

 Spirit & Place Festival

CONNECTIONS

NOV. 5-15 2026



MORE THAN EVENTS.

MOMENTS

OF 

CONNECTION.



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
SPIRIT & PLACE

spiritandplace.org

festival@iu.edu | 317.274.2462

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THANK YOU

Spirit & Place has been a part of the Indiana University family since 1996 and is housed on the campus of IU Indianapolis. Each year's festival is shaped and sustained by an extraordinary network of community partners who share their time, talent, space, expertise, and financial support to create experiences that invite reflection, conversation, and connection. Thank you for believing in the power of the arts, humanities, and religion to strengthen civic life.

SPECIAL THANKS



Lilly Endowment Inc.
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CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF

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American Culture

HEALTH *by*
DESIGN



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF INDIANAPOLIS

CLOSING EVENT PARTNERS



heartland*film*

EVENT CREATORS & VOLUNTEERS

Connection begins with people willing to show up. Thank you to the 100+ event creators and hosts—and the scores of red-vested volunteers!—whose creativity and care made this year's festival possible.



“Love and trust, in the space between what’s said and what’s heard in our life, can make all the difference in the world.”

–Fred Rogers



SCHOOL OF
LIBERAL ARTS

liberalarts.indianapolis.iu.edu



HEARTLAND FILM FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY



OCT. 8-18

This October 8-18, discover 100 transformative films at the 35th Heartland Film Festival! The 11-day festival will showcase films with Indiana ties, blockbuster sneak peeks and independent films from all over the world.

FESTIVAL VENUES

- Alamo Drafthouse Cinema at The Square
- Indy Art Center
- Kan-Kan Theater
- Living Room Theaters
- Newfields
- Scottish Rite Cathedral





ABOUT SPIRIT & PLACE

Spirit & Place enriches public life by using three civic tools: the arts, humanities, and religion. Grounded in a belief in our community's collective wisdom, we support local artists, congregations, scholars, and community organizations in designing shared experiences on their own terms.

Each November, community partners across disciplines collaborate to present the Spirit & Place Festival. Anchored in a common theme and one or more civic tools, these independently created events invite people to explore ideas, share experiences, and build connections across cultural, ideological, spiritual, and generational differences.

This year's CONNECTIONS theme explores what brings us together and keeps us connected. Through conversations, performances, exhibitions, walks, workshops, films, and family-friendly activities, the festival invites you to experience new perspectives, strengthen relationships, and discover fresh ways to show up in community life.

WELCOME



The festival welcomes people of all backgrounds and abilities. Visit **spiritandplace.org** for event-specific accessibility information, including ASL interpretation and large-print materials where available. Because events are independently organized, please contact event organizers directly—and as early as possible—to discuss accommodation needs.



COMMUNITY AGREEMENT

Everyone needs and deserves safe spaces—places where they are unconditionally loved and supported. But as a society, we also need **brave spaces**. Places where we are challenged, stretched, and invited to grow. Spaces where we can sit with discomfort. Where the goal isn't always agreement or common ground, but a commitment to listening and recognizing the humanity in others.

We invite festival goers to embrace what Krista Tippett calls an attitude of **“adventurous civility,”** and to join in a shared commitment to:

- Be respectful.
- Never use racial or other derogatory slurs.
- Be present and attentive to those around you.
- Listen to understand, then speak to be understood.
- Be an active participant in the work that is needed.

If a speaker or idea unsettles you, pause before responding. But stay engaged. Speak up. Participate. And don't forget to complete an evaluation or connect directly with the event organizers—we're here to learn and grow together.

PLANNING YOUR FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE

- Find complete event details, registration information, and accessibility accommodations at **spiritandplace.org**.
- Double-check event locations and registration requirements. Most events are in Marion County, and most welcome walk-ins—but not all.
- Events are free unless otherwise noted.
- Event details are subject to change.
- If you're feeling unwell, please stay home. If recovering from an illness, consider wearing a mask to help protect others.

EVENT REGISTRATION & FEEDBACK

Walk-ins are welcome at most events, but **registration is strongly encouraged** to help organizers prepare. If your plans change, please cancel your registration. After the event, we'd love your feedback! Complete a short survey onsite or online to help us continue improving the festival.



Complete the survey

FESTIVAL AT-A-GLANCE

Events are in Indianapolis unless otherwise noted.
While many welcome walk-ins, some require registration.
Visit spiritandplace.org to learn more and to register. »



31ST ANNUAL PUBLIC CONVERSATION FESTIVAL KICK-OFF

Thurs., Nov. 5, 6:30 – 8PM

Connections in a Divided Time
with Eddie Glaude, Jr., Eric Liu,
and Bernice Pescosolido
Indiana Landmarks Center



This year's Public Conversation asks, "What does it take to rebuild connections in ourselves, our communities, and our democracy?" Also featuring acclaimed jazz pianist Christopher Pitts.

FRI., NOV. 6

A Career on the Margins: Connecting through Ecotones

IU Indianapolis Campus Center
Lecture & Conversation
2 – 4PM

Stairway to Heaven: Finding Connection through Music, Life, & the Beyond

Episcopal Church of All Saints
Classical Music Performance
7:30 – 9:30PM

SAT., NOV. 7

Monumental Marathon: Allow
extra time to drive and consult
a route map.

Come Sit with Me: Stories that Connect Us

Peace Learning Center
(Eagle Creek)
Story-Centered Retreat
9:30AM – 4:30PM
Morning and/or Afternoon Sessions!

Gonna Be Golden! A Community K-Pop Sing

The Atrium of Carmel
(Carmel)
Community Choir Experience
11AM – 2PM

SAT., NOV 7 CONT.

