ACTIVATING HERITAGE
CONFERENCE

MARCH 12th, 2024
UIC STUDENT CENTER WEST
828 S WOLCOTT AVE SUITE 242,
CHICAGO, IL 60612

PRESENTED BY
THE CHICAGO CULTURAL ALLIANCE
ABOUT THIS EVENT

The Chicago Cultural Alliance’s mission is to connect, promote, and support centers of cultural heritage for a more inclusive Chicago. We are an active consortium of over 40 Chicago-area cultural heritage museums, centers, and historical societies that span 23 neighborhoods and 11 suburbs around Chicago and represent over 30 different cultures. Our vision is a city where all communities have a voice, and cross-cultural dialogue and collaboration are an integral part of Chicago’s civic fabric.

Many people were involved in the making of this conference. We would like to thank the University of Illinois at Chicago for hosting, our Member organizations for participating, our Board of Directors for supporting, our Staff for planning, and our Volunteers for helping. All of you have made it possible to be here today.

Activating Heritage is supported by...
Here is some helpful information for a successful conference experience.

- **WIFI NAME:** actheri_2
- **WIFI PASSWORD:** tub4psy4
- **Restrooms:** located on the outside of each break room.
- **Breakfast and lunch:** are provided. Please enjoy coffee, tea, and water throughout the day.
WHO WE ARE

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- Kay Kihwa Rho, Vice President
- Jessica Miley, Treasurer
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- Eliza Sherrill, Operations Specialist
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- Pooja Das, Marketing Intern

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Welcome
Doors Open: Check In & Catered Breakfast / Networking
Brief introductory remarks by CCA Executive Director, Dr. Mónica Félix and John Russick, Board of Directors President

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM
Featured Panel: “Grants for Cultural Heritage Institutions”
In this panel, representatives for various granting organizations will discuss funding opportunities they have available that will be of interest to cultural heritage institutions.

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Break (coffee/tea) in the SCW MM Thompason - ABC; registrants head to other breakout rooms

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Panel: “At Risk Collections - Two Case Studies”
This panel will present the stories of two cultural heritage organizations with collections that were (or currently are) at risk. Panelists will discuss the history behind the collection, what efforts have been made, and plans for the future. The panel is designed to lead to further conversation about efforts that worked and what could have changed. Core member collections: Filipino American Historical Society of Chicago and Latvian Folk Art Museum.

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Roundtable: “Leadership Workshop for CCA Members”
This is a roundtable designed for executive staff members of CCA member organizations. This discussion will focus on succession planning.
Panel: “Getting Started with Digitization”
This panel is designed for centers of cultural heritage that are interested in digitizing photo or document archives. They will see existing models for this, discuss equipment needs, hosting, metadata, volunteer training, and related topics.

Lunch break - Catered
Room: SCW MM THOMPSON- ABC

Panel: “Low-Cost Solutions for Collections”
This panel is ideal for archives and cultural centers who are looking for ideas of how to preserve their collections on a tight budget.

Round Table: “Nonprofit Jobs for Students”
This panel is designed to provide students and early career professionals with the opportunity to meet with nonprofit professionals in a variety of positions in a low-stakes setting. During these conversations, they are welcome to ask about a typical day, what skills are desirable, and what professional networks they should join.

Panel: “Marketing and Strategy Tips for Cultural Nonprofits”
How should cultural heritage centers and other institutions look at branding and design as a way to communicate their story, establish a collective identity, and activate their community? This session will explore this question and learn how it’s done from two Chicago designers who have worked with clients ranging from small community-based groups to global nonprofits and foundations.
2:00 PM - 2:10 PM  
Coffee/tea break & move to Room SCW MM Thompason - ABC for keynote

2:10 PM - 3:00 PM  
Juana Guzmán | KEYNOTE ADDRESS

3:00 PM - 3:10 PM  
Registrants relocate to breakout rooms

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
Panel: “Media Relations for Cultural Heritage Institutions”
This panel is designed for small cultural centers to learn more about how to work with media partners to reach a wider audience and share their community’s story. We welcome panelists from Axios, ABC 7, Block Club, and Chicago History Museum - Press Relations

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
Panel: “Getting Started with Collecting Oral Histories”
This popular panel serves as an introduction for individuals and organizations to collecting an archive of oral histories from community members. Panels will provide examples, talk about the process, and give solid recommendations for equipment/hosting/questions/misc.

