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## **Indiana Humanities names Monroe County History Center Staff Member May Wright Sewall Fellow**

BLOOMINGTON, IN – In honor of the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, Indiana Humanities is spearheading several initiatives with the Indianapolis Propylaeum, the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Historical Bureau. Together, these organizations are catalyzing the Indiana Women's Suffrage Centennial commemorating the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 2020. Hilary Fleck, Collection Manager of the Monroe County History Center, was named one of four in Indiana to receive the May Wright Sewall Fellowship awarded by Indiana Humanities. The fellowship provides funding for researchers to dig into the hidden history of Hoosier women's fight for the right to vote and the role they played in the national suffrage movement—especially the role of women of color and working-class women.

“We’re very proud of Hilary for being chosen to receive this fellowship. It’s a wonderful honor. The information she unearths will be the cornerstone of our 2020 exhibition exploring the suffrage movement in Monroe County,” said Susan Dyar, Director of the Monroe County History Center. Each fellow selected will use Indiana-based archives and collections to explore and expand upon what is known of Indiana women’s 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.

“I am honored to be one of the few selected for the May Wright Sewall Fellowship,” said Hilary Fleck, Collections Manager of the History Center. “I’m excited by the opportunity to explore several Indiana collections to unearth the Monroe County women who participated in the suffrage movement and all those who, through civic organizations or political office, transformed our community into the wonderful place it is today.”

The 2020 exhibition entitled *VOTES FOR WOMEN: Monroe County Women and the Suffrage Movement* will be open and free to the public on the first floor of the History Center Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. For more information on upcoming events at the Monroe County History Center for the women’s suffrage centennial, visit [monroehistory.org](http://monroehistory.org). And for more information on events across the state, visit [indianasuffrage100.org](http://indianasuffrage100.org).

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