

GALLERY SEARCH

Black History Month

Use these clues to help you discover the rich history of African American life in Indiana.

LEGACY THEATER:

In 1946 Joseph Chapman was quoted in the Indianapolis Recorder: "All activities in all schools should be open to all pupils." Find the quote on the wall and stop and play one of the hands-on video activities.

Harriette Baily Conn was the first black and 1st female to become a state public defender in 1970 in Indianapolis. Find the wall label where she is listed along with other notable African Americans who also broke new ground.

Second Floor Galleries

HOOSIER WAY:

Prior to the Civil War, Indiana had many communities of free blacks. Find the map detailing where they were located in the state. In what county was the 19th century free black community of Huggart located?

Wayne County African American resident George Ampey joined the 28th Regiment of the United State Colored Troops when it was formed in Indiana in late 1863. Who was governor at the time?

Crossroads of America:

The Crossroads of America gallery features jazz legend Wes Montgomery. Montgomery, born in Indianapolis in 1923, was known throughout the world as a fine musician; he was a member of the Lionel Hampton Band.

Chances are you have sung one of Noble Sissle's songs and didn't even realize it. This composer/lyricist's 1920s era show Shuffle Along was revived on Broadway in 2016. Can you name any of his songs?

Hanging on the curved wall in Crossroads Indiana gallery, find "Portrait of Granny Wood", by William Edouard Scott, an African American artist who attended Manual High School in Indianapolis. He was a student of Hoosier Group artist and teacher Otto Stark. Look for other examples of his work nearby.



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Enterprise Indiana:

In the Enterprise Indiana gallery, Lionel Artis is noted as an African American civil rights activist and public servant. He became the first African American appointed to a policy-making position in Indianapolis city government. Who else is listed in this area?

Global Indiana:

In the Global Indiana World War Two gallery, find the biographical label featuring Major Charles “Buster” Hall. Born in Clay County, he was a World War Two pilot, one of the original Tuskegee Airmen and one of the first African Americans to fly bomber missions.

Look for the TV Guide in Global Indiana and find a photo of this singer/actress on the cover. She has had a highly successful career in pop music and is the younger sister of five brothers from Gary, Indiana. Janet Jackson, of course!

Third Floor Public Space

Cross the Whipple Truss Bridge and find the large photo featuring the Levi and Catharine Coffin State Historic Site. A major stop for freedom seekers traveling the Underground Railroad before the Civil War, the Wayne County home features this mode of transportation as part of its interpretation. What is it?

