MAY WRIGHT SEWALL FELLOWSHIPS

In honor of the upcoming centennial of women’s suffrage, Indiana Humanities is pleased to offer a new research fellowship of $2,500 to support new humanities research on Indiana women’s participation in local, state and national politics leading up to and since the 19th Amendment. Our purpose is to commemorate suffrage by illuminating the accomplishments and difficulties women of different background and means faced politically before, during and after 1920.

OUR GOALS

• To increase knowledge of Indiana women’s participation in local, state and national politics, including the campaign for suffrage, women as voters, women running and/or holding elected office, women as organizers and activists engaged in political causes and/or women as shapers of political ideas and culture.
• To increase the amount and quality of scholarship on Hoosier women of color and working-class women, in particular, as it relates to the issues and ideas outlined above.
• To foster greater understanding and awareness among the general public of the contributions of Hoosier women to local, state and national politics.
• To add or expand the stories of Indiana women in regional and national historiographies of women’s political history.
• To increase the use of Indiana-based archives and collections by humanities scholars and researchers.
• To deepen and complicate our understanding of the past and the degree to which Indiana women were of, behind or ahead of their times.

The ways that women have influenced and been influenced by political movements and cultures are innumerable and complicated. Yet there are certain topics that are of particular interest to us we review proposals. These include:

TOPICS

• Institutional barriers for women in politics
• Women’s civic engagement before, during and after the 19th Amendment (within and outside electoral government channels)
• Women in politics from different backgrounds and means, especially contributions of Hoosier women of color.
• Late nineteenth and early twentieth-century Hoosier women’s writing on suffrage
• Analysis of the role of women in post-1920 Indiana politics
• Interpretative analysis accompanying relevant primary source documents
• Interdisciplinary analysis of Indiana women’s involvement in the suffrage movement and politics, including but not limited to disciplines such as from gender studies, literature, cultural studies, religious studies, political philosophy, political science, sociology and anthropology.
• Networks local to Indiana
• Grassroots movements
• Historical memory

REQUIREMENTS

• Scholar uses the fellowship to do research that significantly contributes to our understanding of the battle for women’s suffrage in Indiana and/or Hoosier women’s political participation more generally. Scholar or research team must demonstrate how topic significantly relates to Indiana.
• Scholar or research team must demonstrate a plan for dissemination and/or publication of his/her research, which may include presentations at scholarly conferences, publication in peer-reviewed journals or by academic presses, etc. Because one of our goals is to increase the amount and quality of scholarship on Hoosier women, we are especially interested in funding research that has the potential to be published in peer-reviewed journals, academic presses or popular publications like Traces Magazine that are subject to editorial review and fact-checking. In your application, you will be asked to share your plans for dissemination of your research and a general timeline for how your project will unfold.
• Scholar or research team agrees to share research (findings or work-in-progress) in a format or venue that is accessible to general public audiences in Indiana by the end of 2020. In your application, please indicate how you plan to fulfill this term of the agreement. Options include but are not limited to:
  • Talk or discussion at library, archive, museum or other public humanities organization. Indiana Humanities can help connect you to a host organization as needed.
  • Blog post for Indiana Humanities and/or Indiana Historical Bureau (1,000-1,500 words with scholarly citations).
  • Participate in radio, podcast or other media discussion of work and its implications.
  • Contribute to exhibit, walking tour or other public humanities program for general public audiences.
  • Compile research for a new or significantly revised historic marker via the Indiana Historical Bureau. Up to 50% of project budget may be used towards the expenses of dedicating a new historic marker.

RESTRICTIONS

Indiana Humanities will not award grants for any of the following purposes:

• Political action or advocacy
• Religious practices or training
• Social services
• Scholarships or prizes
• Construction or renovation
• Printing costs for publication of books
• Operating expenses
• Alcoholic beverages

Please note, if you are looking to fund a public program, exhibit, documentary, podcast, workshop, or other public humanities program about women’s suffrage and/or Indiana women’s political history, Indiana Humanities Action, Innovation and Collaboration grants are available. Please visit IndianaHumanities.org/Grants to learn more.
ELIGIBILITY

- Affiliation with a research institution, including but not limited to full-time or adjunct faculty at college/university; enrolled graduate student (masters or Ph.D.); curator, librarian or archivist at research archive or collection. Independent scholars are welcome to apply and should be able to demonstrate credibility as a researcher.
- Open to individual scholars or research teams. Research teams must indicate a principal investigator in their application.
- U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

HOW TO APPLY

Please prepare the following materials and email to Leah Nahmias, director of programs at Indiana Humanities (lnahmias@indianahumanities.org) by June 3, 2019. Late proposals will not be considered.

COVER PAGE WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

1. Scholar Name or Names of Research Team  
   i. If research team, please indicate who will serve as principal investigator
2. Scholar Institution(s) and Title/Affiliation(s)
3. Principal Investigator Address, Day-time Phone Number and Email Address
4. Project Title
5. Project Abstract (please limit to 250 words)

PROJECT TIMELINE

Describe the time period during which the funds will be used and, if applicable, how this research fits into a larger project timeline (thesis, dissertation, book manuscript, exhibit plan, etc.) with expected date(s) of completion. Please note that research funds must be used by 31 December 2020.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In no more than five pages exclusive of notes and bibliography, explain the subject and purpose of your research, making clear how your work aligns to the intent and goals of this call for proposals. Share how this work will expand and/or deepen understanding of Indiana women’s political participation in local, state and national politics, including the battle for suffrage, women as voters, women running and/or holding elected office, women as organizers and activists engaged in political causes and/or women as shapers of political ideas and culture. Describe the intellectual significance of the project to humanities scholars, general audiences or both. Please share the intended audience and results of your project, including how results will be disseminated.

Please keep in mind that your proposal will be read from experts across humanities disciplines, so your case should be understandable to scholars in fields outside of history but should provide enough detail to satisfy a specialist in a field of the proposal.

ARCHIVES OR COLLECTIONS RELEVANT TO PROJECT

Describe what archives or collections you’ll be using to complete your work.

DISSEMINATION

Please describe (and include in your project timeline) by what means your research will be disseminated to scholarly audiences and other researchers on Indiana and women’s political history. Plans for dissemination may take place after the proposed project timeline, but should suggest what outlets, journals, presses, conferences, etc., you hope to submit and/or publish your final product.
SHARING PUBLICLY

A requirement of this grant is that the scholar have a plan to share, in a manner and venue accessible to general public audiences in Indiana, her or his work by the end of 2020. This “sharing” may be in the form of a talk, blog post, media interview, op-ed, exhibit, walking tour or some other public humanities method. The scholar can share a completed work or present a work-in-progress. In no more than one page, please describe in what way and on what timeline you plan to fulfill this requirement of the grant. See the call for proposals for some suggestions or ideas.

SCHOLAR CV OR RESUME

Please attach a current CV or resume.

TIMELINE

Applications Open March 26, 2019
Applications Due June 3, 2019
Applicants Notified Week of August 5, 2019
Work May Begin By August 15, 2019
Work Must Be Concluded By December 31, 2020