

OUT!

**CHICAGO'S LGBTQ
VISITOR'S GUIDE**
2016



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Left photo: One of the North Halsted Street rainbow pylons. Photo by Hal Baim. Right side, from top: The Chicago River, Cloud Gate at Millennium Park, the Chicago skyline, and Starved Rock State Park. Photos courtesy the Illinois Office of Tourism

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WELCOME!

Chicago, what poet Carl Sandburg called the “The City of Big Shoulders,” is also one of the world’s most welcoming for LGBTQ people. The city, Cook County and the state of Illinois all have legal protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing and public accommodation. The state achieved marriage equality prior to the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court ruling making it the law of the land.

The first known gay-rights organization in the U.S. was also launched in Illinois: Bavarian-born gay postal worker Henry Gerber, African-American clergyman John T. Graves and a few others created the Society for Human Rights in 1924. The Society, which Gerber said was based on the work of Magnus Hirschfeld’s Scientific-Humanitarian Committee in Germany, was shut down by authorities, but it was an inspiration for later homosexual rights groups in the 1950s. The Henry Gerber House, 1701 N. Crilly Ct., Chicago, contains the apartment in which Gerber lived when he founded the homosexual group. It was designated a Chicago Landmark in 2001 and in June 2015 it was named a National Historic Landmark. The Gerber/Hart Library and Archives, 6500 N. Clark St., www.gerberhart.org, is named in honor of Gerber and civil-rights attorney Pearl M. Hart.

There were other early gay pioneers in Chicago, most of them closeted, but out to a few people in their inner circles, enough so that their stories survive today. That includes architect Louis Sullivan, whose buildings are still critical to Chicago’s architectural heritage; social-justice worker Jane Addams (visit Hull House in Chicago); dancer Mark Turbyfill; novelist Willard Motley; author Henry Blake Fuller; composer Ned Rorem; writer Nella Larsen; publisher Margaret C. Anderson of *The Little Review*, published out of the Fine Arts Building on Michigan Avenue; musician Tony Jackson; writer Samuel Steward; businessman Robert Allerton; author Valerie Taylor; musician Tiny Davis; author Jeannette Howard Foster; and playwright Lorraine Hansberry (*A Raisin in the Sun*). President Abraham Lincoln is also a key part of Illinois history, and his sexuality, and affinity for sleeping with men, has been subject of ever-increasing debate.

A few decades after Henry Gerber tried to start a movement, one really got stronger in Chicago by the 1960s, prior to New York’s Stonewall Rebellion that sparked the modern LGBTQ movement. Chicagoans joined forces with the national movement in the 1970s, growing ever-bigger, something that turned out to be critically important as HIV and AIDS started to devastate parts of the community. Chicagoans rose to the occasion, launching support groups, activism, and more, and much of that infrastructure still operates today.

These and other stories of Chicago and its pioneers are detailed in my book



Henry Gerber



Jane Addams



Lorraine Hansberry

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Chicago's Pride Parade.

Photo by Ed Negron

Out and Proud in Chicago: An Overview of the City's Gay Community. You can also see posthumous tributes to LGBTQs around the world on The Legacy Walk, the world's only outdoor LGBTQ museum. The Gerber/Hart Library and Archives and the Chicago History Museum have extensive collections of Chicago's LGBTQ past. The History Museum also hosts an annual Out at CHM event series.

So what about the city now, in the post-marriage equality era? The city is full of LGBTQ-owned businesses, non-profits, arts groups, activists, volunteers and more. This guide is aimed at visitors to the city, but if you are thinking of moving here, there is even more the LGBTQ community has to offer.

Groups that work for statewide LGBTQs include Lambda Legal, the ACLU and Equality Illinois. In the Chicago area, there are more than 100 organizations working on LGBTQ or AIDS issues, including political, action-oriented (such as the new Pride Action Tank, BYP 100 or Black Lives Matter), social service, sports, culture, and some purely social. Dozens of bars and special events cater to various parts of the community. There are also some specialized groups such as Affinity for African-American LBT women, ALMA: The Association of Latinos/as Motivating Action, Asians and Friends/Chicago, Invisible to Invincible Asian Pacific Islander Pride of Chicago, and Chicago Gender Society, among many, many more.

The Center on Halsted is the city's LGBTQ community hub, but there are also dozens of neighborhoods within the city that are welcoming and where LGBTQs thrive, from Boystown in Lakeview to Andersonville, Uptown, Rogers Park, Hyde Park, South Shore, Beverly, Oak Park, Evanston, Berwyn and beyond.

We also have a lot of pride opportunities in Chicago, with street fairs including in Andersonville (Midsommarfest) and Boystown (Market Days), plus Pride Fest, Dyke March, the Pride Parade (always the last Sunday of June), Black Pride, Latino/a Pride, Pride North and Back Lot Bash.

Chicago and Illinois also have a lot to do if you are traveling with your children—see the sections on museums, attractions, etc.

If you are planning a wedding in the Chicago region, Windy City Times produces an LGBT wedding guide. See www.windycitymediagroup.com/gaynews-articles.php?k=Marriage/Family.

This guide presents some of the top tourist treats in the state, both mainstream and LGBTQ. We hope you enjoy the guide, and are able to take advantage of the tremendous variety of activities Chicago and Illinois provide.

— Tracy Baim, Publisher, Windy City Times and the OUT! Guide

Welcome to Chicago!

While You're Here,
Stay Local



911: For emergencies

311: For basic non-emergency Chicago needs

Howard Brown Health: LGBT health center, 773-388-1600,
howardbrown.org

National Runaway Safeline: 1-800-RUNAWAY, www.1800RUNAWAY.org

New Town Alano Club—A Safe Place For Recovery: 773-529-0321,
www.newtownalanoclub.org

State of Illinois AIDS/HIV & STD Hotline: 1-800-AID-AIDS, 800-
243.2437; TTY 800-782-0423, NXLVLV@centeronhalsted.org

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Chicago is a transit hub for the U.S., central to so much infrastructure, you can find your way in and out by car, bus, train, airplane, bikes and even by walking—and probably soon via the drones.

Here are a few key resources for your travel to Chicago, your stay in Chicago, and getting around in the city, suburbs and downstate.

Online Booking:

Orbitz: orbitz.com/GayTravel — very LGBT friendly

Airports:

Midway Airport: www.flychicago.com/midway

O'Hare Airport: www.flychicago.com/ohare

Note: CTA trains come into downtown Chicago from the airports.

Transit:

Amtrak: www.amtrak.com

CTA (Chicago Transit Authority): www.transitchicago.com

Greyhound: www.greyhound.com

Megabus: www.megabus.com

Metra: metrarail.com

Ogilvie Transportation Center: metrarail.com/metra/en/home/maps_
schedules/downtown_chicagostations/ogilvie-transportation-center.html

Pace: www.pacebus.com

RTA (Regional Transportation Authority): rideonrtachicago.com

Uber: www.uber.com plus discount link for new customers: get.uber.com/
go/windycitytimes

Union Station: www.chicagounionstation.com

Accommodations:

Chicago has hundreds of hotels, B&Bs and Airbnbs. Here are a few.

Airbnb: www.airbnb.com

Bridgeport B & B: 3322 S. Morgan, 773-927-1122,
bridgeportbedandbreakfast.com

YOU NEED TO KNOW

Drake Hotel: 140 E. Walton Pl., 312-787-2200, www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/illinois/the-drake-hotel-CHIDHHH/index.html

Godfrey Hotel: 127 W. Huron, 312-649-2000, godfreyhotelchicago.com

Hilton Chicago: 720 S. Michigan Ave., 312-922-4400, www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/illinois/hilton-chicago-CHICHHH/index.html

Hilton Orrington: 1710 Orrington, Evanston, 847-556-7940, 847-866-8700, Toll Free: 888-677-4648 Evanston, www.hotelorrrington.com

Hostels: www.hostels.com/chicago/usa

Hotel Intercontinental: 505 N. Michigan, 312-321-8735, icchicagohotel.com

Lang House B&B: 7421 N. Sheridan Rd., 773-764-9851, www.catscradlechicago.com

Palmer House Hilton: 17 E. Monroe, 312-726-7500

South Loop Hotel: 11 W. 26th St., 312-225-7000

Virgin Hotels: 203 N. Wabash, 312-940-4300, virginhotels.com

The W Hotels: 72 W. Adams St. and 644 N. Lake Shore Dr., 877-822-2000 and mention rate plan DAILYW, special rate thru Sept. 5, 2016, <http://whotelsofchicago.com>

theWit: 201 N. State St., 312-467-0200, www.thewithotel.com

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ILLINOIS: THE LAND OF LINCOLN

While a lot of this guide focuses on the city of Chicago and its suburbs, the state of Illinois offers up amazing views and attractions. What follows are highlights, but you can see many more at the Illinois Office of Tourism website: www.enjoyillinois.com. For special events during the year, see www.enjoyillinois.com/en-us/events. Some attractions and events of the towns closer to Chicago are listed elsewhere in this guide.

Abraham Lincoln looms large over the entire state, but especially in the Springfield area in Central Illinois. The 16th President of the United States, who served from 1861 until his assassination in 1865, was born in Kentucky but practiced law in Illinois, where he also was elected to the state House of Representatives. Carl Sandburg wrote of Lincoln and Joshua Speed, one of Lincoln's many close male friends, that they had "a streak of lavender, and spots soft as May violets." There were rumors about Lincoln's life both before and during his presidency. C.A. Tripp's book, *The Intimate World of Abraham Lincoln*, best documents this.

