

AZA 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Race to Indy: Champion City

Live Like an Indianapolis Local

#AZA2017

If you want to know why we think our city is such a great place to visit, here are a few reasons why. We hope you have the opportunity to take in some of the sights, food and entertainment Indianapolis has to offer. Welcome to Indy!

FOODIES

“One of Indy’s can’t-miss experiences is a stroll along [Massachusetts Avenue](#). Fondly known as “Mass Ave.” by locals, this seven-block stretch of shops and restaurants angles away from the city center into the northeast quadrant of downtown Indianapolis. It’s the perfect place to grab dinner or a cocktail after a long day at the conference, or find the perfect souvenir at one of the many unique shops selling locally made goods.”

Erika Allen, Senior Marine Mammal Trainer, Indianapolis Zoo

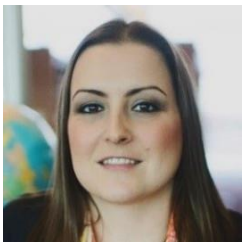
“One of my favorite things to do in Indy is to explore the city’s hot spots along the Cultural Trail on a bike. First stop? [TwoDEEP Brewing](#). Second stop? A world-class brunch at [Milktooth](#). Keep moving south through [Fountain Square](#) where the Cultural Trail turns into Pleasant Run Trail and head to the [Garfield Park Farmers Market](#) (if you’re around 9am-12:30pm on Saturday). Afterward, take a stroll through the Garfield Park’s Sunken Gardens and pop over to the [Conservatory](#) to see exotic plants, a waterfall and a koi pond!” *Linda Broadfoot, Director of Indy Parks*

“Hungry? Get the best pho at [Egg Roll No. 1](#) on Emerson Avenue, fire up the Korean barbecue at [Bando](#) on Pendleton Pike, and eat incredible tacos at [El Taco Veloz](#), a food truck that’s located just west of the Zoo on the near west side.”