Community Labyrinths

Rocky Ripple Town Hall
Collaborative Art Experience
1 – 3PM *VERIFY ONLINE

Stories of Naptown from The Meridian Cafe

Phoenix Theatre Cultural Centre
Interactive Theatrical Storytelling
2:30 – 4PM

SUN., NOV. 8

Stories of Naptown from The Meridian Cafe

Phoenix Theatre Cultural Centre
Interactive Theatrical Storytelling
12:30 – 2PM

A Spiritual Trail for Healthcare & Healing

Fairbanks Hall (starting location)
Reflective Outdoor Walk
2 – 4PM

Laughing Together: Connections through Comedy

Meridian St. UMC
Comedy Improv Workshop & Show
2:30 – 3:30PM (workshop)
4 – 5PM (show)

Connected by a Thread

Meridian St. UMC
Fiber Art Exhibit & Reception
4 – 6PM
*Exhibit: Nov. 1 – 30, 9AM-5PM, M-F

MON., NOV. 9

Forging Connections: Building Community with Music & Movement

Indianapolis Ballet
Conversation & Dance Performance
6 – 7:30PM

Multifaith Dialogue in Tough Times

Indianapolis Hebrew
Congregation
Community Conversation
7 – 8:30PM

TUES. NOV. 10

Connecting with our Roots and our Neighbors

Franklin College (Franklin)
Artist Demos & Panel Discussion
6 – 7PM (painting & quillwork demo)
7:15 – 8PM (panel discussion)

Herbert Hawkins's Legacy on Indiana Ave.

Center for Black Literature
& Culture
*Local History & Community
Conversation*
5:30 – 8PM

TUES., NOV 10 CONT.

IU Indianapolis Common Read Community Conversation

Indiana Historical Society

Moderated Panel Discussion

6 – 8PM

More than Companions: The Art & Science of Human-Animal Connection

FACE Low-Cost Animal Clinic

Panel & Photo Display

6 – 7:30PM

Remedying the Loneliness Epidemic through Connection

Hussey-Mayfield Memorial

Public Library (Zionsville)

Lecture & Community Conversation

6 – 7:30PM

Connecting In, Connecting Out

St. Luke's UMC

Contemplative Walking

& Singing Experience

6:30 – 8PM

WED., NOV. 11

Better Together: Rediscovering What Connects Us

St. Luke's UMC

Panel & Conversation

6:30 – 8PM

Generations in Harmony

Eskenazi Health—

Thomas & Arlene Grande Campus

Intergenerational

Community Singing

6 – 7PM

Strangers, Sing!

Books & Brews (Brownsburg)

Community Singing & Conversation

7 – 8:30PM



WED., NOV 11 CONT.

Beyond These Gates: Remembering Home, the Prison, & a Place Yet to Be

(\$10)

Kan-Kan Cinema & Bar

Panel & Multimedia Storytelling

7:30 – 9PM

THURS., NOV. 12

Connecting to Our Sacred Spaces

Indiana Humanities

Multifaith Conversation & Reflection

12 – 2PM

Speed Faithing

Lille Bonne

Interfaith Mixer

6 – 8PM

The Circular Connection: Our Common Home

Unitarian Universalist Church

of Indianapolis

Environment & Action

6:30 – 8PM

Resonance: Singing for Connection & Resilience

10 East Arts Hub

Community Singing & Embodiment

6:30 – 8:30PM

FRI., NOV. 13

No event scheduled, but you can check out the Connected by a Thread fiber art exhibit M-F from Nov. 1 -30!

SAT., NOV. 14

Artists Building Community: How Creativity Connects Schools to the World

1000 Words Gallery

Exhibit, Performance, & Conversation

11AM – 3PM

SAT., NOV 14 CONT.

Crucial Connections: Being a Lifeline for Survivors

Athenaeum

Interactive Theater

(Supporting Suicide Loss)

2 – 3:30PM & 5 – 6:30PM

Playback Theatre: Building Connections Through Stories of Friendship, Struggle, and Community

Athenaeum

Interactive Theater

(Personal Stories)

7 – 8:30PM

Hopecraft: Music as a Portal to Connection

Ujamaa Community Bookstore

Creative Workshop & Music

6 – 9PM

SUN., NOV. 15

Crucial Connections: Being a Lifeline for Survivors

Unity of Indianapolis

Interactive Theater

(Supporting Suicide Loss)

11:30 – 1PM

Songs for Joy & Justice

Castleton UMC

Community Singing & Potluck

12 – 2:30PM

The Village We Make: An Immersive Journey to Find Connections Through Art, Music, & Conversation

Herron-Riverside

Interactive Guided Journey

2 – 4PM



CLOSING NIGHT FILM EVENT

Sun., Nov. 15, 5 – 7PM

Join or Die

Heartland Film

Join or Die explores why joining a group could change your life—and our nation's future. Arrive early to connect with area clubs & membership organizations.



Visit spiritandplace.org to RSVP for events

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COME SIT WITH ME

Join Peace Learning Center on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026, for “Come Sit With Me: Stories That Connect Us,” part of the 2026 IU Health Spirit & Place Festival.

Five Hoosiers will share personal stories of joy, challenge, identity, and transformation. After each story, participants will reflect together through movement, nature, art, or sound.

Gather at our Eagle Creek campus for an interactive day of storytelling, creativity, and connection.



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Nov 6-8

Clowes Memorial Hall

VICTORIA MORGAN'S
CINDERELLA
WITH THE INDIANAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Dec 17-22

Clowes Memorial Hall

THE NUTCRACKER
WITH THE INDIANAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Dec 27-30

Schrott Center for the Arts

FAMILY SERIES:
NUTCRACKER SWEETS

Mar 5-7

Clowes Memorial Hall

BALLETS RUSSES
WITH THE INDIANAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Featuring Mariyinsky Ballet, The Finnish National Ballet, and Raymond's Warhol Ballet, Agnès de Miller's Ballet

Apr 16-18

Tobias Theater at Newfields

FAMILY SERIES:
THE ENCHANTED TOY SHOP

May 21-23

Tobias Theater at Newfields

TO THE POINT(E)

26/27 SEASON

indyballet.org

INDIANAPOLIS BALLET

Join us! Jenna Levin
Photo: Moonbug Photography



Elevating Arts & Culture

WFYI is committed to connecting you to inspiring stories

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31ST ANNUAL PUBLIC CONVERSATION

CONNECTIONS IN A DIVIDED TIME WITH EDDIE S. GLAUDE JR. AND ERIC LIU

Featuring framing remarks by Bernice Pescosolido
and jazz piano by Christopher Pitts

Thursday, Nov. 5, 6:30 – 8PM

Doors open at 6PM | Book sales begin

Indiana Landmarks Center / 1201 Central Ave., Indianapolis

ASL Interpreted



EDDIE S. GLAUDE JR.



