

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

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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



[Walnut Street, Bloomington, IN, 1920](#) (Gift of Wisconsin Historical Society, Indiana Historical Society)

JOIN US FOR A REGIONAL MEETING IN BLOOMINGTON JUNE 19

June 19: Bloomington, Noon to 1:30 p.m. (EST) – Join us on for a free in-person regional meeting! We'll chat about developing exhibits, and there will 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 Monroe County History Center)

MINI GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE JULY 31

Due July 31 – [Heritage Support Mini Grants](#) of \$500 to \$4,999 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.*

Around Indiana



[Bethel A.M.E. Church "Church on the Move: Rev. C.T.H. Watkins, Pastor" ca. 1960. image 2](#) (Gift of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

The Association of Indiana Museums is [seeking candidates for three open Board of Directors seats](#) for the 2027–2029 term. Learn more and submit an interest form [here](#). (AIM)

Conner Prairie is hosting a new traveling exhibit: ["FOOD: Science, Culture, and Cuisine"](#) is an international multi-sensory traveling exhibition exploring the concept of food and dining. The exhibit opens to the public on June 13. (Indianapolis Recorder)

On May 31, local agencies united at Brewer Park in Fort Wayne to [pay homage to Roosevelt Barnes Sr., Fort Wayne's first black homebuilder](#), who also fought against discrimination. (WANE)

'If you worked hard, you were able to make it': Evansville landmarks [preserve stories of city's founding families](#). (14 News)

New Indiana byway: [Hoosier Hills Scenic Byway was dedicated on June 4](#). The roughly 83-mile route has been recognized for its scenic, historic, cultural, natural, and recreational significance in Southern Indiana. (Brown County Democrat)

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:

[National Dairy Month Pop-Up Exhibit](#)

Now-June 30, La Porte – See artifacts from the various dairy farms of La Porte County. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

[Exhibit: America at 250: Celebrating Hoosier Spirit](#)

Now Open, Muncie – This exhibit of artifacts highlights how local experiences have shaped – and been shaped by – our national journey. (Minnetrista)

[Colonial Fair 2026](#)

June 12-13, Indianapolis – Step back in time to experience life in a village during the period of the American Revolution. (Caroline Scott Harrison Chapter, DAR)

[Speaker Series: Laughing with Lincoln](#)

June 13, Vincennes – Created by professional historian and Lincoln specialist, Warren Greer, this show blends laughter and vitality to reveal Lincoln not as a monument, but as a man. (Red Skelton Performing Arts Center)

[History Hour: Plowing Through the Competition: The Olivers and the Chilled Plow](#)

June 14, Michigan City – Learn about the history of the Oliver Chilled Plow Works of South Bend. (Barker Mansion)

[Above-Ground Archaeology](#)

June 15, Elkhart – Go on a pedestrian survey to walk a real historic site and observe the archaeology that surrounds us every day. (Ruthmere)

[Exhibit Opening: America's 250th Part 1](#)

June 18, Franklin – Learn about the early history of our area from 1776-1861, the role Indiana played in American History, and how Johnson County was part of that history. (Johnson County Museum of History)

[The Underground Railroad in Northwestern Indiana](#)

June 18, La Porte – Professor Larry McClellan will present a broad look at the journeys of freedom seekers and the responses of Abolitionists across northwestern Indiana. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

[Juneteenth Celebration](#)

June 19, Indianapolis – In observance of Juneteenth, Indiana Landmarks explores the legacy of Marcus Garvey and his impact on Indiana. (Indiana Landmarks)

[Juneteenth Celebration & Storytime](#)

June 19, La Porte – Learn about Naomi Anderson's life and impact. (La Porte County Historical Society Museum)

[Juneteenth Community Conversation](#)

June 19, Wabash – Join the Wabash County Diversity Coalition for dinner and community conversation. (Wabash County Museum)

[Lincoln Penny Story Hour with Zanzer Anderson](#)

June 20, Elkhart – Zanzer Anderson will read *Fancy Party Gowns: The Story of Fashion Designer Ann Cole Lowe*. (Ruthmere)

[Cross Stitch Class](#)

June 20, Scottsburg – Learn to make a great wall hanging to celebrate the USA's 250th anniversary. (Scott County Heritage Center and Museum)

[Colored Cemetery Memorial Project](#)

June 20, Thorntown – Sugar Creek Historical Society is inviting the community to gather at the Thorntown Colored Cemetery to learn about the new memorial project. (Thorntown Colored Cemetery)

Plan Ahead:

June 23, Lebanon – [An Indianapolis Tail Gunner in World War II](#)

June 24, Michigan City – [Mansion After Hours: Conservation Conversation](#)

June 26, Vincennes – [Summer on Main](#)

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

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

NOMINATIONS DUE JULY 1 FOR 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.