Marisol Gouveia, Director of Membership & Engagement, Indianapolis Zoo

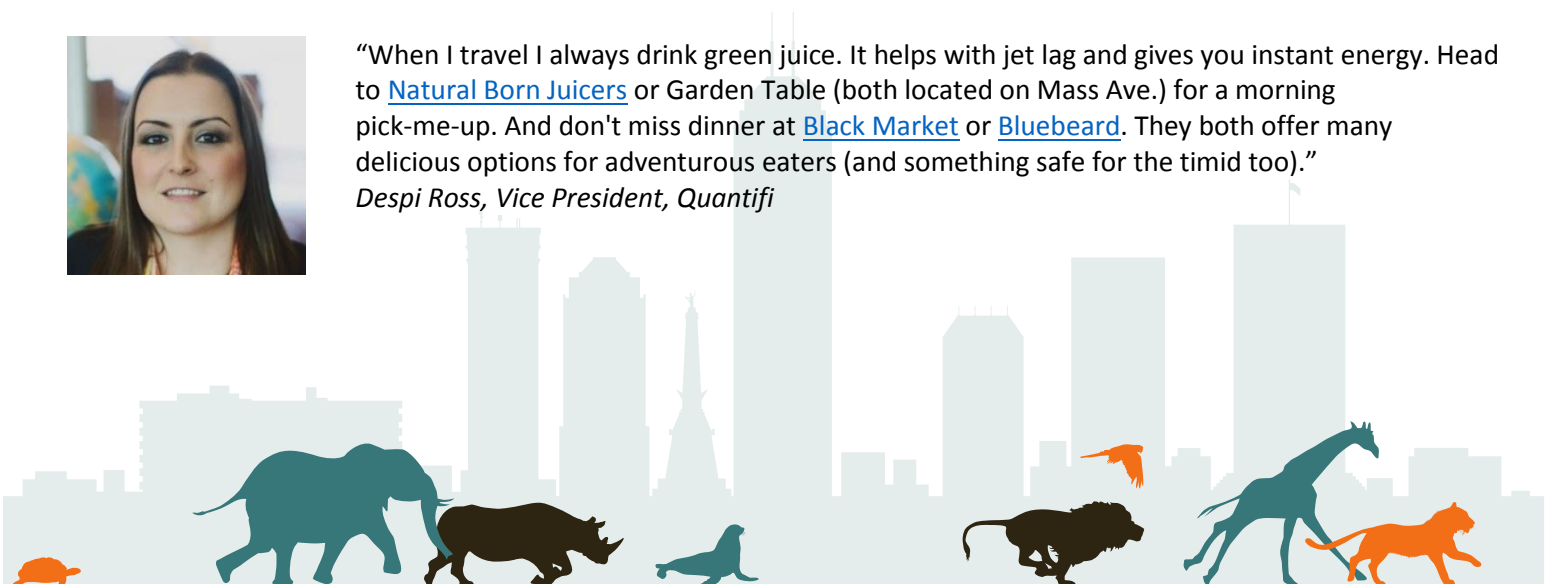


“What I enjoy about Indianapolis is that there is hustle and bustle, but also quiet places to duck into for some peace. [Coat Check Coffee](#) in the lobby of the [Athenaeum](#) on Mass Ave. is a new favorite. The baristas and the décor are charming and the coffee is the best in town.” *Heather Hall, Jack of all trades, master of none*



“When I travel I always drink green juice. It helps with jet lag and gives you instant energy. Head to [Natural Born Juicers](#) or Garden Table (both located on Mass Ave.) for a morning pick-me-up. And don't miss dinner at [Black Market](#) or [Bluebeard](#). They both offer many delicious options for adventurous eaters (and something safe for the timid too).”

Despi Ross, Vice President, Quantifi



“Here’s what you need to do: grab drinks and small snacks or a Cuban sandwich at [Plat 99](#) in the Alexander Hotel and embark on an art tour through the hotel’s halls and to the [Indianapolis Museum of Contemporary Art](#) (housed in the Alexander). Then head to Mass Ave. to sample some Scotch eggs and down a beer at [MacNivens](#). Or if you think ahead, grab a bottle of wine, buy some cheese and meats from Goose the Market on Delaware Street, and head to the Downtown Canal for a great picnic.” *Eli Laidlaw, Sous Chef, Alexander Hotel and Plat 99*



“Indianapolis is well-known for a variety of high-end steak houses. The most popular is [St. Elmo’s](#). It can be a tough table to get; however, just down the street is [Harry and Izzy’s](#), which offers most of the same menu and is walkable from the Convention Center. Indy has lots of other quality dining options in the Fletcher Place neighborhood. Milktooth and Bluebeard are excellent, and my favorite pizza joint, [South of Chicago Pizza](#), is right on Virginia Avenue. Check out Mass Ave. for more dining options and night life. Of course, don’t miss the [Slippery Noodle Inn](#), Indianapolis’s most well-known location for nightly live blues music.” *Tim Littig, Plains Area Manager, Indianapolis Zoo*

“There’s so much to do! Rent a bike from the [Pacers Bikeshare](#) and ride the Cultural Trail to Mass Ave. Eat at [Stella](#), [Garden Table](#) or [Bru Burger](#). Uber or Lyft up to 54th and College Ave. to dine outside at [Fat Dan’s](#). The food is great and the people watching is fun.” *Mary McClung, photographer and visual artist; owner Mary McClung Photography*

“I have been an Indianapolis downtown resident now for four years, and my favorite places represent some of the things I like to do. When I am hungry, I like [Good Morning Mama's](#) and [Milktooth](#) for brunch, [Bazbeaux Pizza](#) and [Duos Kitchen](#) for lunch, [Marco’s Restaurant and Lounge](#) and [English Ivy's](#) for lunch and dinner, and [Mesh Restaurant](#) and [Northside Social](#) when I am feeling ‘fancy!’” *Steve Wagoner, County Extension Director, Purdue University Extension-Marion County*

