WELCOME BACK! WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN WE REOPEN

As the Indiana Historical Society prepares to reopen the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center to the public on July 7 and resume normal business hours (Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.), we’d like to share some of the things you’ll see, hear and experience when you come back to visit.

Our top priority is the health and safety of our guests, volunteers and staff. With that in mind—and utilizing recommendations from the CDC, Indiana Department of Health and other entities—we’re taking a number of measures to be sure we provide the best possible environment. As we move forward, IHS will continue to adjust based upon best practices as well as government and health professional’s recommendations/orders.

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE
In an effort to keep visitor levels at proper capacity for social distancing throughout the building, all guests will be required to obtain advance admission tickets. These can be obtained by visiting www.indianahistory.org and clicking on the “Visit” tab. Members will continue to receive complimentary admission by choosing the “member ticket” option and should be prepared to show proper identification upon arrival and check-in.

As part of the ticketing process, guests should perform a health self-assessment to confirm they are not experiencing COVID-19-related symptoms, nor have they had them within the last 72 hours without the use of symptom-altering medicines (and at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first began). These include fever, shortness of breath (not severe), cough, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, having contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last two weeks, and/or living or visiting a place where COVID-19 is spreading.

Per CDC guidelines, all staff and guests (except those under age 2) will be required to provide and wear a cloth face covering or mask. Guests should also practice the CDC’s recommendation of at least six feet of space for proper social distancing at all times, in all spaces of the building. IHS reserves the right to remove any person who does not adhere to the guidelines shared via signage or verbally by IHS staff members.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE
Guests will enter the History Center at street level—access points remain open from Ohio Street and our parking lot via New York Street. Upon arrival, you’ll notice directional signage pointing you to the proper path and waiting area to check in for admission at the Basile Welcome Center desk. Clear barriers have been installed here, as well as in the Basile History Market and the William Henry Smith Memorial Library, to allow for proper separation during transactions. You’ll also notice floor decals indicating proper social distancing in any area that might require you to wait in line.

MAKE GERMS HISTORY!
Per CDC guidelines, we have increased our frequency of disinfecting touched surfaces and objects using EPA-approved products. We encourage guests to wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20
seconds to help prevent the spread of infections. Hand sanitizing stations with at least 60% alcohol, sponsored by Hotel Tango, have been placed throughout the building for your convenience. Some restroom stalls and sinks have been closed to help maintain proper social distancing, and water fountains have been shut off for the health and safety of our visitors.

AS YOU ENJOY YOUR VISIT
Maximum occupancy numbers have been established and posted for each room of the building, from the exhibit spaces to the restrooms. Staff members will monitor these spaces, so you may need to come back later if a space is at capacity. Elevators will be limited to one individual/group party at a time—if possible, we encourage guests to use the stairwells between the canal, first and second levels. Social distancing must be observed at all times, so please be considerate of others when nearing entry doors and other tighter spaces. Guests can report any concerns to an IHS staff member.

In accordance with recommendations from the CDC and other governmental entities, a handful of experiences are currently unavailable. Touchscreens in exhibit spaces have been temporarily disabled or have been reconfigured to allow no-touch use. Due to the tactile nature of several of its elements, the W. Brooks and Wanda Y. Fortune History Lab is temporarily closed. The Rosemary McKee Lanham Gallery on the fourth floor will also be closed until further notice, but our upcoming exhibition, Life in Detail: Panoramic Photography in Indiana, will be featured in Lilly Hall.

ACCESSING THE LIBRARY
The William Henry Smith Memorial Library continues to be available for researchers. While the reference room will be available to all visitors during its regular hours, those wishing to access collections materials (in the Sally Reahard Reading Room) must do so by appointment. Please contact the reference desk at (317) 234-0321 or reference@indianahistory.org to reserve a time.

AVAILABLE FOOD AND BEVERAGE
The Stardust Terrace Café is open and operated by our new partner, Jonathan Byrd’s! Both indoor and outdoor seating will be available and configured for proper social distancing, and additional safety measures have been taken to provide a safe experience for all diners. Initial operating hours will be 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with plans to adjust these hours in the future.

We are eager to begin sharing Indiana’s history in person again with our guests in person and look forward to seeing you. We will also continue to offer a wealth of online programs and resources for those who are unable or not ready to make a trip to our building, as well was for those wishing to enhance their in-person experience.

Should you have any questions, concerns, or want to learn more about COVID-19, additional resources are available at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus and www.coronavirus.in.gov.