



QUANTUM LEAP RADIO/PODCAST SERIES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

As part of its new Quantum Leap thematic initiative, Indiana Humanities seeks an experienced podcast and/or radio producer for the creation and distribution of a new series of short audio vignettes sharing moments of scientific discovery, creation and innovation in Indiana's past and present. The goal is to launch our first batch of episodes in March 2017. Read below for additional details.

About Indiana Humanities

Indiana Humanities is a statewide nonprofit dedicated to promoting the public humanities. We're a grant-maker, a neutral convener, a facilitator, a program partner, and much more.

In short, Indiana Humanities encourages Hoosiers to **think, read and talk**. How? By creating its own programs, such as ALL-IN, INconversation, Novel Conversations, Chew on This, Community Conversations and more; by providing grants for humanities programs throughout the state; and by providing a space—physically and digitally—for people to connect and converse.

We promote the public humanities and engage Indiana's community of minds to create stronger, more vibrant communities. Using literature, history, art, music, philosophy and our shared cultural heritage, we strive to help Hoosiers better understand themselves and the world around them.

About Quantum Leap

Indiana Humanities' new statewide initiative Quantum Leap, launching in March 2017, explores and celebrates the spirit of possibility and problem-solving that occurs when we bridge the humanities with science, technology, engineering, math and medicine.

Through this multi-year theme, we'll engage Hoosiers in discussions about moral and ethical dilemmas, learn more about how we accept and embrace change (or don't), and more. Our goal is to expose new audiences to both the humanities and STEM fields. We'll create our own programs that do that, by tapping into Indiana's greatest scientific minds and touring fascinating sites of scientific discovery. And we'll provide grants and resources to other organizations that do that—through our traditional grants program, a statewide read, and more. Along the way, we will inspire groups to use the topic and create their own programming, activating networks across the state.

Ready to make the leap with us? Read below for a project description of the radio series and our goals.

Our Need

We are currently seeking an imaginative, motivated and efficient producer to guide the creation of a series of short audio stories sharing moments of scientific discovery, creation and innovation in Indiana's past and present. Our goal is an artfully and professionally-produced narrative series—think mini-*Memory Palace* episodes—that will highlight and celebrate the legacy of Hoosier ingenuity.

We currently envision each episode lasting 1-3 minutes (the ultimate length may be determined by our distribution partners) that will be broadcast on Indiana radio stations and released as podcasts. While the final number of episodes is TBD, we're ambitious, with a minimum of 26 and maximum of 52 episodes.

This RFP covers the first year of episodes with the option to renew through the end of 2018 (21 months total). We envision the production of the series in “batches,” with the first 6-10 episodes ready by March 1, and delivery of similar-sized batches every few months thereafter. Indiana Humanities is currently seeking a broadcast partner for distribution, though the producer will be responsible for setting up and maintaining the podcast feed.

The producer will advise on all technical specifications. His or her advice on set-up for podcast platform and promotion is welcome.

The producer will work with the Indiana Humanities team to generate possible story ideas and topics, then he or she will take the ball and run with it: research, interviews, scripting, recording, editing and mixing. The IH communications team will be involved with helping to establish tone, style and recurring themes for the series.

The ideal candidate is ambitious, seeing this project as a career-making opportunity to creatively engage a statewide audience around the question of how Hoosiers have, do and could innovate in the STEM fields to create a better—healthier, happier, more prosperous, more fair—society. We’re eager to find someone who loves delving in to a big project and finding ways to make it his or her own. We need someone who is an excellent communicator, not only crafting stories that inspire and intrigue, but who is also able to respond in a timely and professional manner to questions and ideas from the Indiana Humanities team. It’s imperative that the candidate be organized as well as able to meet deadlines. The perfect producer loves a bit of historical research while also being a voracious consumer of the news, always on the lookout for potential stories for the series. A side passion for science, invention and innovation doesn’t hurt.

It probably goes without saying that we’d prefer to hire an Indiana-based producer! If he or she is not based in Indianapolis, occasional travel to the IH offices Indianapolis will be expected. Within reason and with prior approval, travel costs related to the research and production of the series will be covered by IH.

We’re incredibly excited to tackle this project, which is a new format for Indiana Humanities. The right person will have a big hand in shaping the series and be a trusted partner of our small but mighty team.

Budget + Timeline

We have budgeted \$10,000 for the production of our first year of episodes. This budget includes the producer’s time for research and production. We may also ask the producer to advise on the additional purchase of equipment, software and subscription fees, including drafting a budget.

Once a candidate has been selected, Indiana Humanities and the producer will create an MOU outlining deliverables including a content calendar and a timeline for delivery of episode “batches” (assuming weekly episodes between March and December 2017, that’s between 40-43 episodes). Payout of the fee will be tied to successful completion of items in the MOU. As soon as a candidate has been selected and the MOU has been drafted, work can begin. Depending on timing, Indiana Humanities is interested in producing 1-2 “model” episodes by the end of 2016 to allow for time to shop around to potential sponsors/underwriters.

To Apply

Please email a cover letter, resume/CV, two relevant samples of your work, and at least one reference to Kristen Wells, director of communications and development at Indiana Humanities (kwells@indianahumanities.org). In your cover letter, be sure to explain how you meet the qualifications listed above and feel free to share your initial ideas for how the project would take shape under your leadership. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the right candidate is found.

Contact

Kristen Wells, director of communications and development, Indiana Humanities
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