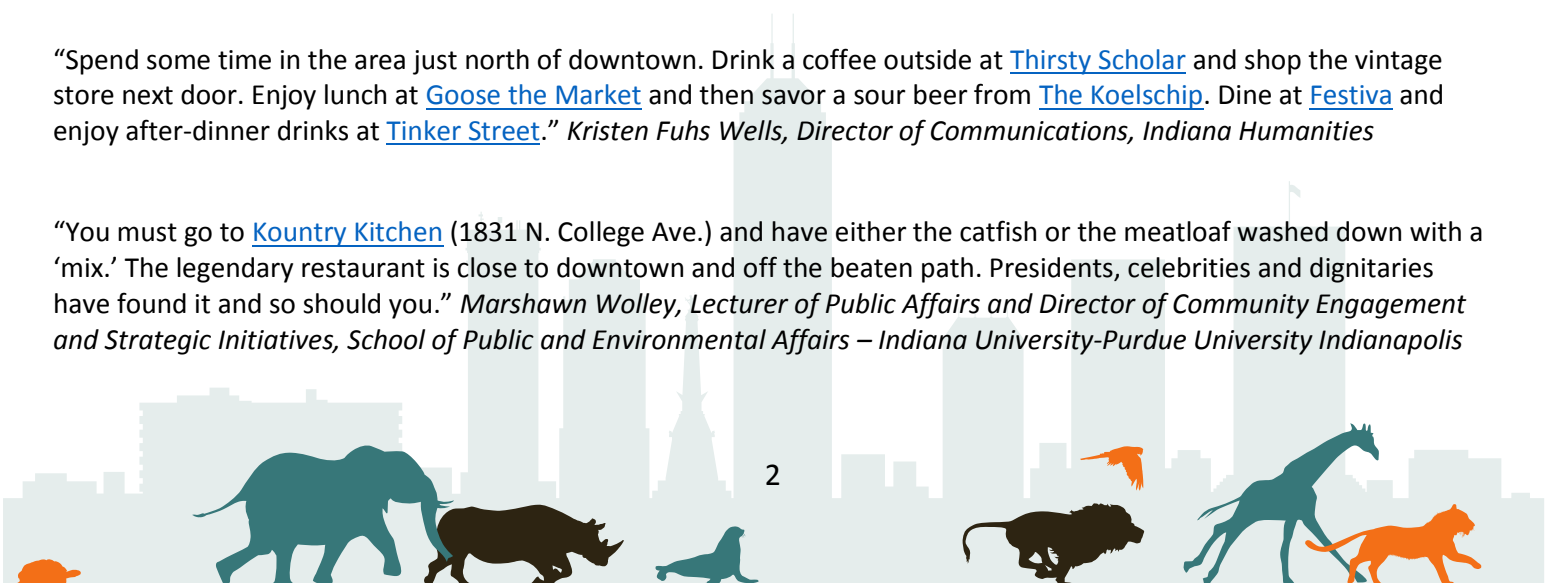
“Indianapolis is known as ‘No Mean City.’ This captures both our legendary Hoosier hospitality and our penchant for understatement. To live like a local, sample generously from our wide assortment of native beers (including [Sun King](#), [Flat 12](#) and [Triton](#)), craft beverages ([Hotel Tango](#), [Ash & Elm](#) and [New Day](#)), and local food purveyors ([Goose the Market](#), [Rook](#) and [Tinker Street](#)). Along the way be sure to walk, bike or hike downtown Indy and enjoy the Circle City’s extraordinary public art, monuments and museums — you’ll find nothing ‘mean’ about it!”

Charlie Hyde, President & CEO, Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site



“Spend some time in the area just north of downtown. Drink a coffee outside at [Thirsty Scholar](#) and shop the vintage store next door. Enjoy lunch at [Goose the Market](#) and then savor a sour beer from [The Koelsch](#). Dine at [Festiva](#) and enjoy after-dinner drinks at [Tinker Street](#).” *Kristen Fuhs Wells, Director of Communications, Indiana Humanities*

“You must go to [Kountry Kitchen](#) (1831 N. College Ave.) and have either the catfish or the meatloaf washed down with a ‘mix.’ The legendary restaurant is close to downtown and off the beaten path. Presidents, celebrities and dignitaries have found it and so should you.” *Marshawn Wolley, Lecturer of Public Affairs and Director of Community Engagement and Strategic Initiatives, School of Public and Environmental Affairs – Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis*



HISTORY BUFFS

“[The Old Northside Historic Neighborhood](#), just north of downtown, features gorgeous, stately Victorian-era homes, historic points of interest and pocket parks. One of the coolest that I’ve discovered is Great Oak Commons. According to the signage, Great Oak is ‘a Victorian walking park for contemplation and reflection.’ The well-manicured grounds feature a gazebo, fountain and fancy benches for sitting.”

