

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY IN INDIANA 2017

Below is an extensive list of Indiana topics related to NHD Indiana Special Prizes. Note that many of these topics can relate to multiple awards despite how they have been categorized here. Projects must demonstrate a clear Indiana connection to be eligible for an award.

Always remember that some topics will have better theme connections than others.

INDIANA-THEMED TOPIC SUGGESTIONS

- Indiana State Parks, Taking a Stand for Preservation
- Hoosiers Stand Up to the 1918 Influenza Epidemic
- A Dishonorable Stand: Eugenics in Indiana
- LGBT Hoosiers Take a Stand
- Caleb Mills Takes a Stand for Hoosier Education
- D.C. Stephenson Takes an Opportunistic Stand
- Colts Stand and Move from Baltimore
- James Dean, a Rebellious Stand
- Kurt Vonnegut Stands Through Novels
- Lew Wallace, Civil War General and Author
- Gene Stratton-Porter Stands Up for Conservation
- Jane Pauley Takes a Stand Through Journalism
- John Mellencamp Takes Many Stands in Songwriting
- Peru Circuses: An Artistic and Entertaining Stand
- Robert Indiana: An Iconic Stand
- T.C. Steele: Painting Artistic Landscapes
- Hoagy Carmichael Takes a Musical Stand
- Red Skelton Stands Before his Time in Comedy
- Jim Davis Creates an Iconic Cartoon
- Ryan White Takes a Stand for AIDS Awareness
- John Hurty Stands Up for Clean Milk
- Ernie Pyle Takes a Photographic Stand with World War II Soldiers
- John Bushemi Photographs: A Stand in World War II
- Wendell Willkie Stands Up to FDR in 1940 Presidential Election
- Building of Lake Monroe: A Stand Against Eminent Domain
- Jesse Bright Takes a Stand, Expelled from the Senate
- Julia Carson Stands Up for Indianapolis
- Paul McNutt Stands Up for Hoosiers as World War II Governor
- Oliver P. Morton Stands with Abraham Lincoln as Civil War Governor
- Jonathan Jennings Stands for the New State of Indiana as First Governor
- Richard Gatling Changes War with a New Weapon
- Gus Grissom: Indiana's Original Astronaut
- David Wolf: Another Indiana Astronaut
- Jim Jones and Jonestown's Journey to a Final Stand
- Alfred Kinsey Institute: Standing for Research
- Thomas Marshall: Vice President in the Progressive Era
- Claude Bowers Takes a Stand for Hoosiers and All Americans Pre-World War II
- Paula Cooper Case and the Death Penalty
- Herman B. Wells: Putting Indiana University on the Map
- John Purdue: Founding a University
- Father Theodore Hesburgh Leads the University of Notre Dame in Changing Times
- John Wooden: Hoosier Basketball Heritage
- Dan Patch, Indiana's Famous Racehorse
- Bill Monroe and Early Bluegrass Music
- Twyla Tharp: Legendary Hoosier Dance
- Ambrose Bierce: An Indiana Writer
- George Ade's Humorist Writings
- Otto Stark: Hoosier Painter, Teacher
- Janet Flanner: *New Yorker* Paris Correspondent
- Edith Hamilton: Indiana's "Greatest Woman Classicist"
- Ada Walter Shulz Documents Landscapes with Art
- Herb Shriner: Hoosier Early Radio Humorist
- Otto Ping: Photographing Brown County
- Ben Winans: Brookeville Photography
- Zerna Sharp and Changing How Children Read
- Howard Cadle: Pioneering Ministry Radio
- Billy Sunday: Athlete Turned Evangelist
- David Letterman: Comic Stand-Up
- Floyd Hopper: "Father of Indiana Watercolor"

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Dan Wakefield: Indiana Novelist

Juliet V. Strauss: "The Country Contributor"