ERIC LIU

This year's Public Conversation brings together nationally recognized voices in civic life, sociology, and public thought to explore a timely question: ***What does it take to rebuild connections in ourselves, our communities, and our democracy?***



Bernice Pescosolido, IU Distinguished Professor of Sociology, opens with remarks on how relationships shape individual well-being and community resilience. **Eric Liu**, co-founder of Citizen University and author of *Live Like a Citizen*, explores the habits, responsibilities, and shared purpose that sustain a healthy democracy. **Eddie S. Glaude Jr.**, Princeton University scholar and author of *America, U.S.A.: How Race Shadows the Nation's Anniversaries*, challenges us to confront our nation's history with honesty and the moral courage to imagine a just future. Moderated by IU Indianapolis religious studies scholar **Joseph Tucker Edmonds**.

A partnership between Spirit & Place, the Center for the Study of Religion & American Culture, Health by Design, and the League of Women Voters of Indianapolis.



Jazz pianist **Christopher Pitts** performs "... and blue," a solo piano piece accompanying *America, U.S.A.*

Learn more about Christopher Pitts »





Lecture & Conversation

**A CAREER ON THE MARGINS:
CONNECTING THROUGH ECOTONES**

Friday, Nov. 6, 2 – 4PM

**IU Indianapolis Campus Center—Theater (LL)
420 University Blvd.**

*Paid parking available in the Vermont St. Garage
(1004 W. Vermont St.)*



What can an ecotone—a place where two worlds meet—teach us about human connection? IU Chancellor’s Professor Dr. Richard Gunderman reflects on a lifetime spent at the intersections of disciplines, ideas, and communities. Through stories, conversation, and images from art and literature, discover how life’s “in-between” spaces can spark creativity, generosity, and deeper connections with one another. A partnership between Dr. Richard Gunderman and the IU Indianapolis Senior Academy as part of the *Last Lecture Series*.
317-274-4500 or sacademy@iu.edu.

Classical Music Performance

**STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN: FINDING
CONNECTIONS THROUGH MUSIC,
IN LIFE, AND BEYOND THE GRAVE**

Friday, Nov. 6, 7:30 – 9:30PM

**Episcopal Church of All Saints
1559 N. Central Ave.**



Experience a musical journey from heaven to earth through four centuries of music. From Baroque meditations on the Glorious Mysteries to deeply personal works celebrating friendship, family, loss, and acceptance, violinist Colette Abel curates an evening of music that explores the many connections shaping our lives. Featuring the Abel Family Quartet and friends. A partnership between Colette Abel, the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, and the Episcopal Church of All Saints.
317-635-2538 or music@allsaintsindy.org.



Story-Centered Retreat

COME SIT WITH ME: STORIES THAT CONNECT US

Saturday, Nov. 7, 9:30AM – 4:30PM

Peace Learning Center at Eagle Creek Park
6040 DeLong Rd.

Registration required Nov. 5. Morning and/or afternoon option.



What happens when we slow down long enough to truly hear one another? Through four personal stories by Hoosiers and guided experiences in art, movement, nature, and conversation, this immersive retreat invites you to listen deeply, reflect honestly, and discover new connections with your neighbors and yourself. A partnership

between Peace Learning Center, Storytelling Arts of Indiana, Earth Charter Indiana, Y'all for All, and Immigrant Welcome Center.

317-327-7144 or jhoran@peacelearningcenter.org.

Community Choir Experience

GONNA BE GOLDEN! A COMMUNITY K-POP SING

Saturday, Nov. 7, 11AM – 2PM

The Atrium of Carmel
10330 N. Meridian St. (Carmel)

Registration encouraged but walk-ins welcome!



Can strangers become a choir in just one afternoon? Come find out! Learn and perform the Grammy-winning K-pop hit Golden while exploring themes of hope, belonging, and trust through joyful singing and conversation. Along the way, celebrate Korean culture with tasty snacks and activities. No music-reading or singing experience required. All ages! A partnership between The Garden Community Church, The Atrium of Carmel, SongSquad Indianapolis, and KPAC Indiana.
317-796-1897 or revrb11@gmail.com.

Tijs Van Leur, Unsplash



Collaborative Art Experience

COMMUNITY LABYRINTHS

Saturday, Nov. 7, 1 – 3PM

Rocky Ripple Town Hall

930 W. 54th St. (Rocky Ripple) **VERIFY ONLINE**

Drop in guests welcome! Great for ages 5+.



Create, walk, and reflect through a series of community-built labyrinths inspired by centuries-old contemplative traditions. Help weave a spiral from recycled materials, add your hand to a collaborative labyrinth, create a personal finger labyrinth to take home, and experience the quiet power of creativity shared with others. A partnership between Nova Dream Space and Rocky Ripple Community Association. 317-274-2462 or nova.dreamspace@gmail.com.

Interactive Theatrical Storytelling/2 Performances

STORIES OF NAPTOWN FROM THE MERIDIAN CAFE

Saturday, Nov. 7, 2:30 – 4PM

Sunday, Nov. 8, 12:30 – 2PM

Phoenix Theatre Cultural Centre

705 N. Illinois St.

Seating limited to 35.

Registration required by noon, Nov. 6.



Celebrate the places that make Indianapolis feel like home. Through creative theatre activities, participants will transform stories inspired by neighborhoods, parks, schools, sacred places, favorite cafes, and other meaningful spaces into collaborative mini-performances exploring memory, identity, and community. Plus: Registered attendees will receive a discount code for the ALT production of *The Meridian Cafe* running 10/22 – 11/8. A partnership between American Lives Theatre (ALT) and the IU Indianapolis Applied Theatre Program. 317-238-9003, chris@americanlivestheatre.org or egroble@iu.edu.



Reflective Outdoor Walk

A SPIRITUAL TRAIL FOR HEALTHCARE & HEALING

Sunday, Nov. 8, 2 – 4PM

Fairbanks Hall
340 W. 10th St.

