



# First Look

March 2025



A group of people ready to get a tour of Historic New Harmony in 1988.  
Photo courtesy of the University of Southern Indiana Archives and Special Collections.

## VISIT NEW HARMONY IN 2025

This is always an exciting time of year for the University of Southern Indiana (USI) as Historic New Harmony (HNH) prepares to launch the 2025 tour season on March 11, welcoming visitors back to the Atheneum Visitors Center. There is much to celebrate this season as 2025 kicks off the 40th anniversary of USI's

management of HNH and the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art (NHGCA). We're also thrilled to celebrate NHGCA's 50th anniversary, and there will be plenty of activities and exhibits this year to commemorate the momentous occasion. Stay tuned for activities related to the bicentennial of the Owen-Maclure Experiment as well, including a specialty tour offered on March 13. There's always a lot to celebrate in New Harmony, and we hope you'll join us in Utopia during this momentous year!

**Diane Sanders**  
**Assistant Director of Historic New Harmony**

## 2025 TOUR SEASON

New Harmony, Indiana, is located in the Central Time Zone.

### REOPENING IN MARCH

Historic New Harmony is excited to announce the Atheneum Visitors Center will reopen for our 2025 tour season at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 11.

This year, we will continue to offer our daily tours: the New Harmony Tram Tour (a popular option for first-time visitors to town) and the New Harmony History Tour (a deeper dive into the town's past through HNH's historic sites and buildings). We also plan to offer special tours throughout 2025 exploring topics such as public art, architecture, women's history and geology.

We can customize our tours for a group's interests and schedule. Guided walking tours are available as well as "step-on" tours for tour buses. For questions about booking a group tour, contact David Angel at [dwangel@usi.edu](mailto:dwangel@usi.edu) or 812-682-3168.

The two best ways to keep informed about Historic New Harmony's tours, programs and events are through subscribing to this [monthly newsletter](#) and following us on social media.



### Tour Times and Prices

#### **Tram Tour** (45 minutes)

10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., Tuesday-Saturday

New Harmony residents: FREE

USI students, faculty, staff: FREE with USI ID

Children under 5: FREE

Adults and children over 5: \$5

#### **History Tour** (approximately two hours)

1 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday

New Harmony residents: FREE

USI students, faculty, staff: FREE with USI ID

Children under 5: FREE

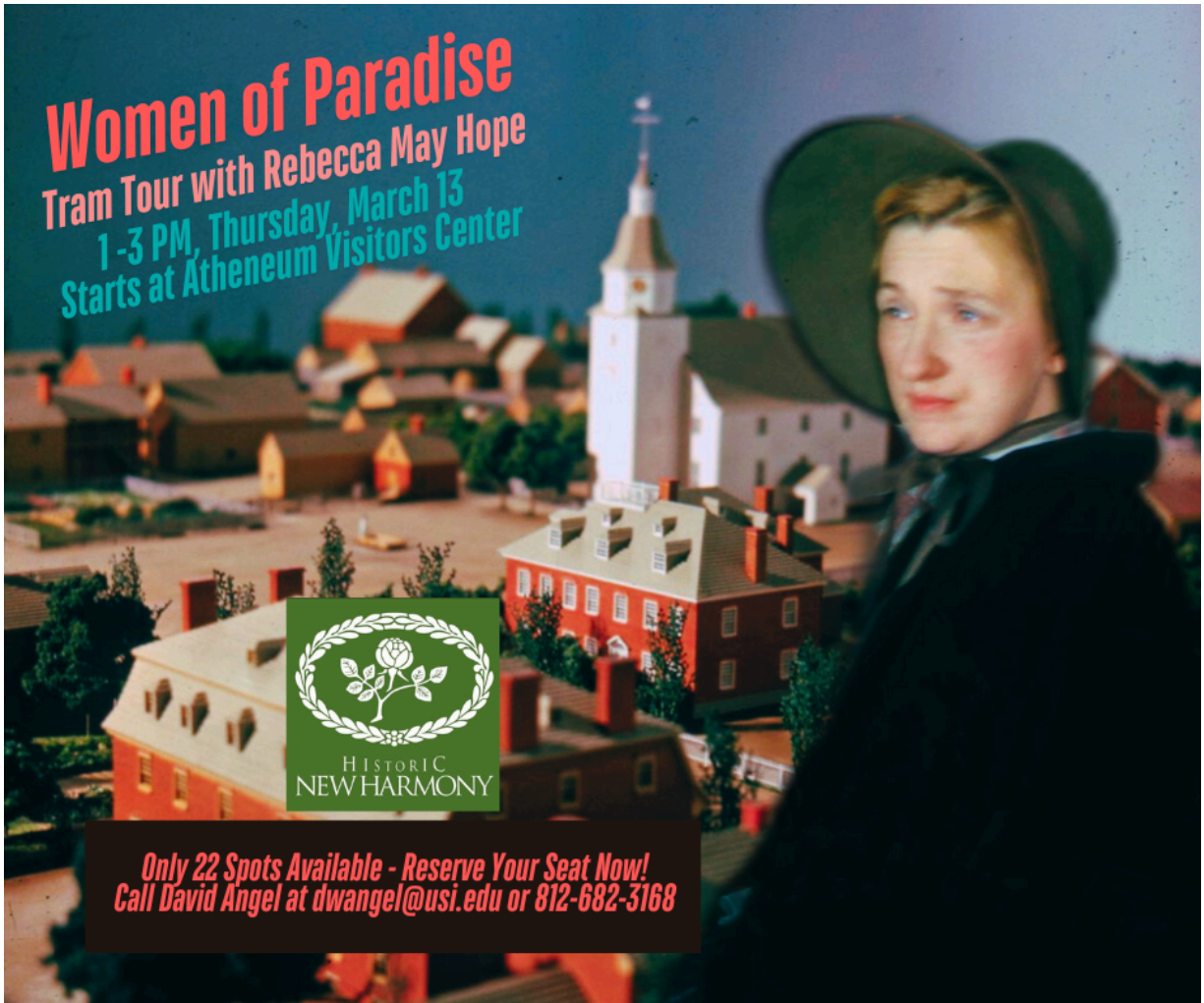
Student (age 6-18) and non-USI student with ID: \$5