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
Panel: “Community Resilience: Grassroots Funding and Mutual Aid in Chicago’s Cultural Landscape”
Panelists will discuss other ways in which small to medium-size organizations can garner support and raise funds. This is intended to expand the conversation beyond grant writing and conventional fundraising.
4:10 PM - 4:20PM
Registrants relocate to Room SCW MM THOMPSON- ABC for final remarks

4:20 PM - 5:00 PM
An Interactive Discussion: Conference Highlights and Next Steps

Facilitators:
Dr. Rebecca Amato (Illinois Humanities & CCA Board Director)
Dr. Alyssa Greenberg (Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association & CCA Board Director)

ONGOING ACTIVITIES - THROUGHOUT THE DAY

- Free Web Development Consultation - Web developer, Tony Le, is providing free 20-minute one-on-one consultations to registrants. They are happy to offer an assessment of your website or answer miscellaneous tech questions.

- Self-Guided Tours of the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum will be open to registrants.
“Grants for Cultural Heritage Institutions”

SCW MM Thompson - ABC | 9:45 - 10:45am

**John Russick** (Moderator) is President of the CCA Board of Directors. He is also the Managing Director of the Bronzeville Center for the Arts in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the Visiting Director of International Projects for the Future Museum Studio at the Institute for Cultural and Creative Industry at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. Previously, he served as the Interim President and CEO of the Levine Museum of the New South and held leadership roles at the Chicago History Museum, the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History, and the Field Museum. He is known for organizing the annual Excellence in Exhibition Label Writing Competition for the American Alliance of Museums and has received awards for his preservation, exhibition, and digital work.

**Ellen Placey Wadey** joined the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation in 2013 and became the Director for Chicago Arts & Collections in 2021. She is currently the board co-chair of the Arts Work Fund and serves on the board of Enrich Chicago. Previously, she was an independent consultant focusing on small arts and culture organizations including the Chicago Cultural Alliance and many of its core members as well as social justice organizations including the Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights and the Dorothy Stang Adult Education High School.

**Dave Joens** is the Director of the Illinois State Archives, the state agency that is responsible for the preservation of historic Illinois state and local government records. A fifth generation resident of Illinois, Dave received his Bachelor’s degree from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, two Master’s degrees from the University of Illinois at Springfield, and a doctorate in Illinois history from Southern Illinois University. He is the author of three books on Illinois history and government, including “From Slave to State Legislator: John W. E. Thomas, Illinois’ First African American Lawmaker,” published by SIU Press.
“Grants for Cultural Heritage Institutions” (Cont’d)

SCW MM Thompson - ABC | 9:45 - 10:45am

**Jackie Banks-Mahlum** has worked at the Illinois Arts Council since 2019. Prior to her work at IAC Jackie was the Managing Director for Rivendell Theatre Ensemble and the Development Associate for Arts Alliance Illinois. While primarily a lifelong Illinoisan, Jackie spent some years in the Los Angeles area where she worked with Theatricum Botanicum, Center Theatre Group, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. She has also freelanced throughout several areas in the country where she had the opportunity to work with a variety of performing arts including opera, ballet, modern dance, improv, and theatre. Jackie earned her bachelor's degree in theatre production and business management from Bradley University, and a Master of Fine Arts degree in theatre producing from the California Institute of the Arts.

