

fear About

Hamilton County Tourism News

Love Thy Neighborhood

There's no doubt Nickel Plate Arts loves its neighbors, and that work in bringing arts and culture to communities from Fishers to Tipton, will be recognized later this month as it is a finalist for the Love Thy Neighborhood Award in Indianapolis.

Indy's Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) developed the regional award to showcase people, projects and organizations that are transforming neighborhoods. It also celebrates the entity's 25th anniversary as a community change agent.

Hamilton County Tourism and Visit Indy joined forces to support the regional initiative and are among the sponsors of the award that provides \$5,000 to winners in each of five categories: livability, opportunity, vitality, education and a people's choice award, called the LOVE award. The presentation is April 27 when the finalists and award winners will be recognized.

"There is so much great work going on throughout our communities, and these new awards will recognize those who have made outstanding progress," said LISC of Indianapolis Executive Director Bill Taft. "Not only do we want to tell stories, but we want to encourage even more people to get involved."

Hamilton County Tourism founded Nickel Plate Arts in 2012 and continues to invest in its future. The organization brings opportunities for visual, written and performing arts by supporting the six communities along the historic railroad namesake. Learn more about Nickel Plate Arts at <u>NickelPlateArts.org</u>.



Taking the show on the road

The national Simpleview Summit features HCT staffers Megann Kramer and Jordan Musall as panelists this month in Tucson. Kramer, database assistant, presented insights on how to engage visitors with the right questions and how to mine data to support marketing. Musall, digital marketing coordinator, was on a culinary trails panel. He talked about the success of Hamilton County Tourism's Tenderloin Trail, which included explaining exactly what a tenderloin is to most of the 900 participants of the annual Simpleview Summit many of whom aren't familiar with the Midwestern delicacy.

Simpleview provides customer relationship management and content management systems to destination marketing organizations, like Hamilton County Tourism.



Gearing up for National Tourism and Travel Week

Hamilton County Tourism promotes the benefits of traveling to Hamilton County 365 days a year, but the organization will offer a few fun extras where visitors and local residents can win prizes during National Tourism and Travel Week, May 7-13.

Follow HCT @VisitHamiltonCo on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> and watch for #PinPrizes featured at different locations throughout Hamilton County. The first person to go to the location will claim the prize. HCT encourages winners to share their experiences and photos on social media.

National Travel and Tourism Week was established by a congressional resolution in 1983. The tourism industry supports the livelihoods of more than 15 million people throughout the US and more than 13 thousand in Hamilton County.



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