Rain or shine!

Registration encouraged.

Walk alongside friends and neighbors, healthcare professionals, and spiritual leaders while exploring the connections between healing, spirituality, and compassionate care. Along this guided outdoor journey, participants will pause for reflection, conversation, meditation, and practices drawn from multiple faith traditions that invite us to consider how we can all contribute to healing ourselves, one another, and the world. A partnership between The Evans Center for Spiritual and Religious Values in Healthcare at IU Health, Sacred Journeys Network, Center for Interfaith Cooperation, and The Peace Center for Forgiveness and Reconciliation. 317-963-6783 or grobert2@iuhealth.org.

Comedy Improv Workshop & Show

LAUGHING TOGETHER: CONNECTIONS THROUGH COMEDY

Sunday, Nov. 8

Workshop: 2:30 – 3:30PM

Comedy Show: 4 – 5PM

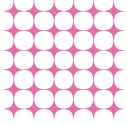
Meridian St. UMC—Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary
5500 N. Meridian St.

Limited workshop space. Register by Nov.7.

Registration optional for comedy show (but it helps!)



Discover how laughter brings people together through an interactive introduction to improvisational comedy followed by a family-friendly ComedySportz® performance. Whether you're on stage or in the audience, you'll experience how play, trust, and a simple "Yes, and..." can strengthen the connections we make with one another. A partnership between Meridian Street United Methodist Church, ComedySportz Indianapolis, Jon Colby Speaks, and Take Note: An Artist Concert Series. 317-435-8280 or msmcalister@meridianstreet.org.

**Exhibit & Reception**

Laura Otten & Cindy Wilson

CONNECTED BY A THREAD

Sunday, Nov. 8, 4 – 6PM

Meridian St. UMC—Art Gallery

5500 N. Meridian St.

*The exhibit will be open Nov. 1 – 30
from 9AM-5PM, Mon. -Fri.*

Fiber artists from INFiber and Weaving Indiana explore what connects us through paired artworks inspired by a shared thread. During the opening reception, contribute your own hopes and reflections to a collaborative weaving that becomes part of the exhibition itself. A partnership between INFiber, Weaving Indiana, and Meridian Street United Methodist Church. 317-637-8204 or ConnectedThread@outlook.com.

Conversation & Dance Performance**FORGING CONNECTIONS:
BUILDING COMMUNITY WITH
MUSIC & MOVEMENT**

Monday, Nov. 9, 6 – 7:30PM

Indianapolis Ballet—2nd Floor

502 N. Capitol

Limited seating. Registration required.



Experience the beauty and expressive power of ballet through conversation, performance, and audience participation.

Following a lively panel discussion, Indianapolis Ballet dancers will perform both beloved repertoire and audience-inspired improvisations that explore themes of trust, friendship, forgiveness, and connection. A partnership between Indianapolis Ballet and Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. 317-840-3185 or bob.einterz@gmail.com.

Community Conversation

**MULTIFAITH DIALOGUE
IN TOUGH TIMES**

Monday, Nov. 9, 7 – 8:30PM

Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation
6501 N. Meridian St.



Clair Nakkachi, Unsplash

How do we build relationships across religious differences—especially when conversations become difficult? Join neighbors from diverse faith traditions for an evening of guided conversation that strengthens listening, deepens understanding, and reminds us that meaningful dialogue begins with genuine curiosity. A partnership between Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, Greater Indianapolis Multifaith Alliance, and The Garden Community Church. 317-255-6647 or mmeadows@indy-multifaith.org.

Artist Demonstrations & Panel Discussion

**CONNECTING WITH OUR ROOTS
AND OUR NEIGHBORS**

Tuesday, Nov. 10

Painting & Quillwork

Demonstration, 6 – 7PM

Artist Panel Discussion, 7:15 – 8PM

Franklin College, Napolitan Student Center
Branigin Rm., 101 Branigin Blvd. (Franklin)



Spend the evening with artists from Afghanistan and the Anishinaabe tradition as they demonstrate their craft and discuss how art expresses their identity, spirituality, and heritage. Discover how understanding our own stories can deepen connections with neighbors from different backgrounds. Please join us for this partnership between Franklin College and the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art. Contact Jim Alexander at 317-738-8154 or jalexander@franklincollege.edu.



Local History & Community Conversation

**HERBERT HAWKINS'S LEGACY ON
INDIANA AVENUE: MEMORY, PLACE,
AND COMMUNITY**

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 5:30 – 8PM

Center for Black Literature & Culture at Central Library
40 E. St. Clair St.



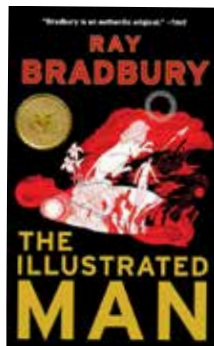
Explore the little-known story of Herbert Hawkins and his life on historic Indiana Avenue. Through storytelling, historical images, and guided conversation, discover how personal memories and community histories become part of our shared story. A partnership between Dr. Michelle Dartis, The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis, and IndyPL's Central Library. 317-275-4726 or info@indyencyclopedia.org.

Moderated Panel Discussion

**IU INDIANAPOLIS COMMON READ
COMMUNITY CONVERSATION**

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6 – 8PM

Indiana Historical Society
450 W. Ohio St.



What happens when technology promises connection but leaves us more isolated? Join Pulitzer Prize-winning author Daniel Kraus, NASA planetary scientist Dr. Abigail Fraeman, and award-winning Indianapolis author and Afrofuturist Maurice Broaddus for an engaging conversation exploring Ray Bradbury's *The Illustrated Man* and its enduring questions about the fragile bonds that hold us together. Whether you've read the book or are simply curious, all are welcome. A partnership between IU Indianapolis, Ray Bradbury Center, Indiana Humanities, Indiana Life Sciences Association, The Indianapolis Public Library, schools, cultural organizations, and community partners. 317-274-1020 or inres@iu.edu.

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS TO WHAT'S NEXT

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY
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Thomas H. Lake Lecture

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2027 | 6:00 PM

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, INDIANAPOLIS



ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Kate Bowler, PhD

Five-time *New York Times* bestselling author, award-winning podcast host, and an Associate Professor of American Religious History at Duke University.

