

MEANING OF THE SYMBOLS ON THE INDIANA STATE FLAG



“The state banner was adopted by the 1917 Indiana General Assembly as part of the celebration of the state's 1916 centennial, after a competition sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The prize-winning design was submitted by Paul Hadley of Mooresville, Indiana, a respected Hoosier artist.

“The torch in the center stands for liberty and enlightenment; the rays represent their far-reaching influence. The official description in the Indiana Code explains the rest of the symbolism:

”The field of the flag shall be blue with nineteen stars and a flaming torch in gold or buff. Thirteen stars shall be arranged in an outer circle, representing the thirteen original states; five stars shall be arranged in a half circle below the torch and inside the outer circle of stars, representing the states admitted prior to Indiana; and the nineteenth star, appreciably larger than the others and representing Indiana shall be placed above the flame of the torch.”

SOURCE: Quoting from “State Symbols: What is the Meaning Behind the Indiana State Flag?” Information for Kids, Office of the Governor of the State of Indiana (accessed April 21, 2021, at <https://www.in.gov/gov/info-for-kids/state-symbols/what-is-the-meaning-behind-the-indiana-state-flag/>).

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Learn more about the Indiana State Flag and Paul Hadley from the *Moore'sville (Indiana) Local History Treasure Trove* blog online at <https://mplindianaroom.blogspot.com/>