

Indiana Medical History Museum

Fall, 2017



Fall Events at IMHM

Saturday, September 30th
12pm to 12am

Frankenfest

See next page for details.

Sunday, October 22nd
2 to 4:30pm

12th Annual Wizards Academy

Visit with fantastic creatures during a live animal show and explore the magic of science through hands-on experiments! Parents and children are encouraged to dress up in their favorite wizardly attire! Recommended for grades 3-6. Registration opens in September.

Wednesday, November 1st
5:30pm

Fall Forensics Lecture

To See for One's Self: the History and Future of Autopsy

Presented by Dr. Darin L. Wolfe, MD. In his talk, Dr. Wolfe will cover the surprising history of death investigation starting with the dawn of humanity and finishing with a look into the future of one of history's oldest medical procedures: the autopsy.

Date TBD

The Pless Memorial Lecture for Central State Circle

Details to come.

Sunday, December 3rd
2pm

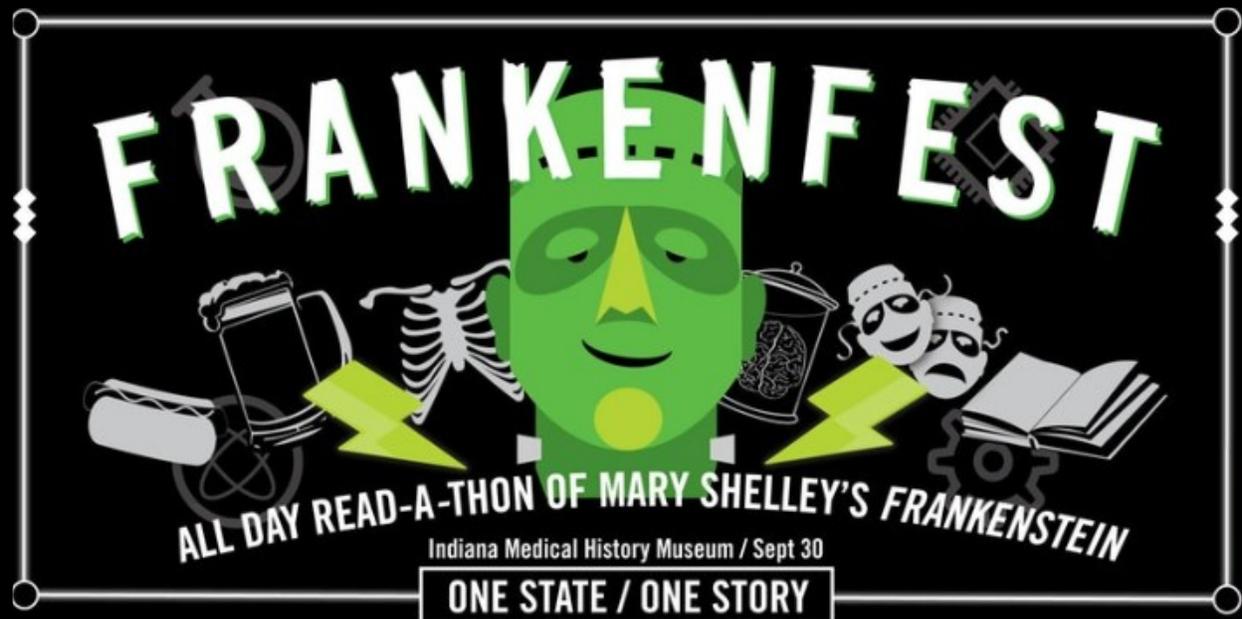
Glenn B. Mather Memorial Lecture and Annual Members Meeting

Thomas Story Kirkbride and the Kirkbride Plan

Presented by Dr. Clay W. Stuckey



Photograph Courtesy of Tom Mueller Photography



Join us with Indiana Humanities to kick off their series *One State/One Story: Frankenstein* with a 12-hour read-a-thon of *Frankenstein* at the nation's oldest pathology lab—The Indiana Medical History Museum.

ABOUT FRANKENFEST

In addition to the all-day read-a-thon featuring celebrity readers, the 12-hour festival will include a pop-up exhibit of rare anatomical texts, curator talks, hands-on art activities, Franken Yard Games, guided tours of the Indiana Medical History Museum, a theatrical performance, a “Franks-N-Steins” beer garden with Central State Brewing Co. Beer, and King David Dogs for sale, and more Frankenstein fun.

WHEN: Saturday, September 30th 12pm to 12am

PRICE: FREE!

First 100 registered guests to arrive will receive a free Frankenstein beer stein

WHERE: The Indiana Medical History Museum, 3045 West Vermont Street, Indianapolis, IN 46222,

WHO: Bring the entire family, friends, bookworms, coworkers and anyone else!