LEARN MORE:



lakeinstitute.org

Matters of Religion

Inviting Hoosiers to explore the role of religion in our lives, and to engage with how religious liberty – an idea that was central to the founding of America – influences education, democracy, culture, and the breadth of human experience in our religiously vibrant and diverse state.

Learn more:



A PROJECT OF **indiana humanities**
think. read. talk.

Panel & Photo Display

**MORE THAN COMPANIONS:
THE ART AND SCIENCE OF HUMAN-
ANIMAL CONNECTION**

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6 – 7:30PM

**FACE Low-Cost Animal Clinic
1505 Massachusetts Ave.**

Limited seating. Registration required.



Ellie Sophia

Pets are more than companions. They shape our health, our relationships, and our sense of belonging. Join a veterinarian, mental health counselor, and award-winning pet photographer for a lively conversation exploring the human-animal bond, then share your favorite pet photo as part of the evening's community art display. A partnership between FACE Low-Cost Animal Clinic and Ellie Sophia Pet Photography. 317-638-3223 x112 or AlyssaStarrN@FaceAnimalClinic.org.

Lecture & Community Conversation

**REMEDYING THE LONELINESS EPIDEMIC
THROUGH CONNECTIONS**

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6 – 7:30PM

**Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library—Zionsville
250 N. 5th St. (Zionsville)**



Vincent van Gogh/Sunflowers

Why are so many people lonely and what can we do to reconnect? Through insights from Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, the writings of St. Augustine, the life of Vincent

van Gogh, and today's public health research, IU Chancellor's Professor Dr. Richard Gunderman invites you to explore the causes of loneliness and practical ways to foster deeper connections in our lives and communities. A partnership between Dr. Richard Gunderman, Indiana State Medical Association, and Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Library—Zionsville. 317-873-3149 or askalib@hmmpl.org.



Contemplative Walking & Singing Experience

CONNECTING IN, CONNECTING OUT

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6:30 – 8PM

St. Luke's UMC—Great Hall
100 W. 86th St.

Experience the ancient practice of labyrinth walking paired with communal singing in a peaceful gathering designed to nurture reflection, belonging, and joy.

Whether you choose to walk, sing, listen, or simply be still, discover how connecting more deeply with yourself can open new pathways to connecting with others. A partnership between Indianapolis Women's Chorus, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Heart Path Collective, Gender Nexus, and Tranquil Tones.

317-846-3404 or jessica.gormong@stlukesumc.com.



Chéri DeBerry, Heart Path Collective

Panel, Reflection, & Creative Expression

BETTER TOGETHER: REDISCOVERING WHAT CONNECTS US

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 6:30 – 8PM

St. Luke's UMC—Robertson Chapel
100 W. 86th St.

ASL Interpretation



Join in an inspiring evening of conversation, reflection, and creative expression as community leaders from faith, education, public service, and community building explore how to navigate division and strengthen human connection. Experience an engaging panel discussion, live music, a thought-provoking poetry performance, and an opportunity to share your own message of hope using vintage typewriters from Indy Type Shop. A partnership between Leaders Who Connect, Glick Philanthropies, and Indy Networking. 317-902-2958 or markerm@leaderswhoconnect.com.

Intergenerational Community Singing

GENERATIONS IN HARMONY

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 6 – 7PM

Eskenazi Health—

Thomas & Arlene Grande Campus

6002 E. 38th St.



Join our timeless choir! Led by the Indianapolis Children's Choir, participants will learn three songs — favorite tunes from three different generations — culminating in a collective performance to celebrate the intergenerational ties so essential to our community's health.

A partnership between the Marianne Tobias Music Program at Eskenazi Health and the Indianapolis Children's Choir.

317-402-9327 or layshae.buckner@eskenazihealth.edu.



Community Singing & Conversation

STRANGERS, SING!

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 7 – 8:30PM

Books & Brews

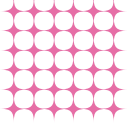
1551 North Green Street

(Brownsburg)

No auditions. No sheet music. Just radical hospitality and voices raised together. Learn

simple songs by ear and share conversation with new friends. Whether you're deeply rooted in a faith tradition, spiritually curious, or simply longing to sing with others, discover the power of singing together. A partnership between Kendall Ludwig, Center for Interfaith Cooperation, Books & Brews Brownsburg, and Good Samaritan Episcopal Church. 815-922-0620 or kendall@kendallludwig.com.





Panel & Multimedia Storytelling

**BEYOND THESE GATES: REMEMBERING HOME,
THE PRISON, AND A PLACE YET TO BE**

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 7:30 – 9PM

**Kan-Kan Cinema & Bar
1258 Windsor St.**

Registration required. \$10/pp.



Alayna Wilkening, Mirror Indy

What remains after the gates close? Engage in an immersive multimedia experience blending oral histories, live poetry, original music, and commissioned video art to explore the history and enduring connections of the former Indiana Women's Prison. Through podcast excerpts, artistic interpretation, and conversations with formerly incarcerated women and other participants, audiences are invited to experience a place where memory and belonging, dreams and resilience converge—and imagine the futures still waiting to be released. A partnership between City Rising and Willard Park and Woodruff Place neighbors. 317-721-5806 or info@cityrising.org.

Multifaith Conversation & Reflection

CONNECTING TO OUR SACRED SPACES

Thursday, Nov. 12, 12 – 2PM

**Indiana Humanities
1500 N. Delaware St.**

Limited Space. Registration Required.



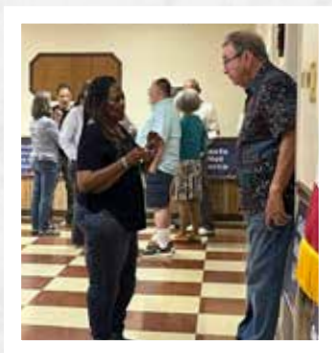
Sacred spaces can be found in houses of worship, neighborhoods, nature, or even within ourselves. Through conversation with leaders and practitioners of various spiritual traditions, historical resources, and a creative reflection activity, explore what makes a place sacred and how such spaces connect us to our communities, histories, and one another. Brown bag lunch friendly! A partnership between Indiana Humanities, Dagom Geden Kunkyob Ling Buddhist Monastery, Center for Interfaith Cooperation, Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, and Hindu Temple of Central Indiana. 317-638-1500 or info@indianahumanities.org.