Seniors (age 60+) and AAA members: \$12  
Adults: \$15

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Historic New Harmony

### "WOMEN OF PARADISE" TRAM TOUR WITH REBECCA MAY HOPE

In honor of Women's History Month, Historic New Harmony will host a specialty tram tour from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, March 13 with author and researcher Rebecca May Hope.

Rebecca May Hope is the 2023 recipient of the Arlene Feiner Memorial Research Grant for Women's Studies from the Working Men's Institute (WMI). During the tram tour, May Hope will share additional information about the female Boatloaders. Our route will start at the Atheneum Visitors Center and include stops in town associated with these women and their descendants. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about an aspect of New Harmony's past not often talked about in history books!

Seats on the tram tour are limited to 22 people and must be reserved. To make a reservation, please contact David Angel at [dwangel@usi.edu](mailto:dwangel@usi.edu) or 812-682-3168.

May Hope will also present her research on the women of the Boatload of Knowledge at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 12 at the WMI. Her presentation, *Women of Paradise: Legacy of the Female Boatloaders*, explores the stories and legacies of the women and girls who came to New Harmony in 1826. This event at the WMI is free and open to the public.

### Tour Prices

New Harmony residents: FREE

USI students, faculty, staff: FREE with USI ID

Children under 5: FREE

Student (age 6-18) and non-USI student with ID: \$5

Adults: \$10

# Talking History

10 AM Thursday, March 20 at New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art


Join Historic New Harmony for Talking History, a monthly gathering dedicated to sharing memories of the people, places, and events that make New Harmony special.

The topic for March 2025 is "Commerce in New Harmony."

Every memory matters. Every story builds our shared identity. Let's remember together!

Thank you to our cosponsor:

**NEW HARMONY GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY ART**  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA



Man examining the inside of the mouth of a boy in a general store in New Harmony, Indiana, February 1941. Image courtesy of University of Southern Indiana Archives and Special Collections.

Historic New Harmony

## TALKING HISTORY: COMMERCE IN NEW HARMONY

Join us for our next *Talking History* gathering at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 20 at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, located at 506 Main Street. Our topic will be Commerce in New Harmony.