Ebony Marie Chappel, multimedia journalist



“I love history and beer, and Indianapolis is a great city to indulge in both. [Indiana City Brewing](#), 24 Shelby St., is within walking distance from downtown. The brewery is housed in a building that originally housed another brewery in the early 20th Century, The Home Brewing Company. The Home Brewing Company played a crucial role during the devastating floods of 1913 that inundated much of current downtown Indianapolis. The brewery was one of the only sources for fresh water after flood waters knocked out the city’s water purification plant. Sadly for Indianapolis, the Home Brewing Company went out of business in 1922 when prohibition went into effect. Emblazoned on the wall of the current taproom is a message penned by the owners of the original brewery on the eve of prohibition:

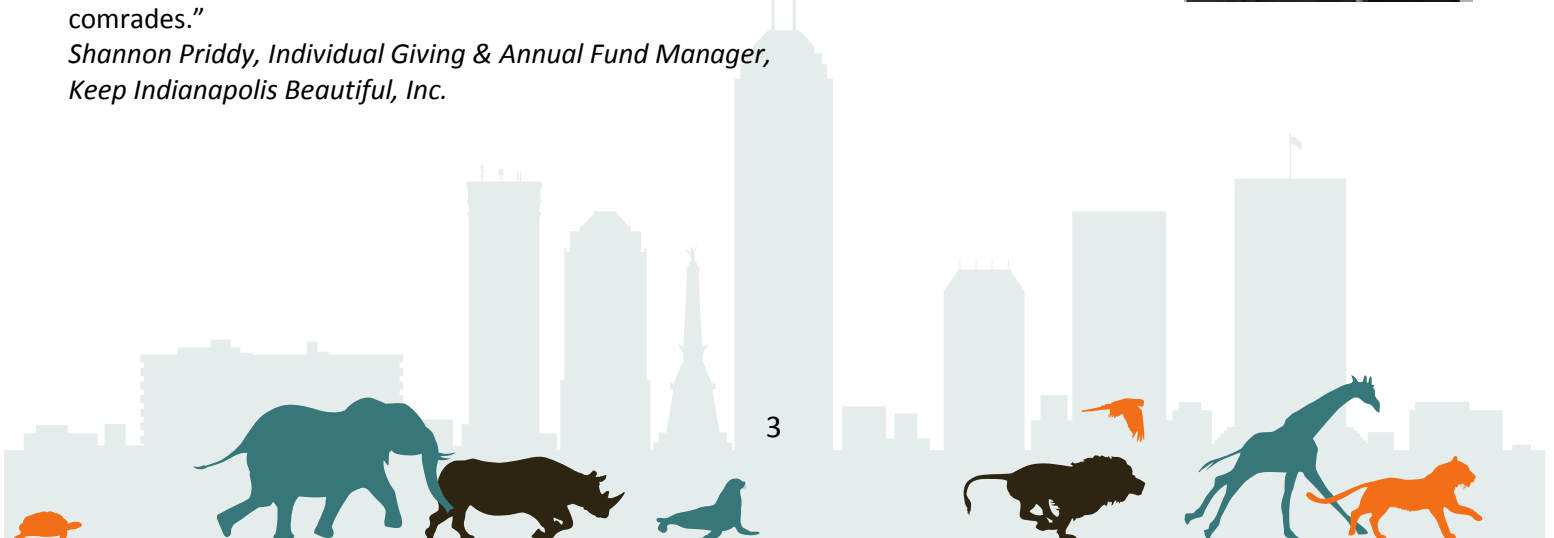
‘The day will again dawn upon Indiana, when a man can drink what he wants, when personal liberty will be again a citizen’s right.’

More than 90 years later that prophecy was fulfilled again in the old building on Shelby Street. My favorite brew to toast personal liberty at Indiana City is Shadow Boxer, an oatmeal stout.”

Paul Grayson, Executive Vice President, Indianapolis Zoo

“The [Indiana War Memorial Museum](#) is inspired by a neoclassical design. This magnificent building has three main floors. On the upper level is the breathtaking [Shrine Room](#), symbolizing peace and unity, made of materials from all over the world, symbolic of the worldwide nature of the ‘Great War.’ The 24 blood-red pillars made of Vermont marble support the vast ceiling. Hanging in the center of the room is the Star of Destiny made of Swedish crystal to guide the welfare of the nation. Below that is the flag of the United States. In the center of the room, below the flag, is the Altar of Consecration, the altar to the flag. The altar inspires good citizenship and is a place to remember fallen soldiers and comrades.”

Shannon Priddy, Individual Giving & Annual Fund Manager, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc.



NATURE LOVERS

“If you would like to escape the city, Indianapolis has several parks, within an easy driving distance, that are perfect for soaking in some nature during your visit. [Eagle Creek Park](#), is the fourth largest municipal park in the nation and is my favorite place to run. It is also a local favorite for bird watching and kayaking.”