**Mark Hallett** is the director of grants programs at the statewide nonprofit Illinois Humanities. A native Chicagoan, he has lived in Brazil, Mexico, Norway, and Spain. Prior to coming to Illinois Humanities in 2015, Mark was a senior program officer at the McCormick Foundation, where he guided grantmaking in youth media, community and ethnic media, press freedom in the Americas, and investigative reporting. He is an avid photographer and visual artist, and speaks Spanish and Portuguese.
“At Risk Collections - Two Case Studies”
SCW- 219SRH | 11:00am - 12:00pm

Rebecca Amato (Moderator) serves on the CCA Board of Directors. She is also the Director of Teaching and Learning at Illinois Humanities and runs The Odyssey Project. Prior to her work at Illinois Humanities, she was the Associate Director of the Urban Democracy Lab at NYU and Associate Faculty at NYU Gallatin. Her research interests and writing focus on urban planning, land use, and memory practices with a special emphasis on mobilizing the public humanities for social justice advocacy. She holds a PhD in U.S. History from The Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

Ashley Dequilla is an artist-filmmaker and archivist who uses painting, performance, moving image, installation, and ritual in her research-based practice. In 2023, she obtained her Masters of Fine Arts in Moving Image from the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she is currently enrolled as an MA student in Art History. As a community organizer, Ashley works in the realm of gender violence survivor advocacy and Philippine cultural production. She is a Co-Curator Partner of the Philippine Heritage Collection at the Field Museum of Natural History and a member of the Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA). Ashley is the de facto archivist for the Filipino American Historical Society of Chicago, working to restore its film collection with Chicago Film Society and the University of Chicago’s South Side Home Movie Project.

Marite Plume has had a successful career in business management as the Chief Executive Officer of Argonne Credit Union, and since then, have applied her financial skills at the Chicago Latvian Association and the Latvian Folk Art Museum. Her accounting degree from Northeastern Illinois University has been utilized in her job as Board treasurer for both organizations. In addition, a lifelong love of ethnic design specifically as used in Latvian textiles and nurtured at home under her mother’s influence, has given her a very good background in understanding the practicality and beauty of the everyday items in the museum.
“Leadership Workshop for CCA Members”
SCW-206AB | 11:00am - 12:00pm

John Russick (Facilitator) is the Board President of the Chicago Cultural Alliance. He currently serves as the Managing director of the Bronzeville Center for the Arts in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is also Visiting Director of International Projects for the Future Museum Studio at the Institute for Cultural and Creative Industry at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. Previously, he was the Interim President and CEO of the Levine Museum of the New South in Charlotte, North Carolina. Prior to that, he was Senior Vice President of the Chicago History Museum where he led the departments of Exhibitions, Education, Publications, Communications, Collections and Curatorial Affairs, Information Technology, and the Abakanowicz Research Center. He has also held positions at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History and the Field Museum. Since 2008 he has organized the annual Excellence in Exhibition Label Writing Competition for the American Alliance of Museums. He has won awards for his preservation, exhibition, and digital work.

Mónica Félix (Facilitator) is the Executive Director of the Chicago Cultural Alliance (CCA), a consortium of over 40 Chicago-area cultural heritage museums, institutes, and historical societies representing over 30 different cultures. The CCA furthers its mission of celebrating diversity, preserving history, and creating connections between Chicago’s cultural institutions through a variety of programs and support services. Signature programs include the annual Activating Heritage conference, the month-long Journey Chicago series of cross-cultural events throughout the city, and World Dumpling Fest.
“Getting Started with Digitization”
SCW-213AB | 11:00am - 12:00pm

**Nitha Nagubadi** PsyD, MBA, MS (Moderator) currently serves on the CCA Board of Directors & the CCA Programs Committee. She has over 15 years of commercial and education sector training, consulting, project management, and business process improvement experience. She has a Doctorate in Business Psychology, MS in Computer Science and BA in Psychology from the University of Chicago and is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP), ADKAR Change Management, Six Sigma and Scrum Certification.

**Jessica BrodeFrank** has spent the last decade in cultural heritage institutions, running DAMS, digital humanities research, and digital curation. She held positions at the Georgetown University Library, Adler Planetarium, Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, and Smithsonian’s NAA, Gardens, NPG, and NMAAHC. She completed her doctorate in Digital Humanities at University of London, and serves a joint appointment as Assistant Clinical Professor and Digital Projects Librarian at the University of Illinois Chicago and Portal Manager for Chicago Collections Consortium.

