

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

July 31, 2026

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

[Learn more](#)

Updates from Local History Services



[Diamond Chain Company Employees, ca. 1915](#) (Gift of the Diamond Chain Company, Indiana Historical

Society)

COLLECTIONS CONUNDRUMS WORKSHOP IN FRANKLIN

Aug. 13, Franklin – The [full-day Collections Conundrums workshop](#) from Local History Services will focus on the decisions we make about our collections. Cost: \$35; \$30 IHS members; \$25 Local History Partner Members. LEUs are available for librarians. [REGISTER HERE](#) – Please register by Aug. 10. (Hosted by the Johnson County Museum of History)

REMINDER! MINI GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE TODAY, 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



[Gosport Covered Bridge, 1941](#) (Indiana Historical Society, M0836)

NEWS

Inside the effort to save Hoosier barns: the Indiana Barn Foundation is on [a mission to help preserve these iconic symbols of rural Indiana](#). (Indiana Public Media)

Huntington's Mt. Hope Cemetery was [listed on the National Register of Historic Places](#) on June 1. (EIN Presswire)

The Greensburg/Decatur County Public Library has [received a \\$19,471 grant from the](#)

[Decatur County Community Foundation](#) to professionally treat and conserve a collection of glass plate negatives. (WRBI)

The history of Indianapolis lives in old newspaper archives. [Can we get to it?](#) The digital era brings many advances and some consequences to news consumers. (Indiana Capital Chronicle)

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:

[Miami Indian Heritage Days: Miami Harvest](#)

Aug. 1, Fort Wayne – The August program will be Miami Harvest: Edible and Usable Plants and Materials with Dani Tippmann. (Chief Richardville House, or *akima pinšiwawiiiki*)

[Wendell Wilkie Returns to Elwood](#)

Aug. 2, Anderson – County Historian Stephen Jackson will present "Wendell Wilkie Returns to Elwood." (Madison County Historical Society)

[Free Family Sunday and Ice Cream Social](#)

Aug. 2, Elkhart – Hang out on Ruthmere's porch and grounds as you enjoy music from a barbershop quartet and delicious ice cream. (Ruthmere)

[Ice Cream Social](#)

Aug. 2, Irvington – This family-friendly event brings scoops of gourmet ice cream and music to Downey Avenue. (Irvington Historical Society)

[Of the People – A Concert for America at 250](#)

Aug. 2, Madison; and Aug. 4, Franklin – Listen to original jazz arrangements that reflect the nation's shared history, traditions, and cultural identity. (Historic Eleutherian College in Madison and the Historic Artcraft Theatre in Franklin)

[Tales of the Mississinewa and White River Settlement](#)

Aug. 4, Muncie – Join a special local history presentation by public historian, author, and lecturer, Chris Flook. (Muncie Public Library)

[Gallery Talk: Affordability, Beauty, Collectability: The ABCs of Indiana Glass](#)

Aug. 5, Elkhart – Mark Doddington, Music Manager at Ruthmere, will present this month's Gallery Talk. (Ruthmere's Beardsley Discovery Center)

[The Setting for Our Dreams: Historical Songwriting Workshop](#)

Aug. 8, Delphi – This hands-on workshop explores the vital role music played during the Canal Era. (Wabash & Erie Canal Park)

[Fiesta Fort Wayne](#)

Aug. 8, Fort Wayne – The program will feature the enjoy the authentic foods and folklore of the diverse Latino community residing in Northeast Indiana.

