Own Revolutionary War Patriot](#)

June 2 and 27, Indianapolis – [Herron-Morton Place Neighborhood Walking Tour](#)

June 4, Wabash – [The Thursday Parlay: Greetings From the Trail](#)

June 6, Anderson – [Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour](#)

June 6, Elkhart – [Walking Tour: Waterways to Railways](#)

June 6, Fort Wayne – [Miami Indian Heritage Days: Cookware from Local Clays](#)
June 7, Fort Wayne – [America 250: A Miami Perspective](#)
June 11, South Bend – [The Last Adieu: Lafayette's Farewell Tour and the Carriage That Carried a Nation's Memory](#)
June 12, Frankfort – [Genealogy Workshop](#)
June 12, Muncie – [History Bites: Stories of the White River at Muncietown](#)
June 13, Vincennes – [Speaker Series: Laughing with Lincoln](#)
June 19, Indianapolis – [Juneteenth Celebration](#)

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

UNBOUND PODCAST

[Is There a Doctor in the House: Indiana Medicine](#)

On the newest episode of Unbound, Casey and Regan are stepping into the lab to uncover medical history stories.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Walking with History: Remembering Women's Efforts](#)

May 30 – This tour highlights and reflects on the often-unsung heroes of war – including the female soldiers, nurses, and first responders.

[Concerts on the Canal – Jacket Required: Rat Pack Style](#)

June 4 – Make music part of your summer rhythm at Concerts on the Canal, presented on the Kruse Family Stardust Terrace.

What We're Reading This Week



[*Car Being Checked at the Standard Oil Station. 1941*](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Small historic house museums across the U.S. face reduced visitation, increasing costs; [here's how they're cementing their spaces in America's communities](#). (Community Sentinel)

The National Trust for Historic Places has announced this year's list of [America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places](#). (Saving Places)

A new study shows that arts and cultural engagement, including visiting a museum, [helps people age more slowly](#). (The Guardian)

A survey is gathering data and information that will be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for potential development of an ENERGY STAR Score for museums. [Take the survey here](#). (New Buildings Institute)

Reminder! Applications are due June 1 for CCAHA's [National Collections Care Capacity Building Program](#). (Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts)

U.S. 250 NEWS & UPDATES

In a new documentary, [one of Britain's Most famous historians reframes the American Revolution as a 'messy divorce'](#). Lucy Worsley's PBS series highlights the emotional fallout of the conflict, with a focus on the British perspective. (Smithsonian Magazine)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

How an inclusive history of science for museums and historic sites can [enrich community history through the study of everyday objects](#). (The Inclusive Historian's Handbook)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

How to build a superteam that [keeps getting better](#). (Harvard Business Review)

The hidden cost of [unplanned digital work](#) in cultural organizations. (Arts Professional)

NEED A BREAK?

6 winding tales of [epic road trips](#), including the United States' first coast-to-coast car adventure, its fastest, and one of its absolute worst. (Atlas Obscura)

That time when America's titans of industry and innovation went [road-tripping together](#). (Smithsonian Magazine)

10 crazy car accessories from [100 years of JC Whitney catalogs](#). (Old Cars Weekly)

When (and why) did cars switch from [leaded to unleaded fuel](#)? (Jalopnik)

Would you trust [this 1950s bumper wheel](#) on the front of your car? (Vibrant History YouTube Short)

Learning Opportunities



[Officers. 1943](#) (Gift of Reba A. Weaver, Indiana Historical Society)

IN INDIANA

Upcoming:

[Preserving History Networking Seminar](#)

May 27, Cedar Lake – Join professionals and volunteers from preservation and historical organizations to learn, brainstorm, and network. \$35; includes lunch by the culinary artists of ReMix Catering. (Cedar Lake Historical Association)

Plan Ahead:

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

June 9 – [Lunch and Learn: Help with Statistical Research](#)

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

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

[AASLH History Hour: Military History](#)

May 26 – Join the Military History Community the day after Memorial Day to discuss sharing military history with the public. (AASLH)

[How to Make Practical Use of Assessment Reports](#)

May 29 – This session will provide a brief overview of assessment processes and content, featuring real-world examples. (CCAHA)

[Building Performance Standards and Historic Buildings](#)

May 29 – Get up to speed on an emerging climate policy that is impacting older and historic buildings across the country. (National Trust for Historic Preservation)

Plan Ahead:

June 2 – [Rainbow Resilience: Self-Care for LGBTQIA+ Advocates and Allies](#)

June 9 – [Museums: Hope and Resilience for the Future](#)

June 16 – [Handling Photographs for Digitization](#)

June 19 – [What is \(Not\) Repatriation and & Go Big When the Ancestors Go Home](#)

June 24 – [Hidden Supports: The Art and Practice of Mountmaking](#)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Upcoming:

[History and Democracy Virtual Summit](#)

May 27-28 – This two-day virtual summit will offer inspiration, case studies, and connections from within and beyond the history sector to enhance organizational capacity to repair and fortify American civic culture. \$85; \$65 members. (AASLH)

[Museum AI Summit](#)

May 27-28 – Discover how AI is reshaping the museum landscape and gain an understanding of the opportunities and threats it presents. \$170. (MuseumNext)

Plan Ahead:

June 1 – [Budget Strategy, Cost Justification and Financial Credibility](#)

June 2 – [Planning for Reformatting Field Recordings](#)

June 4 – [Demystifying AI for History Organizations](#)

June 8 – [Charting a New Course for Education: Museum Edition KnowledgeWorks](#)

June 11 – [Sustaining Engagement after Commemorations](#)

June 15-July 13 – [Introduction to Financial Management Online Course](#)

June 16-18 – [Writing a Disaster Plan](#)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

Plan Ahead:

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

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

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS & INSTRUCTOR APPLICATIONS

Applications are due May 29 to be an [instructor for a new series of online learning modules](#) for the Museum Learning Hub. (AMM)

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

Funding Available



[*Man fixing a flat tire, family watching, undated*](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Grants For Arts Projects](#)

Due July 9 – This grant program funds projects across a wide range of disciplines, including arts education, dance, folk and traditional arts, literary arts, music, theater, visual and media arts, and more. The program welcomes applications from organizations of all sizes serving rural, urban, suburban, and Tribal communities. (National Endowment for the Arts)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[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). (Cliffs)

[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)

[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)

PLAN AHEAD

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](#)

Due June 25 – [Landmarks of American History and Culture and Summer Institutes Grants](#)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Mid-Continent Petroleum Corporation, ca. 1935](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

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

Gary – Indiana University Northwest Library

[Assistant Librarian: Digital Processing Archivist](#)

Gary – Indiana University Northwest Library

[Controller](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana Landmarks

REGIONAL

[Sponsorship Manager](#)

Peoria, Ill. – Peoria Riverfront Museum

[Project Manager, Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks \(2-year position\)](#)

Columbus, Ohio – Ohio History Connection

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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To submit a news release, email col@indianahistory.org by noon Wednesday for same-week publication.
Some exceptions may apply.

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