**Jennifer Dalzin** is the Director of Digital Initiatives and Services at the Newberry. She is responsible for major digital initiatives including DAMS selection and migration projects and transitioning to an open access policy. Jennifer has planned/managed large-scale digitization grants including 38,000 French Revolution era pamphlets; 1,500 17th century Italian maps; 8,000 19th century Philippines photographs; and 100s of thousands of manuscript pages and postcards. She is currently planning digitization grants for monographs containing 300+ languages spoken by Indigenous peoples of the Americas and 600,000 Pullman Company employee records. Jennifer has an MLIS from the University of Michigan.

**Melissa Rovner** is the Digital Humanities Curatorial Fellow at the Chicago History Museum. Her research focuses on uneven development practices and the entanglements of urban and architectural histories with labor and identity. Rovner works with thick mapping, virtual environments, and digital storytelling to excavate and highlight the hidden layers of the city that have been marginalized, displaced or erased in the physical environment, as in what the public experiences and imagines of those environments. Rovner is a Registered Architect in California and Illinois, holds a PhD in Architecture History from UCLA, and has taught at Woodbury University, USD, UCLA, UIC, and the Chicago Center.
“Low-Cost Solutions for Collections”
SCW-213AB | 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Andrew Leith (Moderator) is a historical archaeologist, historic preservationist, and museum anthropologist with 20 years of experience. He has deep ties to Chicago communities and a commitment to first-voice histories, heritage, and preservation. Andrew is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in anthropology at Northwestern University, where he researches human-environment relationships, soil chemistry, and community gardens in postindustrial urban landscapes in Chicagoland. He was previously the Director of Cultural Programs and Museum Practice at the Chicago Cultural Alliance and has worked in museum collections management at the Field Museum.

Jacob Campbell is an Environmental Anthropologist with the Keller Science Action Center at the Field Museum, where he leads the social science team for the Chicago region program. His recent applied research, pedagogy, and collaborative programming has focused on cultural connections to the natural world in urban areas. He works with partners across Chicago to create more equitable city institutions and green spaces that help communities thrive. He specializes in participatory research that informs decision-making about biodiversity conservation, land management, and public space design.

Kate Swisher is an Exhibitions Registrar at the Field Museum, where she ensures that loans and collections are safely moved, packed, shipped, installed, and documented. She has over ten years of experience working with collections in Chicago museums and libraries, including the DuSable Museum of African American History, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the Newberry Library. She holds an M.A. in American Material Culture from the University of Delaware. Kate is also a founding member of Museum Workers Speak, a worker collective that advocates for equity in museum labor practices, and a proud member of the Field Museum union bargaining team.
“Round tables: Nonprofit Jobs for Students”
SCW-219SRH | 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Analú María López (Huachichil/Xi’uí) is the Ayer Librarian and Assistant Curator of American Indian and Indigenous Studies at the Newberry Library. As the Ayer librarian and Assistant Curator, she helps steward the Indigenous studies collection while guiding library users through, connecting them with, and interpreting materials linked to the Indigenous Studies collection. She holds a Master of Library and Information Sciences with a certificate in Archives and Cultural Heritage Resources and Services from Dominican University and a Bachelor of Arts in Photography with a minor in Latin-American Studies from Columbia College Chicago.

Jose (Jojo) Galvan Mora has an MA in Museum and Exhibition Studies ('19) from UIC and is currently in the doctoral program in History at Northwestern University, where his research focuses on the intersections of Public and Urban History. He currently works as a historian in the curatorial department at the Chicago History Museum, as an instructor for the Illinois Humanities Odyssey Project, and as a freelance translator for a number of museums and historical institutions.

Karen Christianson is Director of Public Programs and Adult Education at the Newberry Library. As a public humanities professional, she produces collaborative and multidisciplinary projects that help bridge the divide between scholars' work and the general public. Activities include developing engaging classes, public programs, and events; writing grant proposals and directing grant-funded projects; and digital humanities projects.