Bernard Vonnegut: Hoosier Environmental Scientist

Charles C. Deam, Indiana's First State Forester

Lynton K. Caldwell: Architect of the Environmental Protection Act

Jessamyn West: Writer Stands Up to Tuberculosis

Paul Dresser: Stand-Out Hoosier Vaudeville Entertainer

John T. McCutcheon Stands Up with Political Cartoons

Gennett Records Stands Up for New Music in the 1920s

Johnny Gruelle: Hoosier Author and Illustrator of Children's Literature

Alex Vraciu: World War II Ace in the Pacific

David M. ShoUp Takes a Stand Against John F. Kennedy's Cuban Policies

Clifton Webb: Hoosier Oscar-Nominated Actor

Vance Hartke: Indiana Senator Taking a Stand for Hoosiers

Lewis B. Hershey's Long Career as American General

Raymond A. Spruance: World War II Naval Commander

General Walter Bedell Smith: Eisenhower's "Hatchet Man"

Marie Webster: Hoosier Quilting

Overbeck Sisters and Famous Indiana Pottery

William Merritt Chase: Indiana's Impressionist

Kin Hubbard: Early 20th Century Political Cartoonist

Theodore Dreiser Stands Up to Racial Violence with Writing

Emily Kimbrough: Hoosier Author and Journalist

John Bartlow Martin: Standing Up as Ambassador in a Tumultuous Time

John Shepherd: Film and Radio Pioneer

THE COLE PORTER PRIZE FOR INDIANA MUSICAL HERITAGE

A \$500 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project on the life and legacy of Cole Porter. *Sponsored by Steve and Mag Russell*

- Cole Porter Stands Up as a Musician

THE INDIANAPOLIS MOTOR SPEEDWAY FOUNDATION PRIZE

A \$500 cash prize given to a student or group of students who create an outstanding presentation or project that features Indiana automotive history. *Sponsored by Indianapolis Motor Speedway Foundation*

- Studebaker Company Stands Up in the World War II Effort
- Cummins Engines in Columbus, Indiana
- Duesenberg Autos Stand Up in World War I
- Allison Transmission Company Takes a Stand on the Home Front
- Indianapolis Motor Speedway Stands as World Class Track
- Elwood Haynes Stands Up as Auto Pioneer
- Carl Fisher Stands out as Auto Entrepreneur
- Eddie Rickenbacker Stands Up in Indianapolis Racing and Two World Wars
- Anton "Tony" Hulman Revitalizes the Indianapolis Motor Speedway

KENNEDY KING MEMORIAL INITIATIVE AWARD

A \$500 cash prize will be awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project about the April 4, 1968, speech in Indianapolis by Robert F. Kennedy announcing the death of Martin Luther King Jr. *Sponsored by the Kennedy King Memorial Initiative*

- Robert F. Kennedy Stands Up Against Violence with his Indianapolis Speech

NANCY AYRES PRIZE FOR COMMERCE IN INDIANA

A \$500 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project related to the history of commerce in Indiana. *Sponsored by Nancy Ayres*

- Madam C.J. Walker Stands Up as Entrepreneur and First Female Millionaire
- Eli Lilly & Company: Pharmaceuticals and Standing Up to Disease
- Amelia Earhart Stands Up to Stereotypes
- Orville Redenbacher Stands Out with Popcorn
- James Oliver and the Chilled Plow: A Stand-Out Innovation

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- Indiana's Rust Belt: Standing Up in Declining Industry
- William Fortune Stands Up for Development and Preservation in Indianapolis
- Homer E. Capehart: Standing Up for Hoosiers in Post-War Era
- Wright Brothers Debut Flight Machines at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway
- Philo T. Farnsworth and Development of Television
- Inland Steel Stands Up in a Tough Economy
- Ball Brothers Stand Up with Economic Success in Canning
- Indiana's Bill Cook Stands Up with Medical Innovation, Philanthropy and Preservation

NANCY AYRES PRIZE FOR INDIANA ARCHITECTURE

A \$500 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project related to the history of Indiana architecture. *Sponsored by Nancy Ayres*