[Combining Land and Probate Records to Get the Full Story](#)

Aug. 8, Indianapolis – John Barr, owner of Old Northwest Genealogy, will explore a case study of the Hoffman family using probate records. (Indiana State Library)

[Our Earthquake: The Story of the 1812 New Madrid Earthquakes](#)

Aug. 8, Scottsburg – Learn about the devastating 1811-1812 New Madrid earthquakes and their lasting impact on Southern Indiana and the surrounding region. (Scott County Heritage Center and Museum)

[Genealogy Lock-In: Finding Female Ancestors](#)

Aug. 8, Thorntown – This program will explore resources and practices in finding the women in your family tree. (Thorntown Public Library)

Plan Ahead:

Aug. 11-13, Indianapolis – [Old Speedway City Neighborhood Walking Tours](#)

Aug. 12, Muncie – [Collections Tour: Back to School](#)

Aug. 12, Scottsburg – [The Pigeon Roost Massacre](#)

Aug. 15, Elkhart – [Elkhart's Rail Accidents](#)

Aug. 16, Plymouth – [Dietrich-Bowen House Tour](#)

Aug. 21, Frankfort – [Ancestry Lock-In](#)

Sept. 8, Indianapolis – [Hosted Digital Collections and Indiana Memory](#)

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.

Auto Indiana

Through Sept. 1, Waterloo ([Waterloo Grant Township Public Library](#))

Securing the Vote: Women's Suffrage in Indiana

Through Sept. 2, Merrillville ([Lake County Public Library Merrillville Branch](#))

What We're Reading This Week



[Central Union Telephone Employees, 1912](#) (Bass Photo Co Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Applications are open for the [2026 Midwest Culture Bearers Awards](#), which celebrate and financially support the work of Midwest culture bearers and folk arts practitioners. Selected individuals will each receive a \$5,000 unrestricted award, as well as professional development and networking support. **Applications are due Aug. 18.** (Arts Midwest)

How archiving is adapting to digital creativity – as artists increasingly create digitally, [how are archivists re-evaluating what's worth keeping?](#) (Cultural Content)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

[Universal Design 101](#) – what it means and why it's important. (Rick Hansen Foundation)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

AASLH and NxtLevel have collaborated to create a new online resource – [Building the Next 250 Years: Hosting Community Conversations at Your History Organization](#). (AASLH)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

This is how to improve your writing: [6 expert insights](#). (Barking Up the Wrong Tree)

For a more creative brain [follow these 5 steps](#). (James Clear)

[13 small ways to ditch your phone](#) and live more in the moment. (NPR)

NEED A BREAK?

The "Year Without a Summer" was real, and it's [even stranger than it sounds](#). (Mental Floss)

[A brief history of hold music](#), from early patents to the soundtrack of customer-service purgatory. (Smithsonian Magazine)

The Bayeux Tapestry explained: watch an [animated retelling of the Norman conquest](#). (Open Culture)

Learning Opportunities



[Children Playing at Garfield Park, 1918](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0173)

IN INDIANA

Aug. 26-Sept. 23, Various Sites – [OCRA Community Engagement Summits](#)

Sept. 5-26, Indianapolis – [Fall Nonprofit Series](#)

Sept. 29-Oct. 2, Franklin – [Preserving Historic Places Conference](#)

Nov. 5, Indianapolis – [Indiana Constitutional Symposium](#)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

[Our Board is Useless! – The Staff Don't Use Me!](#)

Aug. 3 – Take a deep dive into strategies and tactics to effectively engage volunteer leadership in fundraising and other areas of organizational growth. (Nonprofit Learning

Lab)

[What It's Like to Participate in Museums Advocacy Day](#)

Aug. 6 – Past Museums Advocacy Day participants share why they attend, what they gained, and what first-time attendees can expect. (AAM)

Plan Ahead:

Aug. 10 – [Archival Value](#)

Aug. 11 – [New Tools to Create Dynamic Collections Resources for Your Organization](#)

Aug. 12 – [Preserving the Now: Archiving in Times of Crisis](#)

Aug. 12 – [The Grant Readiness Roadmap](#)

Aug. 18 – [Implementing Heritage-Informed Decarbonization Policies](#)

Aug. 19 – [Building the Next 250 Years: Hosting Community Conversations at Your History Organization](#)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Upcoming:

[Strategies for Born Digital Collections](#)

Aug. 6 – Learn about collecting and preservation practices for content originating in a digital form. \$110. (NEDCC)

