

INDIANA STATE MUSEUM AND HISTORIC SITES: 12 GREAT DAY TRIP IDEAS

As Hoosiers plan their summer break away from the hustle, bustle and day-to-day responsibilities of their normal lives, the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites is offering 12 fun day trip ideas for multigenerational adventures. The 12-site, statewide museum system features inspiring historic places in locations throughout the state.

Angel Mounds State Historic Site

Angel Mounds State Historic Site is nationally recognized as one of the best-preserved prehistoric Native American sites in the United States. Featuring a museum that works to recreate the lives of these indigenous people, Angel Mounds tells the story of the people of the Middle Mississippian culture who inhabited the area from 1000 to 1450 A.D. Twelve earthen mounds, built for ceremonial and residential purposes, are scattered throughout the grounds encompassing nearly 100 acres. Trails lead through the grounds for biking and hiking.

Corydon Capitol State Historic Site

Serving as the centerpiece of the Corydon Historic District, Corydon Capitol commemorates the history of Indiana's first state capitol and the development of Indiana from the territorial period through statehood. The square, Federal-style limestone capitol building, built between 1814 and 1816, was originally intended to serve as the courthouse for Harrison County. Limestone was hauled from nearby quarries to erect the 40-foot square walls. Poplar and walnut logs were cut from virgin forests for the ceiling and roof supports. The building is open Tuesday through Sunday for tours. The Governor Hendricks Headquarters, home of Indiana's second elected governor, is also available for tours.

Culbertson Mansion State Historic Site

Admire this masterpiece of Victorian artistry nestled on the Ohio River in New Albany. Culbertson Mansion was the home of William Culbertson, who was once the richest man in Indiana. Completed in 1869, the three-story, Second Empire-style mansion has 25 rooms within 20,000 square feet and features hand-painted ceilings, carved staircase, marble fireplaces and elaborate plasterwork. Visitors can tour all four floors of the mansion, including the entry hall, the formal parlor, the private family quarters and the servants' area.

Gene Stratton-Porter State Historic Site

Visit the Queen Anne-style rustic Cabin at Wildflower Woods to discover the inspiration behind the work of Gene Stratton-Porter, an American author, early naturalist, nature photographer and one of the first women to form a movie studio and production company. The nearly 150 acres is also made up of woods featuring hiking trails, formal gardens and a restored 99-acre wetland and prairie.

Historic New Harmony

New Harmony was first a spiritual sanctuary that later became a haven for international scientists, scholars and educators. Today, New Harmony is a vibrant community where festivals, concerts and plays are held throughout the year.

Indiana State Museum

The Indiana State Museum, located within White River State Park in Indianapolis, is Indiana's museum for art, science and culture and offers a place where you can celebrate, investigate, remember, learn, and take pride in Indiana's story in a global context.

Lanier Mansion State Historic Site

The 1844 home of James F.D. Lanier, located on the Ohio River in Madison, is one of the best examples of Greek Revival Architecture in the Midwest. James F.D. Lanier was a local lawyer and banker who became one of the most important figures in Indiana's history during the 19th century. He helped save Indiana's finances at least three times, most notably during the Civil War, when he loaned the state over \$1,000,000. His grand residence - the Lanier Mansion - includes a dramatic spiral staircase, a portico with 30-foot Corinthian columns and beautiful furnishings from the 1840's. Today, the home is the "Crown Jewel" of Madison's National Historic Landmark District.

Levi and Catharine Coffin State Historic Site

Nearly 2,000 slaves passed through the two-story, eight room brick house on their way to freedom. The Fountain City home, once occupied by Quaker abolitionists Levi and Catharine Coffin, was constructed in 1839 in the Federal style and served as a station on the Underground Railroad. The site now features a new two-story interpretive center that opened in December 2016. The site is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Limberlost State Historic Site

In the early 1900s, the Limberlost Swamp, stretching more than 13,000 acres, was described as a "treacherous swamp and quagmire, filled with every plant, animal and human danger known - in the worst of such locations in the central states." Today, the land of the Limberlost is where author Gene Stratton-Porter studied the natural wonders at her doorstep.