Nominations are due July 1, 2026. [Start your nomination today!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

[T is for Transportation](#)

June 17 and 25 – Designed especially for children ages 2–5, this playful, hands-on program introduces early literacy, STEAM concepts, and social skills.

[Concerts on the Canal – Steel Petals | James Taylor. Adult Contemporary. Country](#)

June 18 – Make music part of your summer rhythm at Concerts on the Canal, presented on the Kruse Family Stardust Terrace.

[Juneteenth Celebration – FREE Admission](#)

June 20 – Join us as we honor freedom, resilience, and the rich contributions of African Americans throughout Hoosier history.

What We're Reading This Week



[Circle City Pride Parade, 2008](#) (Mark A. Lee LGBT Photo Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Pride Month: Explore [these resources](#) for museums from the American Alliance of Museums. And JSTOR Daily has gathered some of their [favorite stories to celebrate Pride Month](#) that highlight the history of the LGBTQIA+ community, all with free and accessible scholarly research.

Should your museum be a little messier? Considering [what museums can do with the collections they already have](#), both for practical purposes and for visitor learning and interpretation. (Museum 411)

AAM is launching [Museum Leadership Academy](#), an intensive, cohort-based accelerator for museum leaders. Applications are due June 22. (American Alliance of Museums)

New AI survey for museums: UNESCO and ICOM have launched the [Global Survey on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Museums](#). Institutions of all types and sizes are invited to complete the online survey by July 21. (ICOM)

Reminder! Applications are due June 26 for the [Executive Insight Circle](#) – a high-impact, cohort-based leadership experience for chief executives and senior leaders in the field. (AASLH)

U.S. 250 NEWS & UPDATES

America's Original travel influencer drew up a [revolutionary itinerary 200 years ago](#). There's still plenty to see along the way. (Smithsonian Magazine)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

Ensuring access for all patrons: Creating [accessible cultural spaces](#). (The Ability Center)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

When museums become backdrops: Managing [commercial and media photography](#). (Engaging Places)

Beyond the walls: How a museum in rural Wyoming [reaches students on six continents](#). (MuseumNext)

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Does a trip plan exclude your museum? "I asked AI to plan my day trip. It never looked at a single destination website." [What this means for your heritage organization's website](#). (Heritage Tourism Studio)

Have you met Chloe? Paul Orselli prompts museums to borrow ideas from this [AI-generated avatar who "travels" through history](#). (ExhibiTricks)

Current data: [How people are really using AI in 2026](#). (Harvard Business Review)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Nonprofit leaders answer: What's [one leadership habit](#) that's made the biggest difference for your nonprofit? (Blue Avocado)

How to handle [employee complaints about coworkers](#) (without making things worse). (Let's Grow Leaders)

NEED A BREAK?

5 epic pilgrimages you can still take today: Pack your bags, leave the existential dread at home, and [hit the world's most far-ranging footpaths](#). (Mental Floss)

What's inside America's lost luggage? These travelers [abandoned a samurai sword, a meteorite, and a robot with a mysterious purpose](#). (Smithsonian Magazine)

The Boston Public Library's Print Department is home to more than [350 vintage travel posters](#), most dating from the 1920s-1940s, the "Golden Age of Travel." (Digital Commonwealth)

Learning Opportunities



"Stowaway", 1943 (Gift of Janie Lou Bailey, Indiana Historical Society)

IN INDIANA

Plan Ahead:

July 9-10, Indianapolis – [Fundraising for Small Nonprofits](#)

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

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

[Handling Photographs for Digitization](#)

June 16 – Learn how to safely implement digitization setups based on your scale and budget, as well as how to prioritize for digitization. (CCAHA)

[Burnout, Boundaries, and Belonging](#)

June 16 – This session explores practical, people-first strategies that institutions of any size can use to build healthier boundaries. (Virginia Association of Museums)

[Introducing the Heritage Now! Campaign](#)

June 16 – Learn about this global campaign advancing heritage-informed decarbonization strategies that connect climate action, cultural heritage, and community resilience.