- J. Irwin Miller Stands Out as Hoosier Architect
- Avriel Shull and Changing Architectural Design
- Edwin Gibson Leaves a Mark on Indiana Architecture
- Standing Up to Save French Lick Resort and West Baden Springs

NANCY AYRES PRIZE FOR INDIANA TRANSPORTATION

A \$500 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project related to the history of transportation in Indiana. *Sponsored by Nancy Ayres*

- Indiana's Canal System: Standing Up for Early State Transportation
- Railroads Stand out as New Transportation Leader
- Interurbans: Hoosiers Stand Up and Commute Between Cities
- 1918 Circus Train Wreck: Hoosiers Stand Up to Avoid New Tragedies
- Steamboats Stand Out with River Transportation

THOMAS KRASEAN PRIZE FOR INDIANA HISTORY

A \$500 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create the "best-in-show" Indiana history-related project at the state contest. *Sponsored by John A. Herbst*

- See previous Indiana topics

THE BILL CURRAN MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR IRISH HERITAGE

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project that features Indiana's Irish-American heritage. *Sponsored by Patti Curran*

- Irish Workers Stand Up to Build Indiana Canals in Harsh Conditions
- Kingan Brothers Stand Up Amid Tragedy with Successful Meat Packing Business
- Indiana's 35th Regiment: The "First Irish" in the Civil War
- Thomas Taggart: Irish Immigrant, Mayor of Indianapolis

CROWN HILL HERITAGE FOUNDATION PRIZE FOR NOTABLE HOOSIERS

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project about a notable Hoosier buried in Crown Hill Cemetery. *Sponsored by the Crown Hill Heritage Foundation*

- Etheridge Knight: A Poet's Stand
- Sarah Bolton: Poet Takes a Stand for Mental Health
- John Dillinger Takes a Daring Stand on the Run
- Abel and Lovina Streight: Taking a Stand in the Civil War
- James Whitcomb Riley: Standing Up for Children's Poetry
- Meredith Nicholson Stands out as a Writer
- Booth Tarkington: Hoosier Novelist
- Edward Black: Drummer Boy and Youngest U.S. Army Soldier in History
- William Forsyth: Hoosier Painter
- Jacob P. Dunn Jr.: Hoosier Historian, Reformer in the 19th and 20th Centuries

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EITELJORG MUSEUM PRIZE FOR NATIVE AMERICANS

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project on Indiana's Native Americans. *Sponsored by the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art*

- Tecumseh Stands Against Violence, Betrayed with Violence
- Chief Menominee and the Potawatomi Take a Stand Against Forced Removal
- Michikinikwa "Little Turtle" Takes a Stand Against American Conquest
- Tenskwatawa "The Prophet" Takes a Stand Against Invaders
- Frances Slocum Stands with the Miami People
- Potawatomi Take a Stand Against the Trail of Death
- Pigeon Roost: A Violent Stand
- Indiana's Treaties with Indians: Stands Taken in Acquisition of Land

INDIANA LOCAL HISTORY PRIZE

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project focused on local Indiana history. *Sponsored by the Heritage Support Grant Program*

- Jefferson Proving Ground: U.S. Army Firing Range and Depleted Uranium Site
- Taking a Stand to Save the Indiana Dunes
- Congressman Jim Jontz Taking a Stand for Ancient Forest Preservation
- Morgan's Raid: Hoosiers Take a Stand Against Civil War Invaders
- Fort Benjamin Harrison: Military Training Facilities in Indianapolis
- Camp Morton: POW Camp in the Civil War
- 1913 Floods: Taking a Stand for Victims of Flooding
- David Anspaugh and *Hoosiers*
- Angelo Pizzo and *Rudy*
- Indianapolis ABCs: Negro League Baseball Team
- *Indianapolis Times* versus the Ku Klux Klan
- Albion Fellows Bacon Stands Up to Poverty in Evansville

INDIANA PIONEERS PRIZE FOR EARLY INDIANA (PRE-1840)