T.C. Steele State Historic Site

Visit T.C. Steele State Historic Site and enjoy guided tours of Steele's studio and home, stroll through Selma Steele's restored gardens and discover the ever-changing views of scenic southern Indiana. Take a pleasant drive to a perfect destination located in Belmont, midway between Bloomington and Nashville.

Vincennes State Historic Site

Explore where cultures clashed and blended to form the Indiana Territorial frontier long before statehood. Sights to see include the original territorial capitol, considered the oldest major government building in the Midwest and a replica of the Jefferson Academy (1801) used to interpret the first college in Indiana. There is also the Elihu Stout Print Shop, home of Indiana's first newspaper and the Old French House, home of French fur trader Michel Brouillet, which presents an excellent example of a French Creole cottage built by French settlers in the area.

Whitewater Canal State Historic Site

Travel back in time and discover how this 1840s feat of engineering changed Indiana from a pioneer outpost to the Crossroads of America. The State of Indiana assumed management of a 14-mile section of the Whitewater Canal in 1946. The town of Metamora is full of many exciting retro experiences from soda shops and diners to nostalgic gift shops.

CELEBRATING THE 39th INDIANAPOLIS - TAIPEI SISTER CITY PARTNERSHIP SPLENDOR of TAIWAN

Indianapolis-Taipei Sister City Committee and Taiwanese-American Association of Indianapolis organized a very entertaining and cultural event for the Indy community celebrating the 39th years of Indianapolis-Taipei Sister City partnership, and the Taiwanese American Heritage week on May 8, 2017. A marvelous dance show was presented by the department of Dance of National Taiwan University of Arts. The dance show was held at the Marian University Theatre on the MU campus.

The Dance Show was well attended and received many outstanding comments of its professionalism, artistic and creativity. The energetic and well trained dancers presented 11 dances in 90 minutes representing the diverse culture of Taiwan and her people, most fitting for the title of the show - 'Splendor of Taiwan'.

Report by IAAT staff
Photo by IAAT photographer Da-Wei Chang



THE GOLDEN SPIKE

"The Transcontinental Railroad Act is the first step in creating a continental common market."
-Charles R. Morris



Dr. Patrick Lau was born in Hong Kong and immigrated to the U.S. after high school. He retired from the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System where he served as Chief Radiologist and moved to Florida with his wife in 2011. He was an active member & contributor of IACA and ICMA while in Indiana. Dr. Lau is also a scholar of art and literature and a prolific writer, he has been a dedicated columnist for Indy Asian American Times since 2010.

On July 1, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Pacific Railway Act for the construction of a transcontinental railroad, authorizing land grants and government bonds to two companies, the Central Pacific Railroad and the Union Pacific Railroad. In 1863, Central Pacific started building from Sacramento, California working east; while Central Pacific from Omaha, Nebraska working west.

Union Pacific's undertaking was less complex; two-thirds of the rail track had been laid across the plains. Central Pacific had to lay track across the Sierra Mountains with an incline of 7,000 feet over a 100-mile span and through the granite walls of the Sierra Nevada. They also confronted a desperate labor shortage. In 1865, Charles Crocker, the director of construction started hiring Chinese immigrants, confidently claiming that people who built the Great Wall of China could undoubtedly construct a railroad.

Before long, the Chinese achieved the reputation as efficient, industrious, disciplined, fearless and reliable workers. The labor was exceedingly grueling, accomplished almost completely by hand, chipping out rail beds with pickaxes, hammers and crowbars, breaking and carting rocks, cutting trees, rooting out stumps, milling the lumber to create ties and trestles, laying down tracks, spiking the rails, constructing tunnels and aqueducts and so forth. Nevertheless, the Chinese proudly set a record in railroad building, laying out 10 miles of track in one day. Yet, the Chinese laborers were paid substandard wages.