Interfaith Mixer

SPEED FAITHING: QUICK CONNECTIONS ACROSS FAITHS

Thursday, Nov. 12, 6 – 8PM

Lille Bønne Community Living Room
701 E. McCarty St.



What can you learn about someone in three minutes? Meet people from diverse faith and spiritual traditions through a series of brief, guided conversations that make interfaith dialogue welcoming, engaging, and surprisingly fun. Stay afterward for food, conversation, and the chance to turn new introductions into meaningful connections. A partnership between the Center for Interfaith Cooperation and Urban Rural Action. 317-268-5300 or david@indycic.org.

Community Singing & Embodiment

RESONANCE: SINGING FOR CONNECTION & RESILIENCE

Thursday, Nov. 12, 6:30 – 8:30PM

10 East Arts Hub
2301 E. 10th St.



Reconnect with your body and experience the power of communal creativity! Through singing and somatic exercises, explore how tending ourselves can also fortify one another. Use your voice to build mindfulness, hope and resilience for the heart-work we do in our communities. No singing experience is necessary. This isn't about performance — it's about the process! A partnership between Heartland Healing Counseling, The Indy Witchy Singing Circle, and Open Circle Arts. 317-707-9040 or Aviv@heartlandhealingcounseling.com.



Environment & Action

**THE CIRCULAR CONNECTION:
OUR COMMON HOME**

Thursday, Nov. 12, 6:30 – 8PM

Unitarian Universalist Church
of Indianapolis—Fellowship Hall
615 W. 43rd St.

Healthy communities depend on a healthy planet. Meet fellow participants through interactive activities; explore how our faith traditions, neighborhoods, and environment are intertwined; and discover practical ways to care for our common home together. A partnership between Faith in Place, Earth Charter Indiana, Circular Indiana, and Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis. 859-496-7180 or grace@faithinplace.org.

Interactive Theater - 3 Performances

**CRUCIAL CONNECTIONS: BEING
A LIFELINE FOR SURVIVORS**

**For those supporting suicide bereavement*

Saturday, Nov. 14, 2 – 3:30PM & 5 – 6:30PM

The Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan St.

AND

Sunday, Nov. 15, 11:30AM – 1PM

Unity of Indianapolis, 907 N. Delaware St.



Most of us want to help someone grieving a loved one lost to suicide, but don't know what to say. Through interactive theatre, audience conversation, and guidance from counselors, faith leaders, and those with lived experience, we will practice compassionate ways to support others while helping break the silence surrounding suicide loss. A partnership between The Sapphire Theatre Company, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention—Indiana Chapter, GriefLiteracy.com, and Unity of Indianapolis. 317.966.7529 or mail@sapphiretheatre.com.

Exhibit, Performances & Conversation

ARTISTS BUILDING COMMUNITY: HOW CREATIVITY CONNECTS SCHOOLS TO THE WORLD

Saturday, Nov. 14, 11AM – 3PM

Arts for Learning & 1000 Words Gallery
3328 E. 10th St.

Come-and-go style! Great for all ages!



Clockwork Janz

Discover how young artists are using creativity to connect their classrooms with the wider world. Explore an exhibit of student and teaching artist work, enjoy student music and dance performances, and join a conversation about how the arts help build stronger schools, communities, and civic life. A partnership between Arts for Learning Indiana and 1000 Words. 317-345-0176 or cjanz@artsforlearningindiana.org.

Interactive Theater

PLAYBACK THEATRE: BUILDING CONNECTIONS THROUGH STORIES OF FRIENDSHIP, STRUGGLE, AND COMMUNITY

Saturday, Nov. 14, 7 – 8:30PM

The Athenaeum—Auditorium
401 E. Michigan St.

Every person has a story worth telling. Share a memory—or simply listen—as Playback Theatre artists transform audience stories into spontaneous performances through music, movement, and improvisation.

Stay afterward for conversation and connection. A partnership between Wabash College Theater Department and Sapphire Theatre Co. 765-361-6223 or vogelh@wabash.edu.





Creative Workshop & Music

**HOPECRAFT: MUSIC AS A PORTAL
TO CONNECTION**

Saturday, Nov. 14, 6 – 9PM

**Ujamaa Community Bookstore
2424 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St.**

Inspired by the contributions Black musicians, come celebrate the power of music to awaken memories, strengthen communities, and inspire hope. Through hands-on crafting, storytelling, a community playlist, and joyful reflection, explore the enduring influence of Black musical traditions on today's music while creating, connecting, and maybe even dancing together. A partnership between Kiara Kamara and Ujamaa Community Bookstore. 317-274-2462 or festival@iu.edu.

Community Singing & Potluck

SONGS FOR JOY & JUSTICE

Sunday, Nov. 15, 12 – 2:30PM

**Castleton UMC—Family Life Center
7101 Shadeland Ave.**

What if joy isn't an escape from the world's pain, but a resource for meeting it? Share a meal, learn

songs by ear, and join thoughtful conversations exploring how collective singing can strengthen hope, deepen connection, and sustain us as we care for one another. A partnership between Castleton United Methodist Church and SongSquad Indianapolis.

609-937-3874 or Johnp@castletonumc.org.