You can experience the many public contributions of Lincoln at various tributes to the man in Illinois. Each year from May through October, you can take the **Lincoln's**



Ghost Walks in Springfield, and from early December to early January you can spend **Christmas with the Lincolns**. In the summer, re-enactors bring the 1800s to life to Springfield. The best place to learn about the president is the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum**, where priceless artifacts and immersive exhibits reveal the complexities of Lincoln's life. At 212 N. Sixth St., www.illinois.gov/alplm/Pages/default.aspx. The **New Salem State Historic Site** is a reconstructed 1830s village where Lincoln lived as a young adult and began his career. See www.lincolnsnewsalem.com/. Other options include visiting Lincoln's home, the **Lincoln-Herndon Law Offices**, the **Old State Capitol** where he worked, and **Lincoln's Tomb** at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

There is certainly a lot more to see in Springfield than just Lincoln, including the **State Capitol Building**, the State Archives, the State Library, and the city's LGBT community center, **The Phoenix Center**. They host special events including a **PrideFest** each May. See www.phoenixcenterspringfield.org.

Get your kicks on **Route 66**, one of the most famous roads in the U.S. It was one of the original highways in the U.S. Highway System, and was launched in 1926. The road originally ran 2,448 miles from Chicago to California. There is a 300-mile stretch of Route 66 in Illinois. The kitsch, the nostalgia, the people—it's got all the makings of a great road trip, including the **Polk-a-Dot Drive In**, the **World's Largest Covered Wagon**, **Henry's Ra66it Ranch**, the **World's Largest Catsup Bottle**, the **Paul Bunyon Hotdog Statue**, the **Pink Elephant Antique Mall** (in Livingston, we know you want it ...), the **Smiling Water Tower** and the **Pontiac-Oakland Automobile Museum** in Pontiac.

Galena in **Jo Daviess County**, in Northwest Illinois, offers amazing opportunities for visitors. From the early to mid-1800s, Galena became a mining, smelting and steamboating center and one of the busiest ports on the Missis-

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SUMMER PARTNERSHIP SERIES

**Andersonville
Midsommarfest
(June 10-12)**



**Chicago's 47th
Annual Pride Parade
(June 26)**



**Northalsted
Market Days
(August 13-14)**



**Annual Private
Chamber Boat Cruise
(TBD)**



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ssippi River. Galena was rediscovered in the 1960s by preservationists. Now this charming city on the Galena River pleases visitors with its 19th Century history and architecture. There are also resorts, more than 30 B&Bs, trolley rides, wineries, breweries, galleries, restaurants, mansion tours, casinos and gift stores. Fodor's calls Galena one of the 10 best antiques towns in the U.S., and many Chicagoans travel to Galena for a quick weekend getaway to explore the **Historic Main Street**. Just outside of Galena is the home of **Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa**, Illinois' largest golf resort. See www.galena.org for full details. Every June is the **Great Galena Balloon Race**. This is a spectacular three-day event with more than 20 hot air balloons.

Starved Rock State Park in Utica, 90 miles Southwest of Chicago, offers an incredible forest and scenic waterfalls, plus rugged canyons. Outdoor activities include hiking, canoeing, paddle boat cruises, cross-country skiing, trolley rides, fishing and picnicking. Visitors can stay at the historic **Starved Rock Lodge** or in one of its cozy cabins.

As the Illinois tourism folks note: "Somewhere between the scenic vineyards, tasting rooms and wine trails, it hits you: **Illinois really does have a wine country**. Throughout the state, you'll find more than 100 wineries and vineyards." See www.enjoyillinois.com/en-us/tripideas/illinoiswinecountry. There is a **Festival of the Vine** Sept. 9-11, 2016 in Galena, and a **Nouveau Wine Weekend** Nov. 20-22. The **Shawnee Hills Wine Trail** is in Southern Illinois, home to a dozen wineries. **Blue Sky Vineyard** is in **Makanda**, touting that they offer the "romance of Italy." Also in that region, **Alto Vineyards Winery** nestles into the woods near **Little Grand Canyon** in Murphysboro, a 3.6-mile loop trail. It offers spectacular views of the **Big Muddy River**, **Turkey Bayou** and the **Missouri bluffs** across the **Mississippi River**.

Southern Illinois has many outdoor and indoor treats, including in and near the towns of **Carbondale**, **Harrisburg** and **Makanda**. This area of the



Main Street in Galena.
Photo courtesy of Illinois
Office of Tourism

state is perhaps the most beautiful for outdoor adventures. Highlights include the **Cache River State Natural Area** (in Belknap), **Tunnel Hill State Trail** (in Vienna), **Mermet Springs** (in Belknap), and the **Superman Statue** (in, where else, Metropolis). Metropolis takes full advantage of its comic connection with a **Super Museum** and an annual **Superman Celebration** in June. Carbondale attractions include the **Old Illinois Passenger Depot Railroad Museum**.

The **Garden of the Gods**, in Karbers Ridge, is a must-see for lovers of the outdoors. Explore the dramatic rock formations, cliffs and trails of the most visited site in the **Shawnee National Forest**. See Camel Rock, Anvil Rock, Devil's Smoke Stack and other magnificent rock formations. Shawnee is also home to the **Rim Rock Recreational Trail** (403 miles of equestrian/hiking trails). Hikers are greeted by magnificent jutting walls of rock covered with emerald-green moss, and paths that meander through canyons under the forest canopy. Nestled between the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, the stunning Shawnee landscape fea-



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tures hills, lakes, creeks and bluffs. If you're into climbing, a must-see is **Jackson Falls**. The **Pomona Natural Bridge** is a natural geologic formation that spans 90 feet across a ravine. Near Shawnee is **Cave-in-Rock State Park**. Wander along the Ohio River and step into the large cavern, steeped in history of river pirates. Enjoy the spectacular river views from the lodge atop the bluffs.

The **Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site** is Illinois' only United Nations World Heritage Site. This 2,200-acre site in **Collinsville** preserves the central section of the largest prehistoric Indian city north of Mexico. An Interpretive Center presents a coherent account of this sophisticated prehistoric culture. Climb Monk's Mound, see the film and life-size village.

The **Kincaid Mounds Archaeological Site** is four miles south of Unionville Road on New Cut Road, **Brookport**, Illinois. Kincaid is a nationally significant Native-American archaeological treasure. From about 800 AD to 1500 AD it was the "capital" of a chiefdom that stretched from Brookport to Hamlettsburg along the Ohio River. Large flat-topped mounds were erected on which the houses and temples of civil and religious elite stood.

You can also visit the beauty and history of **Alton**, **Elsah** and **Grafton** in the **Mississippi River Country** (drive the **Great River Road** with scenic byways), shopping, wineries, tours and haunted houses. Alton has the **National Great Rivers Museum**.

Underground Railroad Shuttle Tours happen from February to October each year in Alton. The system included the **Old Rock House** and **Rocky Fork Church**. Alton's riverfront location along the Mighty Mississippi played a vital role in helping slaves make connections to the freedom of the Northern states.

St. Charles is a beautiful town on the **Fox River** with many special events. You can browse the wares of hundreds of dealers at the **Kane County Flea Market**, the first weekend of each month at the Kane County Fairgrounds. They also have the **Beith House Museum**, the **Creek Bend Nature Center**, the autos on site at the **Baltria** collection, the **Durant House Museum**, **Garfield Farm and Inn Museum**, **St. Charles Paddlewheel Riverboats** and more.

Some other areas and events you might want to put on your list:

— **Peoria**, where you can paddle down the Illinois River on a steamboat, plus explore their riverfront. From late November to the end of December, light up your night at the **East Peoria Festival of Lights**, a holiday spectacular with more than 2 million lights.

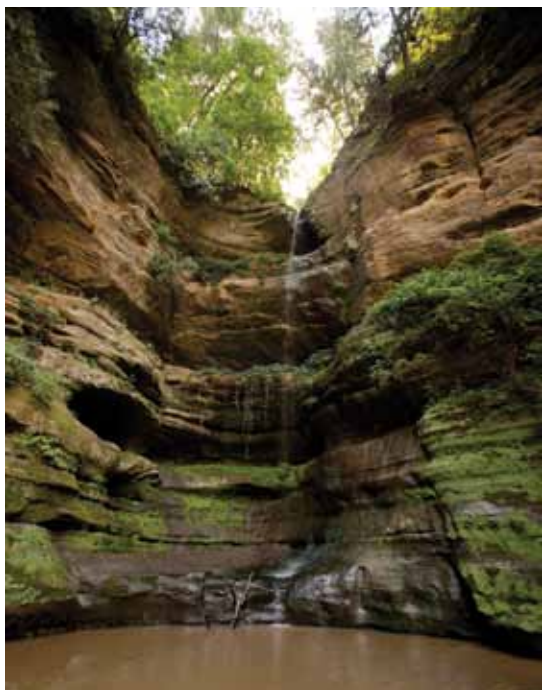
— **Rockford**, which has attractions including a **Japanese Garden**, **Burpee Museum of Natural History** with dinosaurs, **Tinker Swiss Cottage Museum and Gardens**, kayaking, the **Coronado Theatre** and more.

— **Moline/Rock Island**: **John Deere's** legacy thrives in Moline at a reimagined hands-on pavilion along the Mississippi. Nearby Rock Island is home to a nightlife scene centered around the District, a pedestrian mall that lights up with restaurants, clubs and more.

— **Quincy** highlights include **Villa Kathrine**, the **Dollhouses Then & Now Museum** with more than 70 vintage furnished doll houses from the 1920s to now, **bald eagles at the Lock & Dam 21**, and the **World Aero Space Museum** with aircraft from the Cold War era—the only museum in the world preserving these types of aircraft in one location.

— **Bishop Hill** has **Sweet Annie Primitives**, the **Prairie Arts Center**, the **Henry County Historical Museum**, and many inns and gift stores.