The most challenging and hazardous endeavor was to blast tunnels through the solid granite over the perilous terrain of the high Sierras Nevada. Chinese workers, with a rope and pulley, were lowered down the side of the precipitous cliff in large wicker baskets. While suspended, they drilled holes in shale and granite; then they filled them with dynamite. As soon as they lit the fuse, they were pulled up rapidly to avoid the explosion. Those who were not yanked up in time perished in the blasts. In addition, they had to survive the extreme cold of the high mountain and the intense heat of the scorched desert. It was estimated that at

least 1,500 Chinese laborers lost their lives due to accidents, avalanches, cave-in, illness and explosions. Eventually, about 12,000 Chinese workers were employed, more than 90% of the entire workforce.

On May 10, 1869, two sections of the 1,907 mile transcontinental railroad finally connected at Promontory, Utah in a ceremony called the "Golden Spike", attended by crowd of workers and dignitaries, when the final spike was hammered down to bold the last segment of the rail track. The original golden spike, is on display at the Cantor Arts Museum at Stanford University.

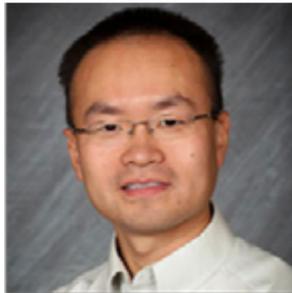
The transcontinental railroad became a National landmark, facilitating the speedy transfer of merchandise and products from coast to coast. From the West, it transported eastward raw materials like lumber, livestock and grain; from Eastern cities, manufactured goods were sold to Westerners. Thus, the transcontinental railroad becoming a vital link for traders and commerce, leading to the great expansion of the U.S. economy.

The railroad played an important role in rapid transporting vast number of people across the country; creating the opportunities of new cities and towns being built. A tremendous numbers of people started settling in the West along with the fast growth and development of industries and economy. The transcontinental railroad helped unify the nation and set the United States on the road to cultural expansion and economic abundance.

The Chinese immigrants constructed the western half of the transcontinental railroad as well as almost all the other railroad lines in the West. Without their great efforts, there would have been a delay in development and progress as a nation by many years.

Facebook: 在一切可能生存甚至別人認為不能生存的地方，都留下了華人辛勤勞動的印跡。

IU PRECISION HEALTH SELECTS DIRECTOR



Kun Huang has been named director of data sciences and informatics for Indiana University's first Grand Challenge initiative, Precision Health. He is an internationally-recognized scientific and academic leader in bioinformatics and computing. Huang's research focuses translational bioinformatics and integrative genomics tools for precision health, algorithms and software for mining and visualizing large and complex biomedical data, computer vision, machine learning, medical imaging and computational biology. He is currently a professor of biomedical informatics at the Ohio State University, where he also serves as associate dean for genome informatics in the College of Medicine and director of the Division of

Computational Biology and Bioinformatics.

At IU, Huang will lead the development of innovative informatics solutions as part of the university's Precision Health Initiative, a five-year research initiative announced in June 2016 focused on patient-centered precision medicine therapies. The initiative, led by faculty at IU School of Medicine, IU Bloomington and IUPUI, and investigators at the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute and the Regenstrief Institute, is the first recipient of the university's \$300 million investment in the Grand Challenges Program.

Huang received bachelor's degrees in biology and computer science in 1996 from Tsinghua University in Beijing, China. From 1996 to 2004, he studied at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he obtained Master of Science degrees in molecular and systems physiology, electrical engineering and mathematics, as well as a PhD in electrical and computer engineering.

Huang will join IU on July 17. In addition to his role as director of data sciences and informatics for the Precision Health Initiative, Huang will serve as chair in genomic data sciences for the Precision Health Initiative; assistant dean for data sciences, professor of medicine, and Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics senior investigator at IU School of Medicine; and senior investigator at Regenstrief Institute.

FREE EVENT ADMISSION

Experience the sights, sounds, and tastes of Asia without leaving Indy

Where: Indiana State Museum

Date: June 11, 2017 Time: Noon - 5pm

Event Partners:

www.aaalliance.org

Presenting Sponsors:

\$5 reduced event parking at the White River State Park Garage