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project related to pre-1840, pioneer-era Indiana. *Sponsored by the Society of Indiana Pioneers*

- Gen. George Rogers Clark Stands Up to the British at Fort Sackville
- William Henry Harrison: Early Standing in Indiana
- William Conner Takes a Pioneering Stand
- St. Theodore Guerin Stands Up for Women's Education
- Arthur St. Clair: Standing as Northwest Territory's Governor
- "Mad" Anthony Wayne Stands Against Indians
- Early French Settlers Stand to Trade
- Fall Creek Massacre: A Tragic Stand
- Elihu Stout Stands to Publish Indiana's First Newspaper
- Jacob Cox: Early Indiana Artist
- Calvin Fletcher: Standing to Document Early Indiana History
- John Chapman: Taking a Stand for Hoosier Pioneers
- Northwest Ordinance: America's New Stand
- Abraham Lincoln: Growing Up in Indiana to Take a Stand for the Nation
- Battle of Tippecanoe: Two Nations Take a Stand in a Violent Encounter
- 1816 Indiana Constitution: Indiana Stands Up

ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE PRIZE FOR ITALIAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

A \$250 cash prize given to a student who creates an outstanding presentation or project that features Indiana's rich Italian-American heritage. *Sponsored by the Italian Heritage Society of Indiana*

- Italian Prisoners of War at Camp Atterbury in the Second World War
- Francisco Vigo: Trader and Settler
- Italian Immigrants Stand in Indianapolis

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JOHN S. AND LOUISE REIF HERBST PRIZE

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project focused on Indiana's German-American history. *Sponsored by John A. Herbst*

- Prohibition Takes Down German Breweries in the 1920s
- German-Americans Oppose U.S. Entry into The Great War
- "The 48ers" Come to Indiana
- Das Deutsch Haus becomes The Athanaeum Amid Anti-German Sentiment in WWI
- Richard Lieber: Taking a Stand for Indiana State Parks
- Vonnegut and Bohn: Standing Up with Indiana Architecture

MCKOY PRIZE FOR INDIANA AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

A \$250 cash prize will be awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding Indiana African-American history project. *Sponsored by Kevin and Kyle McKoy*

- Article XIII of 1851 Indiana Constitution: A Shameful Stand Against Refugee Enslaved
- Colonization Movement: A Stand for a New Nation
- Henry J. and Roselyn Richardson: Standing Up for Equal Opportunity
- Crispus Attucks High School: Taking a Stand Amid New Segregation
- Ku Klux Klan Takes a Stand in Indiana in the 1920s
- Bill Garrett: Stand-Up Hoosier Coach, Player and Soldier
- Harry Wood: Taking a Stand for Hoosier Education in the 20th Century
- 1930 Marion Lynchings: A Tragic Vigilante Stand
- 1908 Race Riots: Violent Stands Against Lynchings
- Freeman Field Mutiny: Taking a Stand in a Segregated Military
- Froebel School Strike: A Stand Against Integration
- Lyles Station: A New Stand for Early African-American Hoosiers
- John Freeman: A Stand Against the Fugitive Slave Law in Indiana
- Chapman Harris: Taking a Stand on the Underground Railroad
- Dr. Harvey Middleton Takes a Stand Among Segregation

- Ransom Family in Indianapolis: Standing Up as Community Leaders
- Marshall "Major" Taylor: A Fast Stand Against Racial Discrimination
- Levi and Catherine Coffin: Taking a Stand for Enslaved African-Americans
- Oscar Charleston: Taking a Stand in Negro Leagues and Army
- Indiana's 28th U.S. Colored Troops Take a Stand in the Civil War
- Mari Evans: African-American Producer, Writer and Poet
- Ray Crowe and Crispus Attucks High School Stand Up to Segregation
- Vivian Carter Stands Up for African-American Music in the 1950s and 60s
- Charles "Buster" Hall: Hoosier Tuskegee Airman
- Eduoard Scott: Taking a Stand for African-American Portrayal in Art
- Noble Sissle: Stand-out African-American Musician in the 1920s
- Wes Montgomery Pioneers Jazz Guitar
- The Hampton Sisters: 1920s and 30s Family Band
- Mary Bateman Clark Takes a Stand Against Slavery in Indiana

