

INDIANA BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION 140 N. SENATE AVE., ROOM 410

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REBECCA S. SKILLMAN, Chair FORMER LT. GOVERNOR LEE HAMILTON, Chair FORMER U.S. REPRESENTATIVE KAREN PENCE, Ambassador FIRST LADY OF INDIANA

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Indiana Bicentennial Commission Launches Legacy Project Endorsement Process and New Website

Indianapolis, IN –The Indiana Bicentennial Commission today launched an endorsement process to promote and support external legacy projects across the state.

Bicentennial Legacy Projects are those generated by community partners and organizations and approved by the Indiana Bicentennial Commission through an endorsement process.

"From the day we were tasked to lead this important project, we have encouraged communities and groups from across the state to think about ways they can contribute to our state's Bicentennial. These projects will strive to leave a lasting legacy in honor of Indiana's 2016 Bicentennial," said former Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, former Congressman Lee Hamilton and First Lady Karen Pence in a joint statement.

Projects are required to meet one of the following criteria: Culturally inclusive; Creating a legacy for the future; Celebratory; and Engaging and inspiring to youth and young adults.

For those interested in Legacy Projects that commemorate Indiana's 2016 Bicentennial in the years leading up to and during 2016, visit www.indiana2016.org. A downloadable application can be found on the website.

Recently launched, www.indiana2016.org is the official Indiana Bicentennial website. On the website, meet commission members, follow the progress of key Bicentennial focuses, learn about state-wide events and help "Celebrate history, Ignite the future".

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About the 2016 Indiana Bicentennial Commission (IBC)

In December 2011, former Governor Mitch Daniels appointed a fifteen member commission, chaired by former Lt. Governor Becky Skillman and former Congressman Lee Hamilton, to oversee the planning and execution of a statewide celebration for Indiana's 200th birthday. Indiana's 2016 Bicentennial celebration aims to honor our state's 200 years of history, but do so in a modern way that engages all 6.5 million Hoosiers and leaves a lasting legacy for future generations. The commission will encourage each community in Indiana to take part in this unique celebration. First Lady Karen Pence serves as the official Bicentennial Ambassador.