Teri Baker, Indianapolis Prize Program and Event Coordinator, Indianapolis Zoo

“The Midwest has long been the nation’s breadbasket, offering produce feeding millions coast to coast. So, it’s fitting that Indianapolis would embrace urban gardening and the [slow food](#) movement. Heaps of kitchen gardens have sprouted across the city; young and old alike cultivating healthier eating habits and community. Started in 2010 with one urban farm, [Growing Places](#) now has [three farms](#) across the city and dozens of pocket gardens. One of the best features is a weekly [U-pick farm stand](#) (4-7pm on Thursdays) at the [Boner Fitness & Learning Center](#), which our daughter affectionately calls ‘Big Garden.’ Stroll the garden, and discover new and much loved produce. Be aware, you won’t be the only creatures enjoying the garden. Growing Places Indy is home to countless pollinators, beneficial insects, birds, and small mammals, preserving nature in the heart of Indianapolis.”

Adam Clevenger, Philanthropist, nonprofit geek, shameless selfies taker, food and garden photographer

“Want to get in a quick hike? Head east to [Fort Benjamin Harrison](#) and jump on the hilly and gorgeous Lawrence Creek Trail.” *Marisol Gouveia, Director of Membership & Engagement, Indianapolis Zoo*



“My favorite outdoor spots in Indianapolis are the ones that showcase nature along with something unexpected. I love the classic beauty of the [Garfield Park Conservatory and Sunken Gardens](#), and they’re particularly picturesque in the evenings with the lighted fountains. [Holliday Park](#) features 3.5 miles of easy and scenic hiking trails, and the architectural remnants of a 19th century New York skyscraper make up the park’s centerpiece, called the Ruins. The paved [White River Wapahani Trail](#) runs along the western edge of downtown and provides some of the best views of the city. It’s an ideal spot for a run or short bike ride, but be sure to slow down to enjoy the carved sculptures along the limestone path that’s tucked behind the Indianapolis Zoo.”

Carla Knapp, Public Relations Specialist, Indianapolis Zoo

“My family’s favorite thing about Indianapolis is the network of walking and biking paths. The [Cultural Trail](#) stretches through all the downtown cultural districts (and out to the Zoo!) and makes for a beautiful way to see Indianapolis, from great restaurants to world-class cultural destinations to the big sports venues.”

Megan McKinney Cooper, Director of Marketing and Development, Early Learning Indiana

“Welcome to Indy! You’ve landed in one of the best cities in the country. For any free time you may have, get out and explore some of my favorite Indy amenities like the [Monon Trail](#), a rail-to-trail path that’s been deemed one of the busiest greenways in the country. You can rent bikes from our downtown bike hub and head north on the trail from downtown. Hop on and off your bike for some of my favorite stops along the way like the [Gallery Pastry Shop](#), [Locally Grown Gardens](#) or [Public Greens](#). It’s a great way to see a different corner of Indy!”

Morgan Snyder, Director of Public Relations, Visit Indy



“Take a short trip north to the [Indianapolis Museum of Art](#) to enjoy its outstanding collection and stunning grounds. The IMA's campus includes the beautiful [Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park](#) (locally known as 100 Acres). The IMA is a great place to take in art and nature. If you have extra time, stop by [Hank's Smoked Briskets](#), which is right next to the Dairy Queen just south of the IMA. It's one of the great BBQ gems of the city!”
Barry Wormser, Principal Attorney, Wormser Legal



URBAN ADVENTURES



“If you are into music in the evenings, but not into cover bands, check out the [Hi-Fi](#) and/or [Radio Radio](#) in Fountain Square. Both offer a relaxed setting for live music, especially surrounded by the fabulous food and spirits in the area. If live music isn't your scene but laughing is, check out [ComedySportz](#) on Mass Ave., home to a local improv group that will be sure to leave you with a perma-smile.”

Lisa Bockoski, Guest Experience Manager, Indianapolis Zoo

“If you're a fan of Slaughterhouse Five author Kurt Vonnegut, check out the 38-foot-tall mural of our hometown bard that towers over the heart of Massachusetts Avenue. Then take a leisurely walk across downtown to the [Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library](#) (340 N. Senate), where you can peck out a poem on his baby blue typewriter. To top it off, enjoy a Reverend Palmer — one of Indy's best bourbon cocktails — at [Bluebeard](#), located in the uber-hip Fletcher Place and another Vonnegut novel namesake. Kurt is famous for once having said, 'What people like about me is Indianapolis.' We hope you'll like all the Circle City has to offer too.” *Emily Brelage, Senior Account Executive, VOX Global*

“Here's a checklist for you. Have fun!”