Preslie Hirsch, Unsplash



Interactive Guided Journey

THE VILLAGE WE MAKE: AN IMMERSIVE JOURNEY TO FIND CONNECTIONS THROUGH ART, MUSIC, & CONVERSATION

Sunday, Nov. 15, 2 – 4PM

Herron-Riverside

3010 N. White River Pkwy E. Dr.

For ages 14+

Moving from strangers to neighbors doesn't happen all at once—it grows through shared experiences. Journey together through guided interactive experiences rooted in the arts, humanities, and multifaith dialogue before gathering for a community snack designed to spark conversation and help you discover your village. A partnership between WFYI Public Media, Herron Classical Schools, Greater Indianapolis Multifaith Alliance, Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center, and Congregation Beth-El Zedeck. 317-614-0403 or wsmith@wfyi.org



CLOSING EVENT

Film Screening & Join Fair

JOIN OR DIE

Sunday, Nov. 15, 5 – 7PM

Doors open at 4:15PM for a "Join Fair" & other activities

Heartland Film

8950 Otis Ave., Lawrence

Spirit & Place concludes its 2026 Festival with a community screening of the award-winning documentary *Join or Die*, an inspiring look at why belonging—to clubs, congregations, neighborhood groups, volunteer organizations, and other communities—matters for our health, happiness, and democracy.



Arrive early to enjoy complimentary movie snacks, connect with local membership organizations at a casual "Join Fair," and explore simple, creative activities designed to spark conversation about the communities that have shaped your life. A cash bar will also be available.

Following the film, stay for a brief audience conversation as together we reflect on one final festival question: **What happens when we choose to show up for one another?**

Presented by Spirit & Place in partnership with Heartland Film.



A NEW VIEW FILM SERIES

2026-
2027

SCREENING: 6:30-8:30 PM

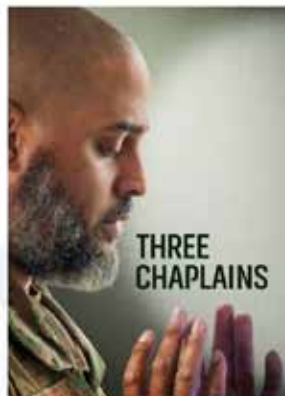
FREE ADMISSION, NO TICKET REQUIRED

SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2026

THREE CHAPLAINS

DOCUMENTARY BY PBS INDEPENDENT LENS

Go behind the uniform with three Muslim chaplains serving at the highest levels of the military as they counsel troops of all faiths and defend religious rights. It's an inspiring look at patriotism and standing tall for what's right.

"ONE SWIM
AT A TIME."FEBRUARY 25TH, 2027

DEAD SEA GUARDIANS

DIRECTED BY IDO GLASS AND YOAV KLEINMAN

When the Dead Sea begins shrinking at an alarming rate, an Israeli, a Jordanian, and a Palestinian pull off the unprecedented, dangerous swim across the Dead Sea to wake the world up to an environmental crisis. It's an inspiring, heart-pumping tale of eco-heroism and unity.

- BEST FILM GREEN ACADEMY AWARDS - PIONEER AWARD - RICHMOND INT'L FILM FESTIVAL - RELIGIONS FOR PEACE INTERNATIONAL AWARD - HONORED BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION - RELIGION NEWS ASSOCIATION - RELIGION COMMUNICATORS COUNCIL

Each screening will be followed by a discussion with the audience.

Second Presbyterian Church Music and Fine Arts

UPCOMING CONCERTS

- **November 22, 4 PM** — *The Road Not Taken*: Trios for Piano, Violin, and Cello with Clare Longendyke, Kevin Lin, and Austin Huntington
- **December 13, 9 and 11 AM** — Christmas Music Sunday featuring Sanctuary Choir, Festival Orchestra, and congregation singing favorite carols and hymns of the season

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES • DECEMBER 24

- **4 PM** — Children's Choirs lead music in a service geared towards families
- **7 PM and 9 PM** — Lessons and Carols with Sanctuary Choir, Festival Brass, and Organ
- **11 PM** — Lessons, Carols, and Holy Communion with Sanctuary Choir Section Leaders, Festival Strings, Harp, and Organ



7700 N MERIDIAN STREET • INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46260 • SECONDCHURCH.ORG



28th Annual Ann Katz Festival of Books & Arts

4th ANNUAL

JUSTICE AND JUDAISM: A FIRESIDE CHAT WITH SARAH HURWITZ

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 29
AT 7 P.M.

INDIANAPOLIS
HEBREW
CONGREGATION

VIP Reception
to Follow

Book signing at
8:15 p.m. with
books available
for purchase

Moderated by
Rabbi Brett
Kopplew
and Cantor
Aviva Mamer

PRESENTED BY
THE HERBERT
SARON FAMILY
FOUNDATION
& Indianapolis
Hebrew
Congregation



Register at bit.ly/IHC26HURWITZ

GREAT COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES DON'T BEGIN WITH EVENTS. THEY BEGIN WITH PEOPLE.



An artist asking, “what if ...?”



A scholar wanting to move beyond the classroom.



A congregation opening its doors.



A neighborhood organization with an idea worth sharing.

Long before an audience arrives, there are relationships to build, ideas to nurture, and creative risks to take.

That's why we created the Pam Blevins Hinkle Creative Catalyst Fund.

Named in honor of Pam's twenty years of visionary leadership, the fund helps independent artists, small organizations, and community partners develop bold ideas and strengthen collaborations in order to create meaningful festival experiences.



DID YOU KNOW?

Spirit & Place Festival events are independently created by community partners. While Spirit & Place provides marketing, coaching, and a modest **\$200 stipend**, artists and organizations invest countless hours—and often their own money—to bring these mostly **FREE** experiences to life. The **Pam Blevins Hinkle Creative Catalyst Fund** will help provide more equitable support for future festival creators.

MAKE A GIFT TODAY.

YOUR GIFT HELPS:



Support artists & first-time festival event creators



Small organizations and congregations bring new ideas to life



Expand accessibility



Offer workshops, coaching, and creative learning opportunities



Strengthen the partnerships that make Spirit & Place unique

HERE'S THE EXCITING PART...

If every Spirit & Place attendee made a gift of just **\$25** during this year's festival, we'd have the resources to launch the **Creative Catalyst Fund** in 2027.

No single donor.
No major campaign.
Just a community investing in itself.

Join us.



Be a Creative Catalyst.

<https://go.iu.edu/la4XPw>

MIRRORINDY

WE ARE
HERE

ARTS & CULTURE HAPPENINGS
COMMUNITY RESOURCES
INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS



Delivered Straight to Your Inbox!