— **Collinsville** has other offerings in addition to the Cahokia Mounds, including **Gateway Geyser Fountain**, the world's tallest fountain, reaching 627 feet in a pond that holds 5 million gallons of water; the **Gateway Fun Park**; **Casino Queen**; **Old Six Mile Museum** in the **Emmert-Zippel House** (158-year-



**Starved Rock
State Park in
Utica.**

Photo
courtesy of
Illinois Office of
Tourism

old home has displays of historic items including Civil War artifacts, a Native American collection, and 1830s furnishings); and the **Old Fire Engine Museum**.

— **Galesburg** has this **Discovery Depot Children's Museum**, **Galesburg Railroad Museum**, **Illinois Citizen Soldier Museum**, **Orpheum Theatre**, and the **Carl Sandburg State Historic Site** (author-poet Sandburg was born in the three-room cottage at 331 E. Third Street in Galesburg Jan. 6, 1878).

— **Gurnee** just north of Chicago has theme parks and endless shopping. Here, you can race down a roller coaster, splash through a water park, and shop the largest outlet mall in Illinois, packed with more than 200 stores. Family-friendly attractions include **KeyLime Cove Indoor Waterpark Resort** and **Six Flags Great America and Hurricane Harbor**.

— **Bloomington-Normal** are college towns with historic gems. Among the offerings are **Ewing Cultural Center**, **Grady's Family Fun Center**, **McLean County Museum of History**, **Genevieve Green Gardens**, **Children's Discovery Museum**, **Sweet Corn Blues Festival**, **Constitution Trail**, the **Funk Prairie Home Gem and Mineral Museum**, the **Illinois Shakespeare Festival**, and the nearby **Mackinaw River State Fish and Wildlife Area** in **Mackinaw**.

— Two other college towns in Central Illinois are **Champaign-Urbana**, early pioneers in gay rights. Highlights include the **Krannert Art Museum**, the **William M. Staerkel Planetarium**, **Japan House**, **Prairie Fire Glass** (in Monticello), **Pollinatarium** (U of Illinois Pollinatarium, the first free-standing science center in the nation devoted to flowering plants and their pollinators, located in an Arboretum), the **Wandell Sculpture Garden**, the **Krannert Center for the Performing Arts**, the **Chanute Air Museum** (in Rantoul, over 30 aircraft, including a rare P-51H Mustang and XB-47 Stratojet), and the **Blind Pig Brewery**.

— **Decatur** is also in Central Illinois, with features including the **Chevrolet Hall of Fame Museum**, **Anna Bethel Fisher Rock Garden**, **Children's Museum of Illinois**, **Never Forgotten Thymes Antiques** and the **Rock Springs Center for Environmental Discovery**.

The Great River Road.

Photo courtesy of Illinois Office of Tourism



— **Lincoln**, Illinois includes the **Lincoln Heritage Museum**, **Samuel Park's Office**, and the **Postville Courthouse State Historic Site**, a reproduction of the original courthouse where Abraham Lincoln practiced law.

— Every August in **Cobden**, Far Southern Illinois, there is a **Peach Fest**.

— **Joliet**, 40 miles southwest of Chicago, is known for its numerous **casinos**, the **Chicagoland Speedway**, the **Rialto Square Theatre**, the **Route 66 Raceway**, and did we say casinos?

— In October, catch the annual **Scarecrow Daze Festival**. The entire city of **Shelbyville** is decorated with scarecrows. With a different theme every year, entrants decorate their homes and businesses to the theme. There is also a large parade on Saturday, kids' games, a beer tent, music, a quilt show, and plenty of food and crafts, in downtown Shelbyville.

— The **Jane Addams Trail** in **Freeport** is a multi-use 17-mile recreational trail with beautiful scenery and 21 decked bridges, including a covered bridge in **Orangeville**, passing wetlands, creeks, woods, prairies, geologic formations and farmland. The trail is part of the **Grand Illinois Trail** which traverses northern Illinois from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River.

— There are several **State Fairs** in Illinois. The most well known takes place in Springfield, and it is full of politicians. The 2016 State Fair is Aug. 11-21. The Twilight Parade kicks off the event. The **Coalition of Rainbow Alliances**, or CORAL, is a **Central Illinois LGBT coalition**, and its float has won the best entrant in the parade for many years.

— The **Cache River Wetlands** in **Cypress** offer opportunities for eagle watching, as well as spotting other birds, especially December through March.

— The **Arthur Amish County Cheese Festival** is Sept. 3-5. They boast: "From the flip of that first pancake at the Firehouse Saturday morning to when the last bit of cheese is given away Labor Day afternoon, the residents of the Arthur area, along with mascots Artie Mouse and Miss Slice, invite you to come enjoy the weekend of festivities."

— **Dekalb County** 60 miles west of Chicago is rich in history and cultural diversity. They state: "Hike, bike, camp, golf, fish, canoe, or sled. Pick your own apples and pumpkins or discover the thrill of running through a corn maize. Enjoy a relaxing wine tour or tasting. Visit our museums. Shop for hidden treasures and antiques in our historical downtown shopping districts. Explore all the festivals and annual events." They host the **Make America Rock Again Festival** in September.

The above is *far* from an exhaustive list of what the state of Illinois has to offer. We hope you can't wait to travel the roadways and trails.



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GETTING OUT: LGBTQ EVENTS AND MAINSTREAM TREATS

It's a cliché but true: Chicago is a city of neighborhoods. While many major festivals take place downtown, especially in Grant Park and Millennium Park, there are hundreds of other street fairs, festivals, block parties, and other special events through the city and suburbs, and across the state of Illinois each year.

Choose Chicago, the tourism entity charged with promoting the city, lists many mainstream events on their website, and most of these are annual events.

For LGBTQs, some of the biggest events are the **International Mr. Leather** weekend over Memorial Day, with **Bear Pride** that same time period, **United Latinx Pride** (June 2-8, 2016), followed by the **Andersonville Midsommarfest** (June 10-12, 2016) and **Pride Fest** (June 18-19, 2016), the **Backlot Bash** across two weekends in June, **Dyke March** June 25, the **Pride Parade** the last Sunday of June (June 26, 2016), and lots of related Pride events, **Black Pride Weekend** July 1-4, the **Northalsted Market Days** weekend in August—this year Aug. 13-14, and the **Miss and Mr. Continental pageants** Labor Day Weekend in Chicago, hosted by Baton Show Lounge.

Throughout the year there are many LGBTQ events, benefits, sports tournaments and more. Some events are planned just weeks or days in advance, thus they can't be listed in an annual guide. So check the Windy City Times calendar for the dates of your visit to see what else is going on in the community and clubs.

Chicago SummerDance shows off the incredible diversity of Chicago from June 24-Sept 11, 2016 in the Spirit of Music Garden, 601 S. Michigan Ave., in Grant Park, which transforms into an urban dance space. Dance to the sounds of 44 different live bands and get into step with dance lessons beforehand. Glide across the restored 4,900-square-foot, 100-percent recycled, open-air dance floor designed by Chicago artist Dan Peterman. Swing, waltz, cha-cha and more, for free. Fridays and Saturdays dance lessons 6-7 p.m. music and dancing: 7:30-9:30 p.m. Sundays dance lessons 4-5 p.m., music and dancing: 5-7 p.m.

The **Chicago Air and Water Show** is also free, held at North Avenue Beach Aug. 20-21, 2016, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., weather dependent. You don't have to be at that exact location to see the planes and boats participating in the weekend along Chicago's North Lakefront.

Throughout the summer, usually from end of May thru early September, enjoy **Navy Pier Summer Fireworks**, synchronized to music, weather dependent, Saturdays at 10:15 p.m., Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m.

There is an annual **Bike the Drive** that is a nice kick-off for the summer, with bikes taking over the famous Lake Shore Drive along Chicago's gorgeous lakefront. See www.bikethedrive.org for details on the May 29, 2016 event, and when it will be in 2017.

Also in May each year is the **Chicago Kids and Kites Festival**. It is held at Cricket Hill at Montrose and the Lake. Check with the city for 2017 date and time info.

Enjoy the culture of Chinatown with the annual **Chicago Dragon Boat Race for Literacy**. The Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce will host the

16th Annual Dragon Boat Race for Literacy June 25, 2016 at Ping Tom Memorial Park in Chinatown. The Chinese dragon boat race dates back more than 2,000 years and is a popular sport among Chinese and Asian communities all over the world. In 2015, more than 10,000 visitors watched 30 dragon boat teams race on the Chicago River. See www.chicagochinatown.org/dragon-boat.

What follows is a list of more highlights for 2016 in Chicago. See www.choosechicago.com for updated lists, and for 2017 events. Plus check out the www.windycitymediagroup.com calendar page for LGBT-related events.

