

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

June 19, 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



Wabash Avenue, Terre Haute, Indiana ca. 1920 (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

REGIONAL MEETING IN TERRE HAUTE JULY 20

[In Your Neighborhood Meeting](#)

July 20: Terre Haute, Noon to 1:30 p.m. (EST) – Join us 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 Vigo 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.*

Nominations Due July 1 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



[Olin-Wilmeth Company Employees with a Ford Truck, circa 1923, cropped](#) (The Bretzman Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

Indiana Humanities has launched a new multi-year project: [Matters of Religion](#), to explore the role of religion in Hoosiers' lives and to engage with how religious liberty influences education, democracy, culture, and the breadth of human experience in our religiously vibrant and diverse state.

The John Paul Chapter DAR has presented the [Excellence in Historic Preservation Award](#) to the Jefferson County Historical Society in Madison. Congratulations! (Madison Courier)

The Fairland Historical Society has launched a new [Oral History Project](#), featuring interviews about local history in the community.

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:

[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)

[The Legends, the Legacies, the Heart: Black History in our Chronicle-Tribune Photo Collection](#)

June 20, Marion – Torianna McNair will share stories from Marion's Black history, uncovered through her research of photographs in the History Center's Chronicle-Tribune photo collection and oral interviews with individuals in the Marion community. (The History Center at Marion Public Library)

[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)

[An Indianapolis Tail Gunner in World War II](#)

June 23, Lebanon – The Clinton County and the Boone County genealogical societies will have a combined meeting, and Ron Darrah will give a presentation about Sgt. William L. Cooper. (Lebanon Public Library)

[Mansion After Hours: Conservation Conversation](#)

June 24, Michigan City – Attend an interactive, behind-the-scenes conversation led by Chris Grohs, of Terrawood Designs, the skilled craftsman behind much of the mansion's restoration. (Barker Mansion)

[Summer on Main](#)

June 26, Vincennes – Celebrate America's 250th anniversary with an evening of food, music, and patriotic fun. (Historic Vincennes)

[Gardens of Zionsville: Century Homes in Bloom](#)

June 27, Zionsville – Tour six private gardens and see the Flora and Fauna exhibit during this two-day celebration of horticulture, art, history, and community. (SullivanMunce Cultural Center)

Plan Ahead:

July 2, Wabash – [The Thursday Parlay: Abe Lincoln's Perspective on the 250th](#)

July 3, La Porte – [America 250 Celebration at the Museum](#)

July 4, Muncie – [Fourth of July Celebration](#)

July 11, Indianapolis – [A Famine of Cadavers: Inside Indy's 1902 Graverobbing Syndicate](#)

July 12, Indianapolis – [Mass Ave 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 July 14, Angola ([Steuben County Historical Society](#))

Faces of the Civil War

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

Endangered Heritage

Through July 15, Battle Ground ([Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum](#))

A Visual Journey: From AIDS to Marriage Equality

Through July 15, West Lafayette ([West Lafayette Public Library](#))

Who is a Hoosier

Through July 16, Indianapolis ([U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Juneteenth Celebration – FREE Admission](#)

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

[T is for Transportation](#)

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

[The Junction – A Slice of Civil Rights History](#)

June 25 – Join us for Slice of History – a fun, interactive game night that mixes history with pizza party vibes.

What We're Reading This Week



[Six-hundred block of Indiana Avenue. 1956](#) (O. James Fox Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Today is Juneteenth – [Explore the rich history of Freedom Day](#) with stories, a reading list, a digital toolkit, and more. (National Museum of African American History and Culture)

Work Smarter [Part 3]: More [free toolkits for museums](#). (Museum 411)

Reminder! [Civic Season begins today](#) and continues through July 4. (Made By Us)

U.S. 250 NEWS & UPDATES

The Organization of American Historians' [U.S. History at 250](#) site offers links to free articles, recorded webinars and videos, and other resources. (OAH)

“America’s Time Capsule” has been [officially sealed](#) and will be buried at Independence National Historical Park on July 4, 2026, to be reopened in 2276. [See what’s inside](#). (America 250)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

Learn how students engaged in description exercises to learn [how blind and low-vision visitors experience museums](#). (University of Delaware)

COLLECTIONS DIGITIZATION

What should you digitize first? [A practical prioritization guide](#) for small heritage organizations. (Your Archive)

SOCIAL MEDIA & MARKETING

Festival marketing: [A complete guide](#). (Bloomerang)

Should your museum [start a podcast?](#) (MuseumNext)

Photography, permission, and fair use: [Where museum policies get complicated.](#)
(Engaging Places)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

What to do when your colleague [keeps meddling](#) in your work. (Harvard Business Review)

NEED A BREAK?

