



Indiana Historical Bureau

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NEWS

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“Steele Home, Studio, Gardens” Indiana State Historical Marker Will Be Dedicated in Nashville, Indiana

A public dedication ceremony for an Indiana state historical marker commemorating artist T.C. Steele and his home, studio, and gardens in Brown County is scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2017. The marker dedication will begin at 2:00 p.m. beside the Formal Garden at the T.C. Steele State Historic Site at 4220 T.C. Steele Rd., Nashville, Indiana. Parking for the event is available at the historic site.

The text follows for the state marker entitled **“Steele Home, Studio, Gardens”**:

Theodore Clement Steele (1847-1926) lived and painted on property here, 1907-1926. He and his wife Selma (circa 1870-1945) established “House of the Singing Winds,” a red barn-like studio, and hillside gardens. As the leading member of the “Hoosier Group” of Indiana painters, Steele’s Impressionistic landscape paintings captured the natural beauty of the region. Known widely as the “Dean of Indiana Painters,” Steele was elected to prestigious National Academy of Design in New York City, 1913. Indiana University President William L. Bryan named him “Honorary Professor of Painting,” 1922; He worked in IU campus studio until his death in 1926. The Steeles are buried on this 211-acre site which Selma deeded to the state in 1945.

The public is invited to attend the dedication ceremony for this Indiana state historical marker that commemorates Steele’s work while living in Brown County, as well as his and his wife Selma’s efforts to establish the “House of the Singing Winds” and hillside gardens. The marker provides an opportunity to show how the Midwest was enriched by art education and cultural exposure through the leadership of Hoosiers such as Steele. Speakers for the event include Dr. James Capshew, University Historian at Indiana University, and Cathy Ferree, the new CEO of the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. The dedication will be held in conjunction with the “Festival of Flowers PaintOut.” For more information see <http://www.tcsteele.org/programs/>.

State historical markers commemorate significant individuals, organizations, places, and events in Indiana history. These markers help communities throughout the state promote, preserve, and present their history for the education and enjoyment of residents and tourists of all ages. For over 100 years the Indiana Historical Bureau, an agency of the State of Indiana, has been marking Indiana history. Since 1946, the marker format has been the large roadside marker, which has the familiar dark blue background with gold lettering and the outline of the state of Indiana at the top. Over 600 of these markers have been installed over the years.

For more information about the marker dedication ceremony, please contact Andrea deTarnowsky, Site Manager at the T.C. Steele State Historic Site. For more information about the Indiana Historical Marker Program and other resources about Indiana, visit the Indiana Historical Bureau’s website at <http://www.IN.gov/history>, follow IHB on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), or call (317) 232-2535. To learn more about T.C. Steele, especially his work while in Indianapolis and his historical relationship with the John Herron Art Institute, see <http://www.in.gov/history/markers/4259.htm>.