June 2016

- Out of the Office LGBT Event June 1, The Godfrey Rooftop, 127 W. Huron (lgbtcc.com)
- United Latinx Pride/Orgullo Latinx Unido, June 2-8 (www.unitedlatino-pride.org)
- Maifest June 2-5
- Pivot Arts Festival June 2-12
- Chicago Gospel Music Festival June 3-4
- Do Division June 3-5
- Taste of Little Village: Flavors of Mexico June 3-5
- 57th Street Art Fair June 4-5
- Lincoln Park Greek Fest June 5-7
- Copa America Centenario June 5, 7, 10
- Millennium Park Music Series June 6-August 25
- Andersonville Midsommarfest June 10-12
- Ribfest Chicago June 10-12
- Chicago Blues Festival June 10-12
- America's Cup World Series June 10 -12
- Spring Awakening Music Festival June 10-12
- Pilsen Food Truck Social June 11-12
- Remix Chicago: Chicago's Recycled Art Fair June 11-12
- Wells Street Art Festival June 11-12
- Grant Park Music Festival June 15-Aug. 20
- Puerto Rican Festival & Parade June 16-19
- Chicago Ale Fest June 17-18
- Brew to Be Wild June 17-18
- Oakley Festa Pasta Vino June 17-19
- Taste of Randolph June 17-19
- Windy City Lake Shake June 17-19
- Chicago Pride Fest June 18-19
- Green Music Fest June 18-19
- Puerto Rican People's Parade June 19
- Dew Tour at Grant Park Skate Park June 20-21
- Make Music Chicago June 21
- Millennium Park Summer Film Series June 21-Aug. 30
- Copa America Centenario June 22
- Gold Coast Art Fair June 24-26
- Gold Coast Greek Fest June 24-26
- Logan Square Arts Festival June 24-26
- Chicago SummerDance June 24-Sept. 11
- Old St. Pat's World's Largest Block Party June 25
- Rachael Ray's Feedback Festival June 25
- Randolph Street Market Festival June 25-26
- Back Lot Bash June 16-19, June 24-26
- Proud to Run Chicago June 25 (www.proudtorun.org)
- Dyke March June 25
- Chicago Pride Parade June 26
- Montrose Rocks post-Parade event, Montrose and the Lake
- Pride North June 26

Chicago Dyke March.

Photo by Vern Hester



Chicago Pride Fest.

Photo by Linda "Kizzy" Ramos



July 2016

- Chicago Black Pride July 1-4 (chicagoblackpride.net)
- African/Caribbean International Festival of Life July 1-4
- Chosen Few Picnic: House Music Festival July 2-3
- Windy City RibFest in Uptown July 2-4
- Fourth of July Fireworks at Navy Pier July 4
- Taste of Chicago July 6-10
- Millennium Art Festival July 8-10
- Square Roots Festival July 8-10
- Ruido Fest July 8-10
- West Fest July 8-10
- Ride for AIDS Chicago July 9-10 (www.rideforaids.org)
- Roscoe Village Burger Fest July 9-10
- Irish American Heritage Festival July 10-12
- artfest Michigan Avenue July 15-17
- Windy City Smokeout July 15-17
- Pitchfork Music Festival July 15-17
- Southport Art & Music Fest July 16-17
- Chinatown Summer Fair July 17
- Dearborn Garden Walk July 17
- Taste of River North July 22-24
- Disability Pride Parade July 23
- Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac July 23
- Wicker Park Fest July 23-24
- Chicago Craft Beer Festival July 23-24
- Fiesta del Sol July 28-31
- Lollapalooza, 25th annual, July 28-31
- Chicago Margarita Festival July 30-31
- Randolph Street Market Festival July 30-31



Miss Continental.

Photo by Hal Baim

August 2016

- Chicago Hot Dog Fest Aug. 5-7
- Edge Fest Aug. 6-7
- Taste of Lincoln Avenue Aug. 6-7
- Wrigleyville SummerFest Aug. 6-7
- Ginza Festival Chicago Aug. 12-14
- Retro on Roscoe Aug. 12-14
- Northalsted Market Days Aug. 13-14
- West Loop Art Fair Aug. 17-18
- Clark After Dark Aug. 18
- Festa Italiana Aug. 19-21
- Edison Park Fest Aug. 19-21
- Chicago Air & Water Show Aug. 20-21
- Albany Park World Fest Aug. 20-21
- Chicago Dancing Festival Aug. 22-28
- Taste of Greektown Aug. 27-28
- Bucktown Arts Festival Aug. 27-28
- Randolph Street Market Festival Aug. 27-28
- Transamerica Chicago Triathlon Aug. 28 (Team to End AIDS competes, www.t2ea.com)



Photos by Tracy Baim for Windy City Times



Chicago celebrates June Pride Month every year with dozens of events throughout the month.

The Chicago Annual Pride Parade, the largest event of the month is scheduled each year for the last Sunday in June.

**For more information:
www.ChicagoPrideCalendar.org**

AIDS Run & Walk Chicago.

Photo by Hal Baim



September 2016

- Chicago Jazz Festival Sept. 1-4
- Chicago Fringe Festival Sept. 1-11
- Asians & Friends Chicago, gay group, hosts International Friendship Conference Sept. 2-5 (IFCON2016.org)
- Great American Lobster Fest Sept. 2-3
- North Coast Music Festival Sept. 2-4
- African Festival of the Arts Sept. 2-5
- Taste of Polonia September 2-5
- Miss Continental and Mr. Continental pageants weekend, Sept. 3-5, hosted by Baton Show Lounge (www.thebatonshowlounge.com)
- Out at Wrigley, gay day at the Cubs game, Sept. 4 (outatwrigley.com)
- Chicago's Best Summer WingFest Sept. 5
- Windy City Wine Festival Sept. 9-10
- German Day Festival & Von Steuben Parade Sept. 9-11
- World Music Festival Sept. 9-25
- Out in the Park at Six Flags Great America Sept. 10 (gaysixflagschicago.com)
- Lakeview East Festival of the Arts Sept. 10-11
- 26th Street Mexican Independence Day Parade Sept. 11
- South Chicago Mexican Independence Day Parade Sept. 11
- Venetian Night at Navy Pier Sept. 10
- Renegade Craft Fair Sept. 10-11
- Ravenswood ArtWalk Sept. 10-11
- Festival de La Villita Sept. 11-13
- Leather Archives & Museum 25th Anniversary Sept. 16-18 (www.leatherarchives.org)
- Riot Fest & Carnival Sept. 16-18
- Sam Adams' Lakeview Taco Fest Sept. 17-18
- Reeling Chicago LGBTQ+ International Film Festival Sept. 22-29 (reelingfilmfestival.org)
- EXPO Chicago Sept. 22-25
- Chicago Gourmet Sept. 23-25
- Hyde Park Jazz Festival Sept. 24-25
- Randolph Street Market Festival Sept. 24-25
- Oktoberfest Chicago Sept. 25-27
- Chicago Half Marathon Sept. 25 (Team to End AIDS runs, www.t2ea.com)

October 2016

- AIDS Run & Walk Chicago Oct. 1 (events.aidschicago.org)
- Chicago Artists Month Oct. 1 – 31
- Rocktober Beerfest Oct. 7-9
- Chicago Marathon Oct. 9 (Team to End AIDS runs, www.t2ea.com)
- Columbus Day Parade Oct. 10
- Chicago International Film Festival Oct. 13-27
- Open House Chicago presented by Chicago Architecture Foundation Oct. 15-16
- Chicago Ideas Week Oct. 17-23
- Randolph Street Market Festival Oct. 29-30
- Northalsted Business Alliance hosts their Northalsted Halloween Parade Oct. 31 (www.northalsted.com/events)

November 2016

- SOFA Art + Design Fair Nov. 3-6
- The Rugby Weekend Nov. 4-5
- Mr. International Rubber Nov. 4-6
- McCormick Tribune Ice Skating Rink in Millennium Park Nov. 13-March 6, 2017
- Christkindlmarket Nov. 18-Dec. 24 at Daley Plaza downtown
- Randolph Street Holiday Market Nov. 19-20
- The Magnificent Mile Lights Festival Nov. 19
- Transgender Day of Remembrance, an observance Nov. 20 around the world to honor the memories of those whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. There are usually several Chicago-area events with tributes.
- Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Nov. 22
- Caroling at Cloud Gate in Millennium Park Nov. 22-December; Fridays
- McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade Nov. 24
- Randolph Street Holiday Market Nov. 26-27
- ZooLights at Lincoln Park Zoo Nov. 27 – Jan. 1, 2017
- Wreathing of the Lions at the Art Institute of Chicago Nov. 27
- West Town Winterfest Nov. 28



Pride North.

Photo by Kirk Williamson

December 2016

- World of Chocolate is an annual fundraiser for the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, held each December. In 2016, it is on Dec. 1, which is World AIDS Day, at Revel Fulton Market. See events.aidschicago.org.
- Caroling at Cloud Gate in Millennium Park thru Dec. 18; Fridays
- Santa House at Daley Plaza thru Dec. 24
- Christkindlmarket thru Dec. 24 at Daley Plaza downtown
- ZooLights at Lincoln Park Zoo thru Jan. 1, 2017
- Winter WonderFest at Navy Pier Dec. 1-Jan. 8, 2017
- McCormick Tribune Ice Skating Rink in Millennium Park thru March 6, 2017
- One of A Kind Show and Sale Dec. 1-4
- Holiday Magic at Brookfield Zoo Dec. 3-18; Saturdays and Sundays Dec. 26-31
- Renegade Craft Fair Holiday Dec. 3-4
- Randolph Street Holiday Market Dec. 10-11
- New Year's Eve Fireworks at Navy Pier Dec. 31
- Chi-Town Rising: NYE Celebration Dec. 31

If you're coming to Chicago in 2017, check back closer to the end of 2016 for exact dates for these annual events:

January: Chicago Sketch Comedy Festival, Rhinoceros Theater Festival, Tomorrow Never Knows Festival, Chicago Boat, Sports & RV Show, Chicago Cubs Convention, Fillet of Solo Festival, SoxFest, Chicago Restaurant Week, IKC Dog Show, Randolph Street Market Festival.

February: Snow Days Chicago at Navy Pier, Chicago Theatre Week, University of Chicago Folk Festival, Chicago Auto Show, Chicago Chinese New Year Celebration, Lunar New Year Parade.

March: St. Patrick's Day Downtown Parade and River Dyeing, Chicago Flower & Garden Show at Navy Pier, Southside Irish Parade, Northwest Side Irish Parade, C2E2: Chicago Comic and Entertainment Expo, Good Food Festival, Macy's Flower Show.