**REGISTER at EventBrite.com
www.imhm.org**

Why Frankenstein?

-Sarah Halter, executive director

Frankenstein is just a really incredible book— one of my favorites, and not just from a literary perspective. Even 200 years after its publication, it is enormously popular but often misunderstood. Most adaptations of it in pop culture are so different than the original book, and unfortunately some of its weightier, philosophical and scientific nuances are lost. In writing *Frankenstein, or the Modern Prometheus*, Mary Shelley pulled from many of the great philosophical, scientific, religious, political, and anthropological thinkers of her day. She alludes to history, mythology, social justice, mental illness, personal and societal responsibility, and many other complicated and consequential topics that are as important to us today as they were in the early 19th century.

This use of Frankenstein as a learning opportunity falls very much in line with our mission and our work here at the Indiana Medical History Museum. It addresses historical themes of anatomical study and advances in surgical knowledge and technology; perceptions of “other” and mental illness ; the social, economic, political, and medical implications of those perceptions; the evolution of our understanding of disease and treatments; controversial practices like vivisection and body snatching that were ghastly, of course, but also critically important in the development of modern medicine. The list goes on.

But the book is just as relevant to medicine today and provides us with an incredible opportunity to address deeper questions of the role of science and medicine in society and, conversely, the role of citizens or even governments in science and medicine; bioethical questions about and “playing god” or pushing science too far (where is the line, for example? and who should draw it?); whether these fields should be regulated and if so, by whom; the consequences, intentional or unintentional, and who is responsible for them; and the role of humanities in STEM?

These are questions that were raised and debated during Mary Shelley's time, though using different language, and they're questions we're still grappling with today. These are important conversations for us to have- openly and civilly and in a way that invites multiple points of view.

Being able to host the launch of this project right here in a building so representative of many of the book's themes is really special. We're honored and so excited to be a part of it!

Saving the Old Pathology Building

Update on the Capital Campaign to Save the Old Pathology Building

With the help of many individual donors and several grants received, preservation work on the Old Pathology Building is really coming along! In 2016 IMHM was awarded a second grant* from the Indiana DNR's Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA) in the amount of \$29,232. This grant allowed us to wrap up the remaining exterior masonry on the Old Pathology Building and the dead house this spring. We also received a \$50,000 Heritage Support Grant** from the Indiana Historical Society to replace the building's three damaged and leaky skylights. Though we ran into unforeseen structural issues during that project, the skylights are now being manufactured and will be installed early this fall. This year we were also granted a third DHPA grant* in the amount of \$48,210 to repair exterior doors and windows. Other projects in the works include the first phase of electrical work, additional exterior lighting, and a new camera system. We will have more details and more progress to share in our next newsletter, so stay tuned! **Thank you to all who have helped us by donating to the Capital Campaign!**

We've made incredible progress, but we have a long way to go and much work remains to be done.
You can help by making a tax deductible donation today at
www.imhm.org/donate

*This project has been funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology.

**Heritage Support Grants are provided by the Indiana Historical Society and made possible by Lilly Endowment Inc.

New App Aids in Accessibility at IMHM



We are proud to announce the completion of an app designed to increase access to the Indiana Medical History Museum. This virtual tour offers visitors three options: and American Sign Language video tour, a spoken English video tour, and a transcription of the tour. The app allows deaf and hearing impaired visitors to enjoy our historical guided tour of the Old Pathology Building and makes our second floor more virtually accessible to visitors who aren't able to use the stairs. An iPad with the app is now available upon request on any of our public tours. **If you'd like to help us purchase additional iPads to make the app available to even more visitors, please email Sarah Halter at shalter@imhm.org.**

Many thanks to Indiana Humanities, who funded the project, to Lindsay Kurburksy, who designed and developed the app, and to Corporate Network Services, who's wiring work extended the reach of our wifi, enabling the app's use throughout the building!

What's new?

IMHM Executive Director Sarah Halter is one of twelve people selected nationally to participate in the American Association for State and Local History's immersive training program *Developing History Leaders @SHA*.

Developing History Leaders @



Sarah and the Indiana Medical History Museum have participated in the program for several years providing a case study for students and leading discussions about the unusual challenges faced here. Now Sarah has the honor of joining their ranks as a member of the Class of 2017 and with a partial scholarship to help cover the costs. <https://historyleadership.org/>

From the AASLH press release:

“Dozens of History Leaders to Gather at SHA in Indianapolis

Indianapolis, IN—Nearly fifty leaders in the management of history organizations will gather in Indianapolis in November as part of *Developing History Leaders @SHA*, formerly known as the Seminar for Historical Administration. Three dozen nationally-recognized leaders will facilitate discussions on the best and future practices for executive management and leadership at museums, archives, historical societies, preservation organizations, historic sites, and heritage areas...