175
YEAR
ANNIVERSARY



THE
Make a
Connection
PLACE

No Place Like This Place™

The Y is a place where community thrives and friendships flourish.
With welcoming staff, activities for all ages, no join fee and
no contracts, you'll see why there's no place like this place!

YMCA OF GREATER INDIANAPOLIS

▶ INDYMCA.org/Join

MOR





The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan grassroots organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We want to make sure that you are **ready to vote**.

Statewide Voter Registration Deadline:

Monday, October 5, 2026
(In-person, mail and online)

Vote by Mail Application Deadline:

Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 11:59 PM

Early Voting:

Tuesday, October 6 – Monday, November 2

Election Day:

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Check Your Registration & Register to Vote:

indianavoters.in.gov

Compare candidates and learn where they stand on the issues that matter to you.

VOTE 411™

Find your personalized voter guide at VOTE411.org.



Want to get involved?

Become a member or join an upcoming event.

A thick orange line starts from the top left, loops around the top right, and ends near the center of the page.A stylized pink dove in flight, facing right, with a textured pattern on its body.

MANY VOICES

MANY CONNECTIONS

Throughout 2026, Spirit & Place invited community voices to reflect on what *Connections* mean in their lives. We're grateful to **Keesha Dixon, Sara Hindi Ayoubi, Clockwork Janz, Rabbi Brett Krichiver, Rev. Felipe Martinez, Brandy Whitaker, and Shamira Wilson** for sharing their stories, insights, and questions with us.

Their essays explore the *Connections* theme from the perspectives of belonging and our appreciation of the natural world, to spirituality, identity, loss, healing, and the relationships that help us navigate life.

**We invite you to read
these thoughtful
reflections and consider
what *Connections*
mean in your own life.**



**READ THE FULL ESSAYS
ON THE SPIRIT & PLACE
LINKEDIN PAGE**



WITH GRATITUDE



Spirit & Place's work would not be possible without the volunteers, thought partners, donors, and community partners who bring the festival to life. We are deeply grateful to the many people who share their time, talent, resources, and creativity to make this work possible.



100+
community
partners

To the 100+ community partners and presenters who created and hosted this year's events: thank you for sharing your ideas, spaces, stories, and expertise with our community.



Thank You
to our
volunteers

To the dozens of volunteers—including IUI student ASL interpreters—thank you for helping make the festival welcoming and accessible.



**Donors and
funders**

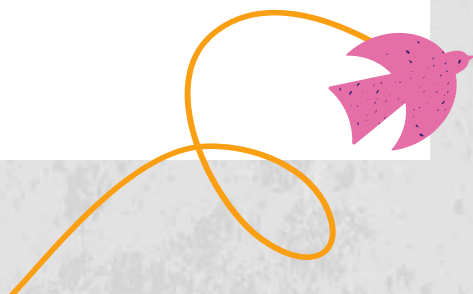
And to the many **donors and funders** who support this undertaking with radical community trust and creativity: thank you for believing in this work.

We are grateful to the **Festival Selection Committee**—Jyoti Verderame, Ess McKee, Zola Lamothe, George Kelley, Dheepa Maturi, Kevin Martin, George Hanlin, Whitney Smith, and Andrea Watts—for their thoughtful curation and deliberation, and to our **Advisory Council**—Rev. Jeff Bower, Ebony Chappel, Kavita Mahoney, Sara Hindi Ayoubi, Dr. Lasana Kazembe, and Rabbi Brett Krichiver—for their ongoing dedication.

And finally, **to the stalwarts who stepped up this year** when more than a little extra love and support were needed: Darren Chittick, Pam Blevins Hinkle, Linnea Holt, and Mánon Voice. Your amazingness is the definition of what *Connections* is all about.

MAKE A CONNECTION

WHO DID YOU MEET, WHAT DID YOU DISCOVER,
OR WHAT DO YOU WANT TO REMEMBER?





Ready to inspire the
next generation of
service leaders?

Kids Need Kiwanis

join us at IndyKiwanis.org

Kiwanis
CLUB OF INDIANAPOLIS



Kiwanis is a global community of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time, with 600,000 members of all ages in 80+ countries.

Indiana Medical History Museum

We need your help!

We're looking for volunteers with a passion for history to lead public and school tours or act as greeters at the Indiana Medical History Museum.

dthomas@imhm.org

www.imhm.org/volunteering

**BETTER
TOGETHER**



Central Library | FREE | 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
40 E St. Clair St, Indianapolis, IN 46204

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

For a civic
celebration

Jan. 30, 2027

indiana **humanities**

wfyi
INDIANAPOLIS

The
INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC
Library

EXPERIENCE ST. PAUL'S INDY. BE MOVED.

COME: St. Paul's Indy is a place where ALL people are welcomed, valued and embraced. We believe God's love is for everyone.

SING: St. Paul's Choir School offers music, formation, friendship and community (and an opportunity for free instrumental lessons) for young singers, ages 8+.

Learn more @ indychoirschool.org

LISTEN: Join us for a concert! Trio Mediaeval & New York Polyphony on Friday, February 26, 2027 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets available @ spmindy.org

Be part of a place sharing Christ's love, creating community and striving for justice — where you can come as you are and belong. *There's a place for you here.*



St. Paul's Indy

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
6050 N Meridian St, Indianapolis, IN 46208
317.253.1277 · stpaulsindy.org

2027 THEME

NEIGHBORS

Nov. 4 – 14, 2027

Who are our neighbors?

The people next door. The strangers we pass each day. The people who share our sidewalks, schools, parks, workplaces, congregations, and communities. Those whose lives intersect with ours in ways both ordinary and profound.

The Neighbors theme invites us to explore what it means to live well together. Through the arts, humanities, and religion, we'll examine the relationships that shape our neighborhoods and ourselves.

Along the way, we'll ask questions like:

- How do neighborhoods shape identity?
- What can porches, parks, libraries, museums, festivals, transit lines, and gathering places teach us about belonging?
- How do history, housing, migration, accessibility, and economics shape who feels welcomed and who doesn't?
- What does it look like to love our neighbors in practice?

What kind of neighbor do you want to be?

.....



Early January

Application guidelines released

Mid-May

Application deadline

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Contact festival@iu.edu
to learn more.