

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

August 7, 2026

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

[Learn more](#)

Updates from Local History Services



[Franklin College. library. circa 1904](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, 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. (Hosted by the Johnson County Museum of History)

[REGISTER HERE](#) – Please register by **Aug. 10.**

Around Indiana



[Kindergarten, Madison, Indiana, Circa 1898](#) (Indiana Jewish Historical Society Collection of the Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

Reminder! Applications are due by Aug. 14 to participate in the next round of the [Civics and Democracy Speakers Bureau](#). (Indiana Humanities)

The Association of Indiana Museums is [seeking candidates for three open Board of Directors seats](#) for the 2027–2029 term. Please submit the interest form by Aug. 31. (AIM)

Fifteen sites pivotal to Indiana's African American history will [receive \\$205,000 in restoration grants](#) from funds established by late chemist Standiford H. Cox. (WTHR)

In May and June 2026, Indiana added eight listings to the National Register of Historic Places. The new listings are in Allen, Gibson, Grant, Huntington, Jefferson, and Marion Counties. (Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology)

The Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites will [begin restoration work at the](#)

[Whitewater Canal State Historic Site](#) after securing \$14.4 million in state funding and grants for the preservation project. (Ink Free News)

July 31, 2026, was proclaimed as [Indiana Antique Tractor Preservation Day](#) in Indiana. (Times-Union)

Dark Tourism: [dealing with ghosts and the past](#) at the Indiana Medical History Museum. (Indiana DNR-DHPA)

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:

[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.

[Storytellers From the Past Present: Colonial Printer](#)

Aug. 8, Franklin – Rich Gotshall will demonstrate the printing process and what it was like to produce printed materials in 18th-century America. (Johnson County Museum of History)

[Film, Fact & Fiction: Jurassic Park](#)

Aug. 8, Franklin – Learn about the famous early 20th century paleontologist Elmer Riggs and hear about the work of author Michael Crichton, then see a special screening of the film *Jurassic Park*. (Johnson County Museum of History and the Historic Artcraft Theatre)

[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)

[Old Speedway City Neighborhood Walking Tours](#)

Aug. 11-13, Indianapolis – Celebrate the Town of Speedway's centennial by exploring the community's historic residential and commercial blocks. (Indiana Landmarks)

[New Exhibit – Chasing the Light: Inside the Luminous World of T.C. Steele](#)

Aug. 12-Dec. 31, Lafayette – See works that follow T.C. Steele's pursuit of light itself. (The Haan Museum of Indiana Art)

[Collections Tour: Back to School](#)

Aug. 12, Muncie – Take a behind-the-scenes tour into secure storage areas to discover

the tools, trends, and traditions that shaped school life in our community. (Minnetrista)

[The Pigeon Roost Massacre Story](#)

Aug. 12, Scottsburg – This educational program explores the history of the Pigeon Roost settlement and the events surrounding the Pigeon Roost Massacre of 1812. (Scott County Heritage Center and Museum)

[Recital: "Oh Freedom!"](#)

Aug. 13, South Bend – "What does it truly mean to be free?" Ian Michael and Dror Baitel explore this question musically, with a Black-lens perspective, during America 250. (Civil Rights Heritage Center)

[Elkhart's Rail Accidents](#)

Aug. 15, Elkhart – Learn how rail accidents and safety shaped the town of Elkhart, its people, and the railroads themselves. (National New York Central Railroad Museum)

[Dietrich-Bowen House Tour](#)

Aug. 16, Plymouth – See the stunning 1901 Queen Anne style home in Bremen built by Peter Dietrich. (Event from the Marshall County Historical Society and Museum)

Plan Ahead:

[Indiana Through the Mapmaker's Eye](#)

Aug, 17, Fairland

[Ancestry Lock-In](#)

Aug. 21, Frankfort

[Hosted Digital Collections and Indiana Memory](#)

Sept. 8, Indianapolis

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.

Hoosiers and Their Hooch: Perspectives on Prohibition

Through Sept. 1, Angola ([Steuben County Historical Society](#))

Indiana Through the Mapmaker's Eye

Through Sept. 2, Beverly Shores ([Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Art Gallery](#))

What We're Reading This Week



[Bentwood School Furniture. Higgins & Ryan. 56 South Meridian Street. 1872](#) (Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES AND NEWS FROM THE FIELD

AASLH's new state and local advocacy effort, [Speak Up for History](#), will offer a hub for tools, guidance, and programming to help practitioners more effectively demonstrate the value of history work to their communities. [Explore the introductory resource manual](#). (AASLH)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

The importance of [welcome and care](#) in museums. (PRAM)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

The [audience engagement tool](#) hiding in plain sight. (AAM)

Welcome to the house museum. Have you seen our new bathroom? [Balancing preservation with the demands of visitation](#). (Dwell)

Designing for impact: why [reflection](#) should be at the heart of your museum experience. (Engaging Places)

FUNDRAISING

How to upgrade museum donors: [6 best practices](#). (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

From AI adoption to AI governance: [building trust in the age of artificial intelligence](#).

(Cuseum)

Deferred building maintenance isn't a strategy: build a [prevention first culture](#) instead.
(Facilities Net)

Leading [ethical nonprofit organizations](#). (The Nonprofit Prof)

It's stressful out there – [take care of yourself!](#) (National Council of Nonprofits)

NEED A BREAK?