Dorian H Nash is a Chicago native and esteemed professional dedicated to fostering diversity, inclusion, and equity. With over a decade at The Smart Museum of Art, she now serves as the Director of Learning and Cultural Workforce Development at the National Public Housing Museum. Dorian’s commitment to empowerment through art and education, along with her advocacy for diversity, shapes her exemplary leadership in advancing justice and equity.
“Marketing and Strategy Tips for Cultural Nonprofits”
SCW-206AB | 1:00pm - 2:00pm

**Demetrio Cardona-Maguigad** has over 11 years of experience in design strategy, communication design, and digital technologies. Demetrio creates experiences that guide people through the complexities of today's world, so that they can discover new connections, meaning, and possibilities. He is a principal and director of design strategy at LimeRed Studio, a human-centered design agency that helps organizations achieve social impact through co-creative and process-driven methods. As a strategist and educator, he also mentors and coaches startups and social entrepreneurs, instructs and guides the next generation of communication experts as an Adjunct Faculty Member at Columbia College Chicago, and produces and directs award-winning projects that focus on cultural diversity, social justice, and community development. He currently serves as a board member of the Chicago Cultural Alliance and the Pilsen Housing Cooperative.

**Meredith Montgomery** has worked in many different fields over the years - line cook, set painter, museum guide, waitress, teacher, theatre administrator, organizer, and designer; Mere has always been fascinated by connection. Throughout all of her different life chapters, art, design, and visual storytelling have been a constant for Mere. Having worked in design now for 9 years, she finds that the best design language is centered around connection to stories, communities, and those who bring it all together. Mere is currently the Art Director at LimeRed Studios where she collaborates closely with various companies, organizations, and communities to authentically express the values and missions of her clients, while attracting unique communities to their causes and spark engagement. Beyond her professional endeavors, Mere is honored to be a founding member of a local design collective where she works alongside others to empower fellow artists and designers who are committed to a radically equitable future in a for-profit industry.
Juana Guzmán has served as a nationally acclaimed art strategist, arts manager, a fundraising and earned income advisor to non-profit organizations, museums, corporate and philanthropic sectors throughout the United States for more than 40 years. In 2012 she founded her own company, I Juana Know Inc., which focuses on enhancing revenue and diverse funding strategies for creative markets, organizational capacity-building, and technical assistance advising to nonprofit creative placemaking/ place-keeping art organizations. Prior to starting her own company, Guzmán served as the Vice President of the National Museum of Mexican Arts (NMMA) in Chicago, the Director of Community Cultural Development for the City of Chicago’s Department of Cultural Affairs, and a team technical advisor, consultant for the Ford Foundation’s Shifting Sands Initiatives in New York City. Currently, she is serving as an Associate Consultant for the DeVos Institute of Arts Management as part of the Bloomberg Philanthropies Arts Innovation in Management (AIM) and consultant for the University of Houston(UH), Center for Mexican American and Latino Studies. She is also the co-founder of the National Association of Latino Arts Culture, an organization dedicated to the advocacy and promotion of the rights of Latino artists on a national level and serves on the Illinois Arts Humanities board of directors. In 2017, Juana Guzmán received the Women’s Caucus for Art Lifetime Achievement Award in Washington, D.C. and in 2019 Juana Guzmán was elected to the Illinois Humanities Board of Directors and in 2022 the Federation of State Humanities Council Board of Directors.
Panel: “Media Relations for Cultural Heritage Institutions”

SCW-213AB | 3:10pm - 4:10pm

Paul Durica (Moderator) currently serves on the CCA Board of Directors and is Chair of the Programs Committee. He is the Director of Exhibitions at the Chicago History Museum and oversees the planning, development, and production of temporary exhibitions at the Museum while ensuring that permanent exhibitions continue to offer an engaging high-quality experience for all visitors. His involvement with the Museum goes back over a decade. He was co-curator on the “Chicago Authored” exhibition and has created many different tours and public programs for the Museum.