NEW HARMONY PROJECT PRIZE

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project about New Harmony, Indiana. *Sponsored by Historic New Harmony, University of Southern Indiana*

- New Harmony: A Utopian Stand
- George Rapp: Leading a New Stand for Free Practice of Religion
- Jane Owen: Taking a Stand to Restore New Harmony
- Robert Owen and the Second Indiana Constitution
- William Maclure: Taking a Stand in a Social Experiment
- Frederick Rapp and the First Indiana Constitutional Convention

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PATTI CURRAN PRIZE FOR FASHION DESIGN IN INDIANA

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create outstanding project that features an Indiana fashion designer or designers. *Sponsored by Patti Curran*

- Bill Blass Stands Up for Art and Design
- Vera Bradley: Standing Up for Women's Fashion
- Norman Norell: Standing for Fashion in the 1920s
- "That Ayres Look": An Iconic Indiana Department Store

ROY F. STRINGER MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR LABOR UNIONS IN INDIANA

A \$250 cash prize awarded to student or group of students who create outstanding project that explore the history of Labor Unions in Indiana. *Sponsored by Andrew Halter and Joshua Rogers*

- Eugene V. Debs: Taking a Stand for Labor Unions
- Jimmy Hoffa: Rising to Power in Indiana
- Steel Strike 1919: Taking a Stand for Unionization of Workers
- Real Silk Hosiery Company Strike of 1934: A Stand Turned Violent in the Great Depression
- David Parry Stands Against Unions
- Indianapolis Streetcar Strike of 1913: Standing Up for Labor Rights
- William Powers Hapgood: Standing for Labor Rights
- Columbia Conserve Company: Navigating Labor Stands in the 20th Century

SALLIE ROWLAND PRIZE FOR FURNITURE DESIGN

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project related to the history of Furniture Design in Indiana. *Sponsored by Sallie Rowland*

- Hoosier Cabinets: A Practical Stand
- Amish Furniture and Culture
- Wooton Desk Stands for New Design
- Hickory Furniture in Indiana

WOMEN'S HISTORY IN INDIANA PRIZE

A \$250 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project on Women's History in Indiana. *Sponsored by the Women's History Association*

- Ida Husted Harper: Taking a Stand for the Suffrage Movement in Indiana
- May Wright Sewall: Standing Up for Women's Suffrage in Indiana
- Helen Gougar Takes a Stand in Suffrage Politics and Law
- Grace Julian Clarke: Standing Up for Women's Suffrage
- Wilma Rudolph Stands Up in Indianapolis
- Ann Meyers Stands Up to Join the Indiana Pacers
- Eliza Blaker Takes a Stand for Free Kindergarten Education in Indianapolis
- Indiana NOW Takes a Stand for Equality
- League of Women Voters Take a Stand in Indianapolis
- Birch Bayh Stands Up for Title IX and the Equal Rights Amendment
- Zerelda G. Wallace Takes a Stand for Suffrage and Temperance
- Lillian Thomas Fox Takes a Stand for Public Health in Indiana
- Mattie Coney and the Citizens Forum
- Alice Hamilton Takes a Stand Against Dangerous Working Conditions
- All American Girls Professional Baseball League
- Janet Scudder: Hoosier Sculptor and Suffragette
- Mary Ritter Beard Takes a Stand for Women and Social Justice

GEESLIN HOOSIER PRESIDENT PRIZE

A \$100 cash prize awarded to a student or group of students who create an outstanding project on America's Hoosier President, Benjamin Harrison. *Sponsored in honor of retired president and CEO of the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site, Phyllis Geeslin, by her friends and admirers*

- Benjamin Harrison Recruits Soldiers to Take a Stand in the Civil War
- President Benjamin Harrison and Antitrust Law