(National Trust for Historic Preservation)

[How to Build a Digital Experience That Earns Trust and Boosts Funding](#)

June 18 – Learn how to align your website, content, and digital channels with your organizational goals so your digital presence becomes a genuine strategic asset. (GrantStation)

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

June 19 – This webinar will discuss the repatriation process including definitions, examples, and common misconceptions along with best practices for consultation and publishing notices. (National Park Service)

[Make Your Case Compelling!](#)

June 22 – Learn how to get everyone in your organization on the same page when talking about your organization. (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

Plan Ahead:

June 23 – [AASLH History Hour: Preparing for and Recovering from Emergencies](#)

June 23 – [Museum Advocacy in Action: Building Support at the Local and State Level](#)

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

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Upcoming:

[Writing a Disaster Plan](#)

June 16-18 – This two-part course empowers participants to complete the critical stages of becoming more prepared for the unexpected. \$225. (NEDCC)

Plan Ahead:

June 23 – [10 Practical Steps for Getting Started with Digital Preservation](#)

June 23 – [Capital Campaign Essentials: From Feasibility to Final Phase](#)

June 24 – [Strengthening History Communication: Reframing the Value of History and Your Institution](#)

June 24 – [The Awe Advantage](#)

June 24-25 – [Museums & Public Programs Summit](#)

June 25 – [Creating Great Working Boards](#)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

Plan Ahead:

July 14-16, Washington, D.C. and Online – [Smithsonian National Education Summit](#)

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

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS & INSTRUCTOR APPLICATIONS

Reminder! Proposals are due June 15 for the [National Council on Public History 2027 Conference](#). (NCPH)

Funding Available



[Winding road. woods. 1935](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Tru Vue Conservation & Exhibition Grant](#)

Due July 13 – This grant program supports small institutions (generally those with fewer than 100,000 visitors annually) by providing a cash award of up to £3,000 (approximately \$4,000 USD) to be used toward conservation and housing/framing costs, along with a material donation of Optium Museum Acrylic® or UltraVue® Laminated Glass for use directly related to the conservation and exhibition project. (Icon)

[CenterPoint Energy Foundation Grants](#)

Due July 17 – The Foundation awards grants annually to eligible organizations in Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Texas, where the company has a business presence. This cycle is open for Community Vitality proposals, including environmental stewardship & outdoor recreation, and affordable housing. (CenterPoint Energy)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[DUE TODAY! Scholarships for 2026 AASLH and NCPH Joint Conference](#)

Due June 12 – Three scholarship programs are available to assist those who would like to attend the AASLH Annual Conference. The 2026 AASLH and NCPH Joint Conference will be held Sept. 16-19 in Providence, R.I. (AASLH)

[Sacred Places Indiana Fund](#)

Due June 15 – Historic churches that have identified significant capital needs, have the support of their judicatories, and are ready to undertake a capital campaign could be candidates for the Sacred Places Indiana Fund. (Indiana Landmarks)

[American History and Civics – National Activities Grants](#)

Intent to Apply due June 15 – This grant program promotes strategies to encourage innovative American history, civics and government, and geography instruction, learning strategies, and professional development activities and programs for teachers, principals, or other school leaders. (U.S. Department of Education)

[Save America's Treasures Grants](#)

Due June 16 – This grant program offers funding for **preservation projects** (for properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places for national significance or designated a National Historic Landmark) or for **collections projects**, including artifacts, museum collections, documents, sculptures, and other works of art. (National Park Service; IMLS)

PLAN AHEAD

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

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

Due June 30 – [APIAHiP Placekeepers Fund](#)

Due July 9 – [Grants For Arts Projects](#)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Indiana Dunes Highway, ca. 1921](#) (Gift of Ann Simonek, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Senior Genealogy Librarian](#)

Fort Wayne – Allen County Public Library

[Exhibits Coordinator](#)

Fort Wayne – The History Center

[Early Childhood Senior Program Manager](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

[Director, Eastern Regional Office](#)

Richmond – Indiana Landmarks

REGIONAL

[Education Curator](#)

Grand Haven, Mich. – Tri-Cities Historical Museum

[Historic Agricultural Specialist](#)

Bowling Green, Ohio – Wood County Park District

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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