Monica Eng is an award-winning, veteran Chicago reporter. She has worked in Chicago journalism for more than three decades starting at the Chicago Sun-Times and moving to the Chicago Tribune and WBEZ. She has served as an Axios Chicago reporter since the summer of 2021. Previously, she was a reporter at WBEZ in 2013 coming from the Chicago Tribune where she spent 16 years editing and reporting on food, culture and health. Before that she wrote and edited at the Daily Southtown and Chicago Sun-Times. Monica has won multiple writing awards and been nominated for the James Beard Award five times.

Gwen Ihnat is a lifelong Chicagoan and former writer as well as editor for The A.V. Club, the pop-culture arm of The Onion, for several years, eventually becoming the editorial coordinator there, as well as the assistant managing editor of Onion food site The Takeout. She was also an editor at the Chicago History Museum for nearly a decade. Most recently she was a writer and editor in the newsroom at WBBM, Chicago’s only all-news radio station, and has also written for publications like Entertainment Weekly, The Wrap and Primetimer.com. She lives in Ravenswood with her husband, teen twins and pandemic puppy.
Diana Palomar is Vice President of Community Engagement for ABC 7 Chicago. She oversees its PSA campaigns and partnerships; media sponsorships; major community projects and talent appearances. Diana also helps to lead the station’s DEI work through its employee affinity group. As the community ambassador across a diverse viewership, she identifies opportunities for education and elevation through cultivating news content ideas. Serving non-profit boards throughout her career - currently on the board of the National Museum of Mexican Art, Metropolitan Family Services and Garfield Park Conservatory - she also includes time to mentor students and other professionals. Born and raised in Chicago, a UIC alum, and proud daughter of Mexican immigrants.

Veronica Casados is responsible for developing and implementing successful communication strategies that build both public and media awareness for the Chicago History Museum. Casados is deeply dedicated to authentic storytelling that encompasses the diverse and rich history of both Chicago's people and the city itself. With a background spanning agency, government, and nonprofit sectors, she possesses a nuanced understanding of the ever-evolving media landscape and adeptly adjusts strategies to meet the demands of an increasingly digital world, while maintaining a focus on community impact. She holds an MBA in Marketing from Loyola University Chicago, Quinlan School of Business, and a BA in Media Communication and International Studies from the University of New Mexico.
Rebecca Amato (Moderator) serves on the CCA Board of Directors. She is also the Director of Teaching and Learning at Illinois Humanities and runs The Odyssey Project. Prior to her work at Illinois Humanities, she was the Associate Director of the Urban Democracy Lab at NYU and Associate Faculty at NYU Gallatin. Her research interests and writing focus on urban planning, land use, and memory practices with a special emphasis on mobilizing the public humanities for social justice advocacy. She holds a Ph.D. in U.S. History from The Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

Mary Doi, Ph.D. is a community-based, qualitative researcher and oral historian. She was the Midwest coordinator for the Japanese American National Museum’s 4-site REgenerations Oral HIstory Project. This study documented the lives of Japanese Americans as they left the WWII incarceration camps to forge lives in a new city such as Chicago or in former home towns such as San Jose, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

Peter Alter is the Chicago History Museum’s Gary T. Johnson Chief Historian and Director of the Studs Terkel Center for Oral History. In this role, he develops new Museum oral history projects. The center collaborates with community partners to promote oral history as a tool of social justice.
Panel: “Community Resilience: Grassroots Funding and Mutual Aid in Chicago’s Cultural Landscape”

SCW-219SRH | 3:10pm - 4:10pm

Alyssa Greenberg (Moderator) serves on the CCA Board of Directors. She is the Audience Engagement Manager at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association. Her professional affiliations include the Art21 Educators program, the Publicly Active Graduate Education (PAGE) Fellowship of Imagining America, and the Humanities Without Walls consortium. She currently serves on the leadership committee for Chicago Emerging Museum Professionals and is a founding member of Museum Workers Speak. She received a BA from Oberlin College in 2009 and an MA from the Bard Graduate Center in 2011.