Since 1959, *Developing History Leaders @SHA* has provided history professionals the tools, ideas, and connections that allow them to become more effective leaders and managers. SHA is an immersive learning experience that combines theory and practice through presentations by experienced practitioners, facilitated discussions, case studies, provocative readings, interactive workshops, and field trips to a variety of local places that effectively use history...”



The SHA Class of 2016 visits the Indiana Medical History



Check out the IMHM photo gallery on the Cincinnati Refined website, which covers “the fine life in the Cincinnati, Ohio area” and beyond.

<http://cincinnati-refined.com/travel/photos-indiana-medical-history-museum-in-indianapolis>

Cincinnati Refined

What's New? continued



The Open Road with Jeremy Bradley

Canadian radio host Jeremy Bradley paid us a visit this summer while recording his travel radio show *On The Road with Jeremy Bradley* here in Indianapolis. Check out the photos from his visit and listen to an on air interview with Sarah Halter at <http://indy.jbonair.com/medical.html>.

Three new students begin internships this fall

Connor McBride is a graduate student in Public History. He expects to finish his M.A. next spring with a thesis on the history of Indiana's poor farms. "I first visited the museum in the Fall of 2014. [I was] conducting research on the Vigo County Poor Asylum or Poor Farm, which had recently become a topic of public discussion after part of its graveyard was uncovered in a construction project. These facilities were home to many people who were considered paupers, in need of state assistance to survive. Many among these people were classified as 'mental defectives.' It became clear that in various ways, these county poor farms had looked to Central State as a model and had structured themselves accordingly." Connor's internship here will last through the school year, and he will be helping with various exhibits and research projects among other things.



Allison Linn is an undergraduate History major from Columbus, Indiana. She is also working toward a Museum Studies certificate. She loves to work with people and will be assisting with program planning and leading public tours of the building. "I especially look forward to working with people in an environment that promotes education and an appreciation for the many idiosyncrasies found throughout history."



Melissa Dombrowski is also an undergraduate History major working towards a certificate in Museum Studies. She moved to Indianapolis from Chicagoland a few years ago. A special interest in the cultural history of science brought her to the museum, and she soon after began volunteering here as a docent. "I fell in love with it immediately. It was like actually being able to step back in time into an area of history that I am highly interested in. I miss Chicago, but the IMHM made my move to Indianapolis completely worthwhile." In her new role, Melissa will work on exhibits and head up planning of our Wizards Academy program.

New Donation to IMHM

In April of this year, we very gratefully received a donation of four apothecary jars from Ms. Harriet Schor, daughter of the late Dr. Louis Lemberger, PhD, MD. Dr. Lemberger was Director of Clinical Pharmacology at Eli Lilly and Co. and professor of Pharmacology, Toxicology, Medicine, and Psychiatry at IU School of Medicine. He received many respected awards and recognitions during his long career and authored two books: *The Physiologic Disposition of Drugs of Abuse* and, being an avid IU basketball and football fan, *Indiana: Where Basketball is King, or is it Knight? Confessions of an Indiana Hoosier Fan*.

Throughout his career, Dr. Lemberger collected over 100 apothecary jars ranging in size, purpose, and age. After his passing in the summer of 2016, Ms. Schor donated a portion of this collection to IMHM, so that his legacy and passion could live on. These bottles date back to the turn of the last century, an era in which pharmacists were called apothecaries or- more commonly in Britain- chemists. Apothecaries compounded many medicines in house according to doctors' prescriptions, rather than simply counting and dispensing manufactured medications as is most often the case today. These bottles held some of the ingredients from which medicines were prepared. They are made of green glass and have ribbed sides, indicating that their contents were poisons or dangerous drugs and should be used with caution. One bottle once contained an unusual compound called Syrup Eastonii, a mixture of strychnine and phosphates, sometimes with the addition of arsenic acid. The other three contained ammonia, chloral hydrate, and morphine.

Many thanks to Harriet Schor, who traveled great distances and devoted much time and energy in the donation and transportation of these jars. This is an exciting addition to our apothecary collection!



Indiana Medical History Museum

3045 West Vermont St.

Indianapolis, IN 46222-4943

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Indiana Medical History Museum

3045 West Vermont St.

Indianapolis, IN 46222

317-635-7329 • www.imhm.org

Museum Hours:

Wednesday - by appointment

Thursday-Saturday - 10am to
4pm; Tours begin on the
hour, and the last tour starts
at 3pm



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