April: Chicago Dance Month, River North Beer Fest, CHIRP Record Fair, CIMMfest: The Chicago International Movies & Music Festival, Chicago Zine Fest, Baconfest Chicago.

May: Chicago Improv Festival, James Beard Foundation Awards, Chicago Kids and Kites Festival, Chicago Symphony Orchestra Spring Festival, Chicago Craft Beer Week, Mayfest, Frank Lloyd Wright Trust presents Wright Plus Housewalk, Lincoln Park Wine Festival, Chicago Memorial Day Parade, Randolph Street Market Festival, Belmont-Sheffield Music Festival, Mole de Mayo, Maifest. And don't forget International Mr. Leather, held every Memorial Weekend, and Bear Pride that week as well. See imrl.com and bearpride.org.



International Mr. Leather.
Photo by Verdell Shannon

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TAKING THE LEGACY WALK IN CHICAGO

Chicago's award-winning "Legacy Walk" in Boystown is the world's only outdoor LGBT History Museum. This half-mile span of the Northalsted Streetscape, which starts at Belmont and moves north, features 35 bronze memorial markers affixed to steel "Rainbow Pylons"—lighted spires that define the area as the cultural, business, and entertainment center of LGBTQ Chicago. It is the only permanent, architecturally defined "LGBT Village" on earth.

The Legacy Walk's biographical tributes celebrate the contributions of LGBT people to world history and culture. This international and multicultural installation features Chicago-based social justice pioneer Jane Addams; civil-rights icon Bayard Rustin; Mexican artist Frida Kahlo; British code-breaker Alan Turing; U.S. Rep. Barbara Jordan; Puerto Rican education advocate Doctor Antonia Pantoja; dramatist Oscar Wilde; astronaut Sally Ride; author



James Baldwin; transgender trailblazer Christine Jorgensen; Chicago playwright Lorraine Hansberry; and about two dozen more LGBT heroes who have made indelible contributions to the world.

The Legacy Walk is digitally linked to a cloud-based system accessed by smartphone that delivers video and education resources to the user in real-time. The installation serves as the centerpiece of education efforts for bullied LGBTQ youth who come to Boystown on field trips to learn about an aspect history they have been denied.

Visitors can arrange for privately guided tours that can be coupled with dinner, shopping and drinks to round out a day filled with both LGBT cultural history and entertainment—an ideal way to spend time with your friends or co-workers in your company's employee resource group. The perfect outing. For more information, visit www.legacyprojectchicago.org, 312-608-1198.

THE LEGACY WALK

WORLD'S ONLY OUTDOOR LGBT MUSEUM

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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.LEGACYPROJECTCHICAGO.ORG
OR CALL 312-608-1198

CHICAGO'S LGBTQ COMMUNITY CENTER

Center on Halsted is the Midwest's most comprehensive community center, dedicated to advancing and securing the health and well-being of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) community.

Center on Halsted is located in the heart of Chicago's Lake View neighborhood at 3656 N Halsted St., open every day 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Though Center on Halsted's building opened in 2007, its history actually goes back to its founding in 1973 as Gay Horizons and subsequently Horizons Community Services. The organization began as a volunteer-run information clearinghouse and a meeting place for gays and lesbians. The HELPLINE was its first program, established for people to access information and referrals for social, professional, recreational and medical purposes.

Impacting the lives of approximately 35,000 LGBTQ individuals a year through social services and community programs, they work to provide a safe and welcoming environment for the entire community. Center on Halsted offers youth and senior programming, behavioral health services, HIV testing, anti-violence work, and educational programming such as the GED. Additionally, thousands of individuals use the facility for basketball, volleyball, hockey, performances, art, music and other activities.

Center on Halsted also serves as an incubator for a number of smaller LGBTQ non-profit organizations, called Resident Partners.

In addition, there is a Whole Foods Market. Free wi-fi access is available in the building including the lobby, reading library, theater, recreation hall and rooftop terrace. Contact: 773-472-646, www.centeronhalsted.org.



Center on Halsted.

Image courtesy of the Center



CENTER ON 3656 N. HALSTED

Center on Halsted is the largest, most comprehensive community center in the Midwest dedicated to advancing community & securing the health & well being of the LGBTQ community of Chicagoland.



Visit Us:
centeronhalsted.org
3656 N. Halsted
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8am - 9pm



Connect With Community

- Tours
- Cyber Center
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- Art Gallery
- Performances
- Walk-In HIV Testing



NEIGHBORHOODS: IN AND AROUND CHICAGO

It's been said many times that Chicago is a city of neighborhoods. And it is very true. Some of that presents visitors with fun opportunities to experience vibrant areas of ethnic and cultural diversity. But some of those divisions represent racial and class divides—that's when the "city of neighborhoods" becomes more like uncrossable border lines.

If you visit the city, we suggest you don't just stay downtown, but venture out north, west, south . . . and to the parts that are east. To orient yourself, know that Lake Michigan is always to the east, and that the Chicago River starts downtown and has branches running through both the North and South sides. This city operates on a grid structure, so it's very easy to navigate, with great public transit, Uber, taxis, bike and walking trails, and more.

To start with, let's take a look at the 77 "official" areas of the city, knowing that there are many, like "Boystown" in Lakeview, that are not on the list. The following list is from The Chicago 77: www.thechicago77.com/chicago-neighborhoods/. You can see a full city map here: www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/doit/general/GIS/Chicago_Maps/Citywide_Maps/Community_Areas_W_Numbers.pdf.

Note that sometimes an area can be a bit amorphous.

Far North Side:

Rogers Park (Loyola, Rogers Park)

West Ridge (Nortown, Peterson Park, Rosehill, West Ridge, West Rogers Park)

Uptown (Clarendon Park, Buena Park, New Chinatown, Sheridan Park, Uptown)

Lincoln Square (Bowmanville, Budlong Woods, Lincoln Square, Ravenswood, Ravenswood Gardens)

Edison Park (Edison Park)

Norwood Park (Big Oaks, Norwood Park, Old Norwood, Oriole Park, Union Ridge)

Jefferson Park (Gladstone Park, Jefferson Park)

Forest Glen (Edgebrook, Forest Glen, Middle Edgebrook, Sauganash, Wildwood)

North Park (Hollywood Park, North Park, Pulaski Park)

Albany Park (Albany Park, Mayfair, North Mayfair, Ravenswood Manor)

O'Hare (O'Hare, Schorsch Forest View)

Edgewater (Andersonville, Edgewater, Edgewater Glen, Epic, Lakewood/Balmoral)

North Side:

North Center (Northcenter, Roscoe Village, Saint Ben's)

Lakeview (Lake View East, North Halsted, West Lakeview, Wrigleyville)

Lincoln Park (DePaul, Old Town Triangle, Park West, Lincoln Park, Ranch Triangle, Sheffield Neighbors, Wrightwood Neighbors)

Avondale (Avondale, Jackowo, Wacawowo)

Logan Square (Logan Square, Bucktown, Palmer Square)

Northwest Side:

Portage Park (Portage Park, Six Corners)

Irving Park (Irving Park, Kilbourn Park, Old Irving Park, The Villa)

Dunning (Belmont Heights, Belmont Terrace, Dunning, Irving Woods, Schorsch Village)

Montclare (Montclare)

Belmont Cragin (Brickyard, Cragin, Hanson Park)

Hermosa (Belmont Gardens, Hermosa, Kelvin Park)

Central, Near North, and Near South Side:

Near North Side (Cabrini-Green, Dearborn Parkway, The Gold Coast, Goose Island, Magnificent Mile, Near North Side, Old Town, River North, River West, State Parkway, Streeterville)

Loop (The Loop, New Eastside, Printer's Row, South Loop)

Near South Side (Dearborn Park, Near South Side, Museum Park, Central Station, Prairie Avenue Historic District)

West and Near West Side:**Humboldt Park** (Humboldt Park)**West Town** (East Village, Noble Square, Ukrainian Village, Smith Park, West Town, Wicker Park)**Austin** (Austin, Galewood, The Island)**West Garfield Park** (West Garfield Park)**East Garfield Park** (East Garfield Park, Fifth City)**Near West Side** (Columbus Circle, Greektown, Little Italy, Medical Center, Near West Side, Tri-Taylor, Fulton River District, University Village)**North Lawndale** (North Lawndale)**South Lawndale** (Little Village, South Lawndale, Marshall Square)**Lower West Side** (Heart of Chicago, Lower West Side, Pilsen)**Southwest Side:****Garfield Ridge** (Garfield Ridge, Le Claire Courts, Sleepy Hollow, Vittum Park)**Archer Heights** (Archer Heights)**Brighton Park** (Brighton Park)**McKinley Park** (McKinley Park)**New City** (Back of the Yards, Canaryville, New City)**West Elsdon** (West Elsdon)**Gage Park** (Gage Park)**Clearing** (Chrysler Village, Clearing)**West Lawn** (Ford City, West Lawn)**Chicago Lawn** (Chicago Lawn, Lithuanian Plaza, Marquette Park)**West Englewood** (West Englewood)**Englewood** (Englewood, Hamilton Park)**South Side:****Armour Square** (Armour Square, Chinatown, Wentworth Gardens)**Douglas** (Bronzeville, Douglas, Groveland Park, Lake Meadows, Prairie Shores, South Commons)**Oakland** (Oakland)**Fuller Park** (Fuller Park)**Grand Boulevard** (Grand Boulevard)**Kenwood** (Kenwood)**Washington Park** (Washington Park)**Hyde Park** (Hyde Park)**Woodlawn** (Woodlawn)**South Shore** (Jackson Park Highlands, South Shore)**Bridgeport** (Bridgeport)**Greater Grand Crossing** (Grand Crossing, Greater Grand Crossing, Park Manor)**Far Southwest Side:****Ashburn** (Ashburn, Ashburn Estates, Beverly View, Crestline, Parkview, Scottsdale, Wrightwood)**Auburn Gresham** (Auburn Gresham, Gresham)**Beverly** (Beverly, West Beverly)**Washington Heights** (Brainerd, Longwood Manor, Washington Heights)**Mount Greenwood** (Mount Greenwood, Talley's Corner)**Morgan Park** (Beverly Woods, Kennedy Park, Morgan Park, West Morgan Park)**Far South Side:****Chatham** (Chatham, West Chesterfield)**Avalon Park** (Avalon Park, Marynook, Stony Island Park)**South Chicago** (South Chicago)**Burnside** (Burnside)**Calumet Heights** (Calumet Heights, Pill Hill)**Roseland** (Fernwood, Princeton Park, Roseland)**Pullman** (Cottage Grove Heights, Pullman)**South Deering** (Jeffrey Manor, South Deering)**East Side** (East Side)**West Pullman** (West Pullman)**Riverdale** (Altgeld Gardens, Eden Green, Golden Gate, Riverdale)**Hegewisch** (Hegewisch)



The City of Big Shoulders has vibrant neighborhoods both downtown and throughout the city, border to border.