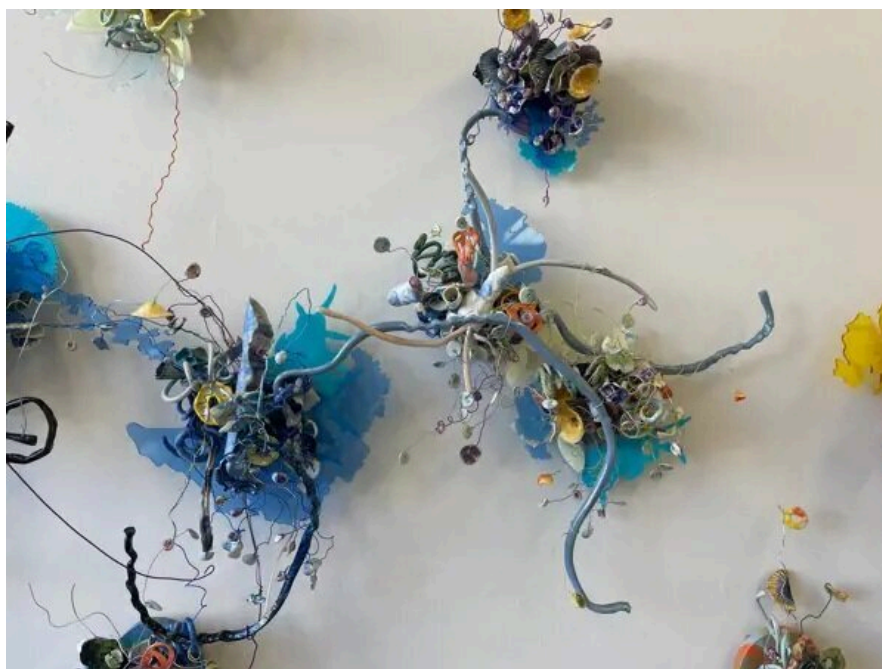
The discussion will include buying and selling in New Harmony, both past and present. What brought businesses to this town? Do you have any memories that you would like to share about stores or store owners? What did New Harmony offer residents and visitors in the past?

While at the *Talking History* gathering, participants can view the NHGCA's new exhibition, *Encountering: Io Palmer, Pavlina Vagioni and Anna Tsouhlarakis*. We will also have objects and materials from Historic New Harmony's collections related to trade and exchange.

We welcome community members, visitors to town and anyone else interested in New Harmony's history to this gathering. For more information, contact Heidi Taylor-Caudill at [hlaylorca@usi.edu](mailto:hlaylorca@usi.edu) or 812-682-6133.

LEARN MORE

## EXHIBITS



New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art

### ***ENCOUNTERING: IO PALMER, PAVLINA VAGIONI AND ANNA TSOUHLARAKIS*** **MARCH 1-APRIL 12**

New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art (NHGCA) proudly presents *Encountering: Io Palmer, Pavlina Vagioni and Anna Tsouhlarakis*, a three-person exhibition reflecting on themes of cross-cultural trade, exchange and diasporas. *Encountering* explores intersectional identities and cross-cultural frameworks over time: both themes concomitant with the overlapping histories comprising present-day New Harmony, Indiana. Works on view encompass sculpture, collage, assemblage and non-traditional art materials, foregrounding the ways in which approaches to material culture shift over time. *Encountering* offers timeless

yet interconnected perspectives on identity, investigating both the tensions and possibilities existing at global crossroads and the complexities that necessarily result.

LEARN MORE



New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, 506 Main Street.

New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art

## EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION

The opening reception for *Encountering: Io Palmer, Pavlina Vagioni and Anna Tsouhlarakis* will take place from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 1 at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, 506 Main Street in New Harmony.

SOCIAL MEDIA



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS PRESENTS:

# Archives Madness

*A friendly contest between area institutions vying for  
recognition for having the coolest artifact!*



**VISIT OUR BLOG  
FOR INFO AND TO VOTE!**

The 2025 Archives Madness competitors  
will be announced by early March!  
Visit our blog for more information.

***Voting starts March 10th!***

- March 17-23, 2025: Sweet 16
- March 24-March 30, 2025: Elite 8
- March 31-April 6, 2025: Final 4
- April 7-April 13, 2025: Championship
- April 14: Champion Revealed!

Image courtesy of University of Southern Indiana Archives and Special Collections.

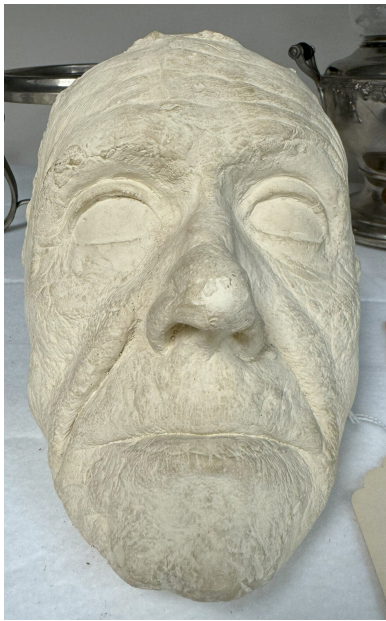
Historic New Harmony

**ARCHIVES MADNESS  
MARCH 10-APRIL 14**

Historic New Harmony is participating in this year's Archives Madness competition hosted by USI Archives and Special Collections, housed within David L. Rice Library on campus. Archives Madness is a friendly annual contest between institutions in the local area vying for recognition for having the coolest artifact. In early March, the USI Archives will introduce the institutions and their nominated artifacts. Starting on March 10, the public will have the chance to vote online for their favorites until a champion emerges.