Plan Ahead:

Aug. 13 – [Basics of Fundraising](#)

Aug. 13 – [Blended Financing: Impact Investing for Nonprofits](#)

Aug. 18 – [Building an A-List Board](#)

Aug. 20 – [Organizational Culture: The Unwritten Rules Make the Decisions](#)

Aug. 24-Oct. 18 – [Leadership and Administration for History Organizations](#)

Aug. 25 – [Exhibiting Your Collections](#)

Aug. 25-26 – [Every Place Has a Story: Communications that Inspire Support](#)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

Plan Ahead:

Sept. 16-19, Providence, R.I. – [AASLH-NCPH 2026 Joint Conference](#)

**Early-bird registration deadline is Aug. 3.*

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

Reminder! Proposals are due Aug. 5 for Lightning Talks and Roundtable Panels at the [Indiana Constitutional Symposium](#) to be held Nov. 5 in Indianapolis. (Indiana State Archives)

Funding Available



[Recorder Sponsors Annual Summer Tea Event, 1981](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[J.W. Couch Foundation Grants](#)

Due Sept. 25 – The Foundation supports nonprofit organizations with charitable programs throughout the U.S. across three areas: preservation, including wildlife conservation and historical preservation; education, including early childhood development and teacher support; and wellness, including mental health and mentorship. **The Foundation also offers the [Storytelling Grant](#)**, an opportunity for organizations to share the real-world impact they're making in their communities through the power of video.

[Bank of America Art Conservation Project™ Grants](#)

Due Sept. 30 – Funding is available to nonprofit museums and cultural institutions to conserve a single work of art or collection of related works that are significant to the cultural heritage of its country/region or are important to the history of art. (Bank of America)

PLAN AHEAD

Due Aug. 14 – [UPS Louisville Community Care Fund](#)

Draft Application Due Aug. 24 – [Arts Project Support Grants](#)

Due Aug. 31 (LOI) – [Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation Grants](#)

Due Sept. 15 – [Robert Lehman Foundation for Visual Arts Exhibitions and Programs](#)

Due Sept. 16 – [Scholarly Editions and Translations Grants](#)

Due Sept. 30 – [Historic Preservation Education Grants](#)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Corn field and barn, 1925](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

[Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum Assistant](#) (part-time)

Battle Ground – Tippecanoe County Historical Association

[Wylie House Museum Services Coordinator](#)

Bloomington – Indiana University Libraries

[Historical Facilitator](#) (part-time)

Fishers – Conner Prairie

[Database and Development Systems Associate](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana Landmarks

[Daily Experience Manager](#)

Muncie – Minnetrista Museum & Gardens, Mary Lincoln Cottage

REGIONAL

[Assistant Museum Collections Registrar](#)

Edwardsville, Ill. – Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

[Public Programs and Marketing Manager](#)

Rockford, Ill. – Esta Barrett Manor & Gardens

[Learning Team Manager](#)

Frankfort, Ky. – Kentucky Historical Society

[Curatorial Associate](#)

Frankfort, Ky. – Kentucky Historical Society

[Museum Educator](#)

Frankfort, Ky. – Kentucky Historical Society

[Genealogy Engagement Specialist](#)

Frankfort, Ky. – Kentucky Historical Society

[Finance & Administrative Coordinator](#)

Dearborn, Mich. – Fair Lane, Henry Ford Estate

[Executive Director](#)

Lansing, Mich. – Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society

[Site Superintendent](#)

Columbus, Ohio – Ohio History Center & Ohio Village

[Executive Director](#)

Milwaukee, Wis. – Villa Terrace Museum & Gardens

PAID INTERNSHIPS

[Fall Internships](#)

Fishers – Conner Prairie

[Archives Digital Media Intern](#)

Bloomfield Hills, Mich. – Jewish Federation of Detroit

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.

We'd love your input on this e-newsletter! [Use this form](#) to give us your feedback.

[Local History Services](#)

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