Photo by Nick Olivieri, courtesy Illinois Office of Tourism

Elsewhere in this guide we detail many attractions in these neighborhoods, from parks to restaurants, bars, attractions and more. Below are some details on a few key neighborhoods in the city itself, and nearby suburbs, that you may also want to check out. Also see the LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois, lgbtcc.com.

Andersonville: Andersonville is one of the most concentrated areas of Swedish heritage in Chicago and also represents a wide array of cultures including a large LGBTQ population. Formerly affectionately called “Girls Town,” the area is very mixed now and is more “LGBTQ Town.” It has also demonstrated a commitment to maintaining the planet with its eco-Andersonville composting program. Women & Children First Bookstore was one of the earliest LGBT business pioneers of the area, which now has dozens of LGBT-owned small and large businesses and nonprofits. Contact the Andersonville Chamber of Commerce at 773-728-2995, www.andersonville.org.

Beverly: The Beverly Arts Center anchors this Far South Side neighborhood. The 40,000-square-foot space houses a 400-seat theater, art gallery, exhibition spaces, music and dance studios, art classrooms and event rental spaces including a courtyard and light-filled atrium. See www.beverlyartcenter.org. Also see www.bapa.org.

Bronzeville: Between 1910 and 1920, tens of thousands of African American workers journeyed to Bronzeville to escape oppression in the U.S. South. As one of the most significant landmarks of the “Great Migration,” this South Side neighborhood is an African American cultural allure. Bronzeville’s 20th Century resurgence is responsible for tremendous cultural and social advances. Pulitzer Prize-winner Gwendolyn Brooks, civil-rights activist Ida B. Wells and legendary musician Louis Armstrong were profoundly responsible for the area’s development and cultural crusade, which included advances in civil rights, jazz, blues and gospel music. Of note is a sculpture-adorned stretch of Martin Luther King Drive with Alison Saar’s “Monument to the Great Northern Migration,” The Bronzeville Walk of Fame and The Victory Monument. www.bronzevillechamber.com.

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lakevieweast.com





One of the rainbow pylons of North Halsted in Boystown.

Photo by Hal Baim

Boystown: Boystown, in Lakeview, is one of the most well-known LGBTQ communities in the U.S., and it was the first to have public recognition through street markers—rainbow-colored pylons along the street from Belmont to Waveland. Those markers also are home to The Legacy Walk (by The Legacy Project), the world’s first outdoor LGBTQ museum, with plaques honoring LGBTQs from throughout history and from around the world. The city’s LGBTQ community center, the Center on Halsted, and its neighboring LGBTQ senior facility, are on the street, as are dozens of bars and businesses. The annual Pride Parade marches down Halsted. Sidetrack, one of the biggest gay bars in the world, is on the strip. The Northalsted Business Alliance hosts numerous events on the street each year, including Pride Fest, the Halloween Parade, and the always-popular Northalsted Market Days. See www.northalsted.com.



andersonville

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SUMMER/FALL 2016 EVENTS

FARMERS MARKET ●

→ *Wednesdays*

MAY 11-AUG 31: 3-8pm

SEPT 7-OCT 19: 3-7pm

● MIDSOMMARFEST

June 10-12 ←

SUMMER SIDEWALK SALE ●

→ *July 22-24*

● TASTE OF ANDERSONVILLE DINNER CRAWL

August 10 ←

CITY MADE FEST ●

→ *September 17-18*

● ANDERSONVILLE ARTS WEEKEND

October 14-16 ←

DESSERT CRAWL ●

→ *October 30*

andersonville.org



One of the enormous, metal Puerto Rican flags that welcome visitors to Humboldt Park. Pictured here is the start of the 2014 Dyke March on Division just west of Western.

Photo by Tracy Baim

Bridgeport: This area on the Southwest Side has a complicated past as home to controversial white ethnic political dynasties such as the Daleys, but it is now a burgeoning arts, culture and dining area, including the Bridgeport Art Center. Don't miss Polo Cafe & Catering for dining, and they also have a beautiful B&B. See www.polocafe.com or www.southloopchamberofcommerce.com.

Chinatown: Chinatown on the Near South Side is the neighborhood of Chicago that houses many Chinese immigrant families and businesses. See chicago-chinatown.org for info on events including the Chinese New Year festivities, the Dragon Boat Race and more.

Edgewater: On the Far North Lakefront, Edgewater is famous for its expansive beaches and sprawling park space, with an eclectic mix of shopping and dining, including restaurants by African and East European immigrants. Between its lantern lights and vintage lamp posts, the neighborhood's Bryn Mawr Historic District is a charming reminder of the city's 1920s era. Bryn Mawr Avenue is lined with notably significant buildings, including the historic Belle Shore Apartment Hotel and Edgewater Presbyterian Church. The Edgewater Beach Apartments was an infamous playground for celebrities in the 1950s. See www.edgewater.org.

Grand Crossing: This South Side area includes the Cyrill Historic District and Woodhull Park, among others. Perhaps most exciting is the newly renovated Stony Island Trust & Savings Bank, transformed by artist Theaster Gates and his Rebuild Foundation team into the Stony Island Arts Bank, at East 68th Street and Stony Island. The record collection of the late gay DJ Frankie Knuckles, called the godfather of House music, is located here, plus the Johnson Publishing Archive and much more. Gates has transformed many structures into various arts venues on the city's South Side, including the Black Cinema House, the Dorchester Art + Housing Collaborative, Archive House and Listening House. See rebuild-foundation.org.

Greektown: On the Near West Side is Greektown, an area featuring some of the best in Greek dining, plus the National Hellenic Museum, the first major museum in the country dedicated to the Greek journey, from ancient times to the modern Greek American experience. See greektownchicago.org.

Humboldt Park: Affixed with two enormous, metal Puerto Rican flags that measure almost 60 feet in height, Humboldt Park is rooted in a proud Latino tradition. With streets that are decorated in vibrant murals and air that smells of carne guisada, Humboldt Park is a Caribbean escape shrouded in urban charm. One-quarter of Humboldt Park's residents are of Puerto Rican descent and the area's cultural epicenter, known as the Paseo Boricua, bursts with national pride and Spanish Colonial architecture. On this stretch of Division Street, you will find authentic Latin cuisine, specialty shopping and the National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture, 3015 W. Division, a tribute to the area's deeply rooted heritage. As an event that draws more than one-million people every year, the neighborhood's Puerto Rican People's Parade each June is one of the highest-attended Latino celebrations in the country. And keeping with the festive theme, the area hosts Fiesta Boricua, an annual block party that draws tens of thousands of visitors every summer. See nmprac.org.

Hyde Park: Hyde Park on the South Side is rated one of the 10 most beautiful neighborhoods in America. It has been home to a number of notable figures, including Clarence Darrow, Enrico Fermi, Muhammad Ali, Mahalia Jackson, Sara Paretzky and Barack Obama. The Lake Michigan shoreline, Washington Park, Midway Plaisance and the community of Kenwood in Chicago bound Hyde Park. Visit www.hydeparkchamberchicago.org.

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Lakeview East: The Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce on the city's North Side hosts many special events throughout the year, including the Lakeview East Festival of the Arts, neighborhood nights, and a fashion show. It is a community-based organization designed to represent and help merchants and other business people in the community. The area includes the Century Shopping Centre with a movie theater inside, numerous restaurants, retail and gift stores, and includes many LGBT-owned businesses. See www.lakevieweast.com.

Lincoln Square/Ravenswood: Founded in 1948, the Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce is an association of 250 local businesses, institutions, and professionals. The community is host to many one-of-a-kind shops, restaurants, cafés, and arts centers that reflect the neighborhood's wide appeal. See www.lincolnsquare.org.

Little Italy: The Little Italy neighborhood is a living legacy of Chicago's immigrant past. Here food is culture and history remains engrained in stone—from the humble halls of the original settlement homes at Jane Addams Hull-House Museum to the vaulted ceilings of The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii. On Taylor Street, from Morgan Street west to Ashland Avenue, you will find restaurants that span generations. The West Central Association Chamber of Commerce includes Little Italy, West Loop, Greektown, Madison Street, Randolph Street, Jackson Blvd., Fulton River District, Fulton Market, United Center Park, Tri-Taylor, University Village and Commons and Roosevelt Square. See www.wcachicago.org.