[What happened to school starting after Labor Day?](#) A short history of school calendars and why August is the new September for back to school time. (CNN)

Browsing through the [history of school book fairs](#). (Mental Floss)

A 1968 look at the [computerized school of the future](#). (Smithsonian Magazine)

Behold the [elaborate writing desks](#) of 18th century aristocrats. (Open Culture)

Learning Opportunities



[Back to School Drive, 1969](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

IN INDIANA

[OCRA Community Engagement Summits](#)

Aug. 26-Sept. 23, Various Sites

[Fall Nonprofit Series](#)

Sept. 5-26, Indianapolis

[Preserving Historic Places Conference](#)

Sept. 29-Oct. 2, Franklin

[Indiana Constitutional Symposium](#)

Nov. 5, Indianapolis

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

[Archival Value](#)

Aug. 10 – This webinar explores the informational, evidential, and intrinsic characteristics of archival materials. (Backlog)

[New Tools to Create Dynamic Collections Resources for Your Organization](#)

Aug. 11 – Using case studies, this webinar will cover the process that went into updating existing spreadsheets and turning them into living databases. (CCAHA)

[Build the Board You Need](#)

Aug. 11 – Learn practical strategies for creating a board that will move your organization forward. (Candid)

[Preserving the Now: Archiving in Times of Crisis](#)

Aug. 12 – Learn how the Invisible Histories project is saving highly at-risk archival data through community outsourcing, volunteer engagement, and word-of-mouth connections. (Connecting to Collections Care)

[The Grant Readiness Roadmap: Find Your Weak Spots Before a Funder Does](#)

Aug. 12 – Learn about a grant readiness roadmap your organization can use to pinpoint exactly where you stand and exactly what to fix first. (GrantStation)

[Matting and Framing](#)

Aug. 13 – Learn how to safely prepare and display works on paper. (Gaylord Archival)

[Get Your Board Fundraising](#)

Aug. 13 – Learn practical strategies for better engaging your board in fundraising. (Candid)

Plan Ahead:

[Implementing Heritage-Informed Decarbonization Policies](#)

Aug. 18

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

Aug. 19

[AASLH History Hour: Sharing How Your Org Benefits Your Community](#)

Aug. 25

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Upcoming:

[Basics of Fundraising](#)

Aug. 13 – This virtual workshop provides an overview of the basic concepts and strategies for fundraising at history sites of all types and sizes. \$150; \$100 members. (AASLH)

[Blended Financing: Impact Investing for Nonprofits](#)

Aug. 13 – Learn about impact investing and how it produces positive financial and social

results. \$19.74. (The Fund Raising School)

Plan Ahead:

[Building an A-List Board](#)

Aug. 18

[Organizational Culture: The Unwritten Rules Make the Decisions](#)

Aug. 20

[Leadership and Administration for History Organizations](#)

Aug. 24-Oct. 18

[Visibility on a Shoestring: Marketing & Communications Strategy for Lean Nonprofits](#)

Aug. 24

[Exhibiting Your Collections](#)

Aug. 25

[Every Place Has a Story: Communications that Inspire Support](#)

Aug. 25-26

[Small Museum, Big Collection: Streamlining the Most Time-Consuming Collections Tasks](#)

Aug. 27

[Designing History Walking Tours](#)

Aug. 27

IN-PERSON TRAINING

Plan Ahead:

[AASLH-NCPH 2026 Joint Conference](#)

Sept. 16-19, Providence, R.I.

**Discounted registration available through Aug. 21.*

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



[*Saint Mary of the Woods, Guerín Hall, interior, 1913*](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Preserving Black Churches Grants](#)

Due Sept. 11 – These grants are intended to preserve historic houses of worship and advance preservation activities including capital projects, programming and interpretation, capacity building, project planning, and endowment and financial sustainability. (National Trust for Historic Preservation)

[Matters of Religion Grants \(Indiana\)](#)

Due Oct. 31 – Grants of up to \$5,000 are available to fund public programs that help Hoosiers to explore the role of religion in their 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. (Indiana Humanities)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[UPS Louisville Community Care Fund \(Southern Indiana and Kentucky\)](#)

Due Aug. 14 – Funding supports nonprofit organizations focused on disaster relief, education, environmental resilience, first responder support, and mental wellness. Eligible organizations and projects in Indiana must be located in Clark, Floyd, or Harrison Counties. (The UPS Foundation)

PLAN AHEAD

[Arts Project Support Grants](#)

Draft Application Due Aug. 24

[Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation Grants](#)

Letter of Intent due Aug. 31

[Robert Lehman Foundation for Visual Arts Exhibitions and Programs](#)

Due Sept. 15

[Scholarly Editions and Translations Grants](#)

Due Sept. 16

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

Due Sept. 25

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

Due Sept. 30

[Historic Preservation Education Grants](#)

Due Sept. 30

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Wiley High School Classroom, 1944](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

[Grants and Communications Coordinator](#)

Indianapolis – Big Car Collaborative

[Field Surveyor](#) (temporary, full time)

Indianapolis – Indiana Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology

[Lighting Preparator](#)

Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

[Design Records Specialist](#)

Muncie – Archives and Special Collections, Ball State University Libraries

REGIONAL

[Assistant Museum Collections Registrar](#)

Edwardsville, Ill. – The University Museum of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

[Records Archivist](#)

Springfield, Ill. – Illinois State Archives

[Archivist for Community Collections](#)

Ann Arbor, Mich. – University of Michigan

[Program Supervisor](#)

Elk River, Minn. – Oliver Kelley Farm, Minnesota Historical Society

[President & COO](#)

Cincinnati, Ohio – National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

[Head of Archival Collections & Institutional Repository](#)

Milwaukee, Wis. – Marquette University

Orphans Corner



A large wood brochure rack is available for donation to an Indiana organization. The brochure rack is 6' wide by 6' tall and 18" deep with 4 tiers to hold brochures. The unit is on casters, and it is easily moveable.

Please note – this item must be picked up at the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center in Indianapolis.

If your organization is interested in claiming this item, please email localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org. Items in Orphans Corner are offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

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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