- [Indianapolis Motor Speedway](#) tour:
Kiss the bricks, take a bus ride around the track, visit the [Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum](#)
- [Walk the Downtown Canal](#)
- [Eagle Creek Park](#)
- Climb the [Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument](#) and get a nice view of downtown (there is an elevator, too!)
- Visit the [City Market](#) to eat, drink and shop.
- [Segway tour](#) of downtown Indianapolis
- [Sun King Brewery](#)

Kayli Cole, Account Representative, Indianapolis Zoo

Tip: The first 200 AZA attendees receive free entry to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum with conference badge.

“Get out and explore Fletcher Place and Fountain Square. In Fletcher Place, experience drinks (and food!) at [Rook](#) and stop in [The Dugout](#) to enjoy a great neighborhood bar. Hop on over to Fountain Square for [duckpin bowling](#), a beverage at [Thunderbird](#) and a tremendous view of the city from the top of the [Fountain Square Theatre Building](#). And absolutely wander around downtown Indianapolis and see all the beautiful buildings, including the [Indiana Repertory Theatre!](#)”

Danielle M. Dove, Director of Marketing & Sales, Indiana Repertory Theatre

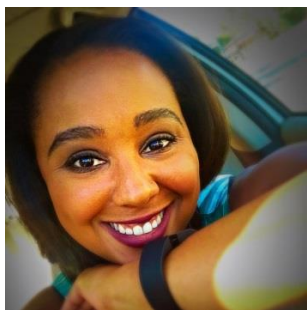


“Ride-sharing apps allow you to explore Indy like a local with a click of a button! Like live jazz? Take a quick trip up to Broad Ripple to catch a show at the [Jazz Kitchen](#) or stay downtown and hang out at the [Chatterbox](#) on Mass Ave. Like good beer? Head north on College Avenue to [Twenty Tap](#) for the best curated beer list in town.

Marisol Gouveia, Director of Membership & Engagement, Indianapolis Zoo

“Indy is a stellar place to wander around. Downtown holds the [Madame Walker Theatre](#) — a cultural landmark in the remarkable, historic urban corridor that is Indiana Avenue. It was a global beacon for the African-American and arts communities. Ask for a tour with Mr. Ridley, the theatre's oldest docent who was witness to the prime of the avenue's existence. On the east side of Indy sits Walter "Lobyn" Hamilton's new art studio. Decked out in some of his most engaging work, guests can hang out in the lounge, listen to an array of tunes and chat with the internationally known vinyl record artist about his vision. In Uptown, you'll find Ben and Janneane at [PrintText](#), the city's only Boutique Periodical Shoppe. It is a wonderful place to kick back, have a chat about avant-garde art and peruse some quirky reading material. Say 'hi' to Huckleberry and Molly, the Shoppe pups.”

Danicia Monet, Urban Planner and Researcher/Arts and Culture Policy Advocate



“Welcome to Indy! It’s the biggest walkable-connected-friendly town on Earth (or at least I think so). While you're in town be sure to download the [ClusterTruck](#) app and have them deliver you something tasty. Also, make sure to hop on the Pacers Bikeshare and tour the Cultural Trail. While you're at it, don't forget to be the 'I' in Indy by posing with one of the ['NDY' sculptures](#) and post with #LoveIndy to your social media!”

Adrienne Slash, President, The Exchange at the Indianapolis Urban League; Diversity Consultant, Community Health Network

Tip: Take your picture with an “I”NDY sculpture on Zoo Day in front of the International Orangutan Center.



“Staying in downtown Indy, you’re likely already familiar with [White River State Park](#) and the Cultural Trail. Why not check out some attractions that are geared toward kids but are awesome for grown-ups, too? The [Rhythm Discovery Center](#), a hands-on gallery devoted to percussion instruments, is near the center of downtown. If you’re willing to drive, The [Children’s Museum of Indianapolis](#) is not only the biggest children’s museum in the world, it is hands-down the best. Farther out from the city, in the northeastern suburb of Fishers, is [Conner Prairie](#), a living history museum that tells the story of Indiana’s earliest white settlers and the native people who were already here.”

Neal Taflinger, co-owner, Homespun: Modern Handmade; digital content strategist, Borshoff

Tip: AZA attendees receive free entry to the Children’s Museum with conference badge.