Little Village: If you start on one end of 26th Street, it might take you a while to get to the other. This two-mile-long commercial district that anchors the Little Village neighborhood (known as La Villita in Spanish but also more formally as South Lawndale) is second only to the Michigan Avenue district in terms of shopping power. It's an authentic slice of home for the Mexican-American community that resides here and is a port of entry for many incoming Latinos. Amid colorful murals, you'll find just about every kind of small business on this street: ethnic grocery stores, bakeries, a candy shop, plus storefronts filled with everything from dazzling quinceañera party dresses to leather Western wear. For those who pass under the terra cotta Bienvenidos a Little Village archway looking for a true taste of the "Mexico of the Midwest," you won't be disappointed. See littlevillagechamber.org.

Logan Square: "Cheap eats and bike-friendly streets," writes Choose Chicago. "Gourmet coffee, scruffy dive bars and artisanal cocktail lounges. Some may say it's a recipe for a hipster haven but there's a proud, working-class sensibility that keeps this Northwest Side neighborhood grounded." There is even an LGBTQ-friendly housing development being proposed. "Local" is a key word when describing many aspects of the scene: ingredients in food and beer, art in galleries and music at concerts and fests. The actual Logan Square comes together at the intersection of Kedzie and Logan Boulevard, where a circle interchange meets with Milwaukee Avenue. The boulevards themselves are widened thoroughfares that are set apart by grassy, landscaped medians and tall, stately trees that border both its sides. The neighborhood boasts four of them and these link to form Chicago's "Emerald Necklace," an expansive system of interconnected parks and streetscapes dotted with beautifully restored mansions, handsome greystone homes and majestic churches. See loganchamber.org.

Michigan Avenue: Chicago's "Magnificent Mile" is the city's most popular shopping district, dotted with brand-name stores and large hotels. There are many special events throughout the year, and the new Chicago Riverwalk has



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only added to the choices of things to do and see. Visit www.themagnificentmile-association.com.

Pilsen: This heavily Latino area near downtown includes many restaurants and special events, and is known for its celebration of arts and for the Chicago Arts District, which has gallery nights monthly, see www.chicagoartsdistrict.org. Also see www.greaterpilsen.org.

Pullman: Located on the Far South Side of the city, Pullman is a unique area coming back from years of neglect. The development was built by the Pullman Company, and there are walking tours available. Pullman has many historic and architecturally significant buildings, including the Hotel Florence, the Arcade Building (destroyed in the 1920s), the Clock Tower and Factory, Market Square and Greenstone Church. Kensington in the nearby Roseland area is home of one of the many beautiful churches in Chicago, built in Polish Cathedral style, the former church of St. Salomea, now used by Salem Baptist Church. The National A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum, open seasonally April 1-Dec. 1, was founded in 1995 by Dr. Lyn Hughes. The facility, 10406 S. Maryland Ave., is located in the Historic Pullman District in Chicago. On Feb. 19, 2015 President Barack Obama designated the Historic Pullman district a National Monument that is now a part of the National Park Service. The museum is named after men who made history—Asa Philip Randolph and Pullman Porters, the men who made up the membership of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters union, the first African-American labor union in the country to win a collective bargaining agreement. See www.pullmanportermuseum.info or www.pullmanchamber.com.

Rogers Park/West Rogers Park: There are a lot of LGBT bars and other businesses and attractions in this Far North area of the city. The Leather Archives & Museum, Touché and Jackhammer bars and the Leather 64 Ten retailer are among them. The bar Rogers Park Social is quickly becoming a gem of the neighborhood, along with its sister store, the one-stop dinner party shop, Rogers Park Provisions. The area also has a Pride North event each Pride Sunday. See www.westridgechamber.org and rogersparkchamberofcommerce.blogspot.com.

South Loop: This area has been targeted for major expansion by the city, including a new 10,000-seat stadium, major hotels, and the mayor has been struggling to get the Lucas Museum approved for the lakefront, to complement the existing Museum Campus (the Shedd Aquarium, Field Museum of Natural History and the Adler Planetarium). Soldier Field is also in the South Loop, as is the ever-growing McCormick Place convention center. The Prairie District Neighborhood Alliance hosts community events throughout the year, including an Easter egg hunt, a Taste of the South Loop and a fall event celebrating the history of the area. Many of their events take place in the Chicago Women's Park and Gardens, a beautifully landscaped small park with a field house. In the park are the Clarke House and the Jane Addams hands sculpture, and bordering the park is the Glessner House Museum, which gives tours of this restored 18th Century home. One of Chicago's many beautiful, massive churches is also in the South Loop. Second Presbyterian Church of Chicago, one of the oldest congregations in the city (founded in 1842), with stained-glass windows and Arts & Crafts interior. Printer's Row is also just south of downtown. See www.pdnachicago.com, www.2ndpresbyterian.org and glessnerhouse.org.

Uptown: This has been a gateway community for immigrants for many generations, and LGBTQs have been part of the mix for decades. Gentrification is threatening its mix of peoples. But there are many friendly dive bars and LGBTQ places to visit, plus large concert venues. See www.exploreuptown.org and www.uptownchicagocommission.org.

Wicker Park and Bucktown: The Wicker Park District has been part of Chicago since its incorporation as a city in 1837. The major influx of residential and commercial structures occurred in this part of the city as a result of Chicago's Great Conflagration (Fire) in 1871. A vibrant community, the Wicker Park District became home to many families that would become vital to Chicago's growth and prosperity. Wicker Park had a diverse mix of ethnic and economic residents living side by side—and it still does today. Now restaurants and entertainment co-mingle with classy shops that offer everything from couturier garments to contemporary and antique home furnishings. The Flatiron Artist's Association is a private, not-for-profit company dedicated to the promotion of the arts in the Wicker Park/Bucktown area. The Flat Iron Arts Building is located at 1579 N. Milwaukee Ave. On First Friday, there is a nominal cover charge to visit the galleries and artists. See www.flatironchicago.com and www.wickerparkbucktown.com.

Near Suburbs

Oak Park/Berwyn: The Near West suburbs of Oak Park, Berwyn, Cicero, River Forest and more offer an incredible selection of restaurants, tourist attractions, art, shopping and more. Highlights include Frank Lloyd Wright's Unity Temple, the Frank Lloyd Wright Home & Studio and Ernest Hemingway's Birthplace. Oak Park was among the first towns in Illinois to fully welcome LGBTQ people. The Oak Park Area Lesbian and Gay Association and the Berwyn United Gay and Lesbian Organization have been integral parts of their communities. The Visit Oak Park organization actually represents more than a dozen neighboring communities in addition to its own thriving area. See www.visitoakpark.com.

Evanston: This area just north of Chicago was also among the earliest communities welcoming of LGBTQ people, as well as pushing for a racially diverse mix of people. Wide sandy beaches of Lake Michigan, historic mansions on landscaped boulevards, tree-lined bicycle paths, beautiful parks, the Grosse Point Lighthouse, the Merrick Rose Garden, the world-renowned Northwestern University, and thriving business districts are part of this town. See www.evchamber.com.

Rosemont: Located Northwest of Chicago, this ever-growing town has a lot to offer tourists, and it has many hotels to make it even easier to stay and experience the region. The Allstate Arena is a hub of activity year-round, with concerts plus games played by the Chicago Sky, the Chicago Wolves, the Chicago Bandits and more college and pro teams. There's also a ballpark in Rosemont, and The Dome at the ballpark. The Donald E. Stephens Convention Center hosts major area conventions, and there is also a Stephens Museum of Hummels. The Rosemont Theatre attracts world-class entertainment. See rosemontchamber.com.

Please see other sections of this guide for numerous suburban and downstate events and attractions, from the Botanic Gardens to Morten Arboretum, to Six Flags Great America and the beauty of the Fox and Mississippi rivers.

CHICAGO MUSEUMS AND INSTITUTIONS

Adler Planetarium: Seeks to inspire exploration and understanding of the universe. America's First Planetarium is more than a museum; it is a laboratory, a classroom, and a community exploring the universe together. The Chicago City-PASS is \$98 for adults and \$82 for children and allows access to the skydeck, the Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium, Adler Planetarium OR Art Institute of Chicago, and the John Hancock / 360 Chicago OR Museum of Science and Industry. At 1300 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, 312-922-STAR, www.adlerplanetarium.org.

American Writers Museum: Planned to open in Chicago in 2017, americanwritersmuseum.org.

Art Institute of Chicago: Seeks to inspire and educate the public with works of art in the world's diverse traditions. Comprises approximately 300,000 works of art—ranging from ancient art through to work being created by today's foremost artists. At 111 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312-443-3600, visit www.artic.edu.

Aurora Regional Fire Museum: Showcase of fire engines, fire artifacts, and the history of fire fighting, 53 N. Broadway, Aurora, 630-256-4140, auroraregionalfiremuseum.org.

Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture: At 6500 S. Pulaski Rd., Chicago, 773-582-6500, visit balzekasmuseum.org.

Bronzeville Children's Museum: First African American children's museum in the country, 9301 S. Stony Island Ave., Chicago, 773-721-9301, www.bronzevillechildrensmuseum.com.

Chicago Children's Museum at Navy Pier: A place for families and caregivers to create, explore, and discover together through play, has LGBTQ family events, 700 E. Grand Ave., Chicago, 312-527-1000, www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org.

Chicago Fed Money Museum: At 230 S. LaSalle St., Chicago, at 312-322-2400, visit www.chicagofed.org.

Chicago Foodseum: Celebrate and be inspired by food, 108 N. State St., Chicago, www.foodseum.org.

Chicago History Museum: A hub of scholarship and learning, inspiration and civic engagement. They have hosted many special LGBT events, including an annual Out at CHM series, 1601 N. Clark St., Chicago, 312-642-4600, visit www.chicagohistory.org.

Chicago Sports Museum: Sports paraphernalia, 835 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312-202-0500, visit www.harrycarays.com/chicago-sports-museum.