Our two nominations for Archives Madness are pictured below: an 1809 life mask of Swiss educational reformer Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi and a pennant created in 1914 as a souvenir of New Harmony's Centennial Celebration.

Historic New Harmony will share more information about these artifacts and how to vote in the competition in early March on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Please consider helping us win the competition and earn bragging rights for having the coolest artifact in Southern Indiana!



Plaster life mask of Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi, 1809, from the Historic New Harmony Collection.



Felt pennant souvenir of the 1914 New Harmony Centennial Celebration, from the Historic New Harmony Collection.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

#### **Under the Beams: Biribá Union**

7:30 p.m. March 29 at Murphy Auditorium (417 Tavern Street)

Biribá Union features Mike Block (cello, vocals), Christylez Bacon (beatbox, guitar, rhymes) and Patricia Ligia (electric bass, pandeiro, vocals), forming a dynamic trio that blends original music with global influences, creating a fresh and accessible sound. Each member draws from their diverse backgrounds, such as Brazilian, Bluegrass, Jazz, Classical, Hip-Hop, Funk and Pop styles, synthesizing them through original compositions and songs that highlight their improvisational spontaneity and high-energy stage presentation.



### **Under the Beams: The Revelers**

7:30 p.m. April 12 at Murphy Auditorium (417 Tavern Street)

Cajun 'revelers' help celebrate our 25th anniversary season! Ambassadors of their Cajun musical heritage, and young revelers who know how to throw a party, take the stage and lead the way for the finale to our 25th year! The Revelers have been hailed as one of Louisiana's most exciting bands and bring not only traditional Acadian fiddle and accordion, but electric bass and guitar, drum set and saxophone! Members include Blake Miller, accordion; Chas Justus, guitar; Daniel Coolik, violin; Glenn Fields, drums; Trey Boudreaux, bass; and The Chris Miller, saxophone.

### ***50th Anniversary Print Invitational (co-organized by Brett Anderson and John P. Begley)***

April 19-May 10 at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art (506 Main Street)

Opening reception from 3-5 p.m. Saturday, April 19.

### ***Residence IX***

April-May at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art (506 Main Street)

This exhibition will spotlight artists-in-residence from the New Harmony Clay Project.

### **Heritage Artisans Days**

April 23-25 at the Atheneum Visitors Center (401 North Arthur Street)

Historic New Harmony will host its annual Heritage Artisans Days on April 23-25. Geared toward elementary school students, this program allows children to learn what life was like living in New Harmony, Indiana, in the early 1800s. Students will experience 19th-century history through interaction with historic interpreters who present their professions and roles, including paper marbling, blacksmithing and more! For more information, contact Historic New Harmony at 812-682-4488, email us at [harmony@usi.edu](mailto:harmony@usi.edu) or visit our [website](#).

### **New Harmony Firefly Festival**

June 27-28 at the Atheneum Visitors Center (401 North Arthur Street)

The annual Firefly Festival in New Harmony, Indiana, is presented by One New Harmony and Historic New Harmony to honor Indiana's state insect, "Say's Firefly," and Thomas Say, the Father of American Entomology. More information to come on the 2025 festival.

### **Independence Day Celebration**

July 4 at the Atheneum Visitors Center (401 North Arthur Street) and Maclure Park (Church Street)

Join us at the Atheneum on July 4 for an Independence Day Celebration in partnership with the Friends of the Working Men's Institute. The celebration includes a keynote speech by Andrew Wilson and a reading of the Declaration of Independence. A golf cart parade follows the event at the Atheneum and ends at Maclure Park with a community picnic. More information to come.

Help Historic New Harmony continue its historic preservation efforts, educational programming, and more with your charitable gift to the USI Foundation. You can make your gift securely online at [USI.edu/giving](https://usi.edu/giving), calling 812-464-1918, or mailing to USI Foundation, 8600 University Blvd., Evansville, IN 47712. Your charitable gift is tax-deductible, and a gift receipt will be issued.



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