Meet Opal Lee – The 97-year-old [‘Grandmother of Juneteenth.’](#) (Mental Floss)

Explore W. E. B. Du Bois’ [hand-drawn infographics](#) of African American life in the late 19th century. (Public Domain Review)

Tour a virtual exhibit on the [history of the Negro Motorist Green Book](#) and explore an interactive [map of Green Book sites in Indiana](#). **Want to see more?** Page through a [virtual collection](#) of Green Books online. (Smithsonian; Indiana DHPA; NYPL)

They were just having a back-to-school party in an apartment rec room – [Little did they know they were creating hip-hop](#). Explore the [fascinating origins of hip-hop](#), from the Bronx to LA. (Smithsonian Magazine; National Museum of African American History & Culture)

Learning Opportunities



[*Entrance to Crispus Attucks High School, 1939*](#) (Indiana Historical Society, dc078)

IN INDIANA

Upcoming:

[Old Places Indy | Kick-Off Meeting](#)

June 24, Indianapolis – This is a new networking group for early- and mid-career professionals who work with old places, in any capacity. (Event at Guggman Haus Brewing Co.)

Plan Ahead:

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

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

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

[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)

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

June 23 – Join AASLH's Climate and Sustainability and Small Museums Committees to discuss how to prepare for and recover from climate-caused emergencies. (AASLH)

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

June 23 – This panel discussion explores how museums can effectively advocate for funding, visibility, and community support. (Virginia Association of Museums)

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

June 24 – Learn the basics for displaying objects – from in-house customization of standard mount blanks to working with contract mountmakers.

[Battlefields Mean Business Economic Impact Study Report](#)

June 24 – Learn about findings from the study and what it shares about visitation trends across the battlefield sector. (American Battlefield Trust)

Plan Ahead:

June 29 – [From Passion to Protection: 10 HR Essentials Every Nonprofit Leader Can't Ignore](#)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Upcoming:

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

June 23 – Learn about 10 tips to help move your program and its practices forward. \$110. (NEDCC)

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

June 23 – This webinar will walk you through the full arc of a capital campaign, from the critical pre-campaign groundwork to the final phases of execution. \$69. (GrantStation)

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

June 24 – This half-day virtual workshop will help history practitioners at institutions of all types and sizes learn how to communicate about their work more effectively. \$150; \$100 members. (AASLH)

[The Awe Advantage](#)

June 24 – Explore how to leverage awe to design museum experiences and open minds. \$40; free for members. (AAM)

[Museums & Public Programs Summit](#)

June 24-25 – Learn from the people doing public programming well at museums around the world. \$170. (MuseumNext)

[Creating Great Working Boards](#)

June 25 – This webinar will help you reignite that passion for your work by offering ways to engage your board in a healthy, sustainable manner in alignment with your mission. \$45; \$25 members. (AASLH)

Plan Ahead:

Registration is open for [AASLH's fall instructor-led online courses](#). The registration deadline is Aug. 17, but many courses fill up early.

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! Applications are due June 26 for [AASLH's Executive Insight Circle](#). (AASLH)

Deadline Extended: Proposals are now due July 1 for the [National Council on Public History 2027 Conference](#). (NCPH)

Funding Available



[*Madam Walker and Booker T. Washington at YMCA Opening, 1913*](#) (*Madam C.J. Walker Collection, Indiana Historical Society*)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Historic Preservation Fund – Underrepresented Communities Grants](#)

Due July 7 – This program is intended to expand listings in the National Register of Historic Places to include communities that are currently underrepresented. Projects include surveys and nominations of historic sites associated with communities underrepresented in the National Register. (National Park Service)

[Community Development Block Grants: Planning Grants](#)

Due July 12 – The goal of the program is to encourage Indiana communities to plan for long-term, holistic improvement. Grants are available for planning, including Historic Preservation Plans, Downtown Revitalization Plans, Feasibility Studies, and more. (Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[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 in creative and appealing ways. There are two levels of funding: Development and Production. (NEH)

[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)

PLAN AHEAD

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

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

Due July 13 – [Tru Vue Conservation & Exhibition Grant](#)

Due July 17 – [CenterPoint Energy Foundation Grants](#)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Producer and Singer. Narada Michael Walden and Phyllis Hyman. 1983](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Museum Educator](#)

Crawfordsville – Carnegie Museum of Montgomery County

[Operations Manager](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana Landmarks

REGIONAL

[Senior Exhibit Developer](#)

St. Paul, Minn. – Minnesota Historical Society

[Exhibitions Coordinator](#)

Madison, Wis. – Wisconsin Historical Foundation

[GIS Technician – Historic Preservation Specialist](#)

Madison, Wis. – Wisconsin 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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