Dana Blanchard works at Haymarket Books, a radical independent non-profit publisher based in Chicago. She is the program manager for Haymarket House, a community events space in Uptown, and also coordinates Haymarket’s political education and development teams as well as their Books Not Bars program. This past year she was excited to be part of Haymarket’s inaugural Writing Freedom Fellowship organizing team. As a longtime abolitionist and former teacher union organizer Dana is passionate about fighting for transformative change and social justice. The best part of her job is that she gets to support lots of amazing, radical, creative thinkers and organizers and amplify their work in the world.

We welcome panelists from the “Mutual Aid Report”, a radio and live stream series that delves into the concept of mutual aid. The show’s hosts, Stephanie Manriquez and Mario Smith, unpack the historical significance of mutual aid and its role in local communities by spotlighting individuals who are making a real difference at the grassroots level in the city of Chicago. The show’s goal is to elevate the profile of mutual aid, shed light on these community-based initiatives, and motivate others to either join or back existing ventures.
OUR PARTNER MEMBERS

- American Writers Museum
- Art Works Projects
- Chicago Architecture Center
- Chicago Botanic Garden
- Chicago History Museum
- Chicago Public Media (WBEZ Chicago)
- Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- Choose Chicago
- Cook County Historic Archives and Records Office (CARO)
- Crossing Borders Music
- FACETS
- Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance
- Illinois Humanities
- Instituto Cervantes
- Intuit: The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art
- Jane Addams Hull-House Museum
- Joel Hall Dancers & Center
- Kohl Children’s Museum
- Lincoln Park Zoo
- Media Burn Archive
- National Public Housing Museum
- Newberry Library
- The Field Museum
- The Peace School
- TimeLine Theatre Company
- UIC African American Cultural Center
- UIC Arab American Cultural Center
- UIC Asian American Resource and Cultural Center
- UIC Centers for Cultural Understanding and Social Change
- UIC Disability Cultural Center
- UIC Gender and Sexuality Center
- UIC Rafael Cintron Ortiz Latino Cultural Center
- UIC Women's Leadership and Resource Center
- University of Illinois at Chicago Centers for Cultural Understanding and Social Change

OUR CORE MEMBERS

- Abrahamic Center for Cultural Education
- American Indian Association of Illinois
- American Indian Center of Chicago
- APIDA Arts
- Assyrian Cultural Foundation
- Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture
- Bronzeville / Black Chicagoan Historical Society
- Bronzeville Children’s Museum
- Casa Michoacan/FEDECMI
- Center for Native Futures
- Chicago Balinese Gamelan
- Chicago Japanese American Historical Society
- Chicago Scots
- Chinese American Museum of Chicago
- DANK Haus German American Cultural Center
- Dominican-American Midwest Association
- Ethiopian Community Association of Chicago
- Filipino American Historical Society of Chicago
- Forefront Illinois
- Friends of the Gamelan
- Haitian American Museum of Chicago
- HANA Center
- Heritage Museum Of Asian Art
- Hibernian Media
- Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center
- International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago
- Irish American Heritage Center
- Japanese American Service Committee
- Kalapriya Foundation, Center for Indian Performing Arts
- Korean Cultural Center of Chicago
- Latvian Folk Art Museum
- Magura Cultural Center
- Mitchell Museum of the American Indian
- Muslim American Leadership Alliance
- National Cambodian Heritage Museum & Killing Fields Memorial
- National Hellenic Museum
- National Indo-American Museum
- National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture
- OPEN Center for the Arts
- Puerto Rican Arts Alliance
- Salon for Bulgarian Culture & Spirit
- Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center
- South Asia Institute
- South Side Community Art Center
- Swahili Institute of Chicago
- Swedish American Museum
- The Polish Museum of America
- Trickster Cultural Center
- Turkish American Cultural Alliance
- Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art
- Ukrainian National Museum
JOIN US AT OUR NEXT EVENT!

Korean Performing Arts Institute of Chicago performing at MOSAIC 2022 (Chicago History Museum). Photo Credit: Lydia Hoover

MOSAIC
2024
THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2024
THE CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM
World Dumpling Fest

Tickets on sale this summer

Sept. 21st | Logan Square