Clarke House Museum: Chicago's oldest house, shows what life was like for a family in Chicago during the city's formative years before the Civil War. At 1827 S. Indiana Ave., Chicago, cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/clarke_house_museum.html.

Driehaus Museum: Promotes architecture and design of the past, 40 E. Erie St., Chicago, 312-482-8933, www.driehausmuseum.org.

DuSable Museum of African American History: Promotes understanding and appreciation of the achievements, contributions and experiences of African Americans. More than 15,000 pieces including paintings, sculpture, print works and memorabilia. At 740 E. 56th Pl., Chicago, 773-947-0600, visit www.dusablemuseum.org.

The Field Museum: Hopes to inspire curiosity about life on earth, how we came to be and what we can do to make it better. Exhibitions include the famous SUE T. rex dinosaur, the Ancient Americans, Evolving Planet, Tsavo Lions, the Hall of Birds, Traveling the Pacific, Africa, Galapagos and more, 1400 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, 312-922-9410, www.fieldmuseum.org.

Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio: Focusing on Frank Lloyd Wright's design legacy and preservation of his original sites for future generations. At 951 Chicago Ave., Oak Park, Illinois, 312-994-4000, www.flwright.org/visit/homeandstudio.

Gerber/Hart Library and Archives: Gerber / Hart is an LGBTQ library, archives and cultural center as well as a safe atmosphere for research, exploration, and discovery. At 6500 N. Clark St., Chicago, 773-381-8030, info@gerberhart.org, or visit www.gerberhart.org.

Glessner House Museum: The Glessner House was designed by American architect Henry Hobson Richardson and completed in 1887. It was an inspiration to Louis Sullivan, Mies van der Rohe and Frank Lloyd Wright and helped define domestic architecture. At 1800 S. Prairie Ave., Chicago, 312-326-1480, www.glessnerhouse.org.

Chicago's Own American Palace



**DRIEHAUS
MUSEUM**

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Original Tiffany stained glass window in the Richard H. Driehaus Gallery of Stained Glass at Navy Pier.

Heritage Museum of Asian Art: Wide range of art forms, spanning many cultures and time periods of Asia, 211 W. 23rd St., Chicago, 312-842-8884, visit heritageasianart.org.

Illinois Holocaust Museum: Dedicated to education and the memory of those lost in the Holocaust, 9603 Woods Dr., Skokie, just north of Chicago, www.ilholocaustmuseum.org.

International Museum of Surgical Science: History, development and advances of surgery, 1524 N. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, imss.org.

Irish American Heritage Center: Art gallery, performing arts center, library, genealogy and language educational institution, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, 773-282-7035, irish-american.org.

Jane Addams Hull-House at University of Illinois Chicago: A memorial to Jane Addams, a prominent, Nobel Prize-winning social justice and peace advocate, who was also a lesbian; 800 S. Halsted, Chicago, 312-413-5353, www.hullhousemuseum.org.

Latvian Folk Art Museum: Dedicated to preserving the Latvian culture, 4146 N. Elston Ave, Chicago, 773-588-2085, www.chicagolatvianassociation.com.

Leather Archives & Museum: The Leather Archives is devoted to the compilation, preservation and maintenance of the leather lifestyle and related lifestyles, including the LGBTQ lifestyle, for historical, educational and research purposes. In 2016, they are marking their 25th anniversary Sept. 16-18. At 6418 N. Greenview Ave., Chicago, 773-761-9200, www.leatherarchives.org.

The SUE T. rex at the Field Museum.

Photo by Nick Ulivieri



Legacy Walk: The world's only outdoor LGBTQ History Museum. This half-mile span of the Northalsted Streetscape, which starts at Belmont and moves north, features 35 bronze memorial markers affixed to steel "Rainbow Pylons"—lighted spires that define the area as the cultural, business, and entertainment center of LGBTQ Chicago. See www.legacyprojectchicago.org or call 312-608-1198.

Loyola University Museum of Art: Dedicated to exploring, promoting and understanding art and artistic expression that illuminates the enduring spiritual questions of all cultures and societies. At 820 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312-915-7600, www.luc.eduluma.

McCormick Bridgehouse/Chicago River Museum: Dedicated to the enjoyment of the Chicago River, open May-October, 376 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312-977-0227, www.bridgehousemuseum.org.

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian: Promotes understanding of Native American people through traditional and contemporary art and material culture. At 3001 Central St., Evanston, 847-475-1030, visit www.mitchellmuseum.org.

Museum of Broadcast Communications: Collects, preserves and presents historic and contemporary and television content. Fabulous artifacts from TV history at MBC, 360 N. State St., Chicago, 312-245-8200, visit www.museum.tv.

Museum of Contemporary Art: A space where the public can directly experience the work and ideas of living artists and understand the historical, social, and cultural context of the artwork of our time; 220 E Chicago Ave., 312-280-2660, www.mcachicago.org.

Museum of Contemporary Photography: A forum for the collection, creation and examination of imagemaking. At Columbia College Chicago, 600 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312-663-5554, visit www.mocp.org.

Museum of Science and Industry: One of the largest science museums in the world, home to more than 400,000 square feet of hands-on exhibits designed to spark scientific inquiry and creativity. The museum is also home to the U-505, a German submarine from WWII, plus a coal mine, LEGO-built structures, a baby chick hatchery, a mirror maze, great train story, a fairy castle, the Henry Crown Space Center (with an Apollo 8 module) and more. At 5700 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, 773-684-1414, www.msichicago.org.

Naper Settlement Museum: Naper Settlement is a family-friendly outdoor history museum, 523 S. Webster St. in Naperville, Illinois, 630-420-6010, www.napersettlement.org.

National A. Phillip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum: The museum is dedicated to the legacy of A. Philip Randolph, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porter and contributions made by African-Americans to America's labor movement. At 10406 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, 773-850-8580, www.aphilliprandolphmuseum.com.

National Hellenic Museum: Devoted to the history and culture of Greece, at 333 S. Halsted St., Chicago, 312-655-1234, www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org.

National Museum of Mexican Art: Showcases, develops and preserve Mexican Art. At 1852 W. 19th St., Chicago, 312-738-1503, www.nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org.

National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture: Seeks to promote, integrate and advance Puerto Rican culture. At 3015 W. Division St., in Humboldt Park's stables, 773-486-8345, nmprac.org.

National Veterans Art Museum: Focuses on impact of war and collects, preserves and exhibits art inspired by combat and created by veterans; 4041 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, 312-326-0270, www.nvam.org.

The Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago: Focuses on the culture and history of the Asian people, University of Chicago, 1155 E. 58th St., Chicago, 773-702-9520, visit oi.uchicago.edu.

Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum: Aims to create a positive relationship between people and nature. Their butterfly exhibit is a don't-miss treat; 2340 N. Cannon Dr., Chicago, 773-755-5100, www.naturemuseum.org.

Polish Museum of America: Collects, preserves, interprets and promotes materials of Polish history and Polish-American experience; 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, 773-384-3352, www.polishmuseumofamerica.org.

Pritzker Military Museum & Library: Dedicated to acquiring and maintaining a collection of materials focusing on the Citizen Soldier and democracy. The museum was founded by philanthropist and businesswoman Col. Jennifer Pritzker, who came out as a transgender woman in 2013. At 104 S. Michigan Ave., 312-374-9333, www.pritzkermilitary.org.

National Public Housing Museum: A place of stories that mines the vastly complex history of public and publicly subsidized housing in America. See www.nphm.org.

SciTech: A hands-on science museum with more than 200 interactive STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) exhibits which inspire education and imagination. At 18 W. Benton St., Aurora, Illinois, 630-859-3434 or visit scitechmuseum.org.

Shedd Aquarium: Dedicated to the appreciation and understanding of aquatic life. Pacific white-sided dolphins are among their many exhibits. On the Museum Campus, 1200 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, 312-939-2438, www.sheddaquarium.org.

Smart Museum of Art: As the fine arts museum of the University of Chicago, the Smart is home to thought-provoking exhibitions and a collection of more than

15,000 objects; 5550 S. Greenwood Ave., Chicago, 773-702-0200, smartmuseum.uchicago.edu.

Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership: Educates the public and fosters appreciation for the Jewish culture and people; 610 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312-322-1700, www.spertus.edu.

Stained Glass: The Smith Stained Glass Museum at Navy Pier is at the lower level terraces of Festival Hall. First museum in the U.S. dedicated solely to stained-glass windows. Has 150 pieces on display. See navypier.com/blog/smith-stained-glass-museum-at-navy-pier. Also: The Richard H. Driehaus Gallery of Stand Glass located near the tip of Navy Pier immerses visitors in darkened rooms bathed in the glow of 11 of Tiffany Studios' stained-glass windows. See www.driehausmuseum.org/about/view/navy_pier.

Swedish American Museum: Hopes to interpret the immigrant experience and promote an appreciation of Swedish-American culture; 5211 N. Clark St., Chicago, 773-728-8111, www.swedishamericanmuseum.org.

Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art: Preserves and promotes contemporary art as a shared expression of the Ukrainian and American experience; 2320 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, 773-227-5522, uima-chicago.org.

Ukrainian National Museum: A resource for research, information and the enjoyment of Ukrainian Immigration. At 2249 W. Superior St., Chicago, 312-421-8020, ukrainiannationalmuseum.org.

Volo Auto Museum: Cars of the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, celebrity-owned cars and TV and movie cars, antiques, army vehicles, snowmobiles, tractors and trains, cycles, muscle cars and hot rods, bizarre cars, and cars for sale. At 27582 Volo Village Rd., Volo, Northwest of Chicago, 815-385-3644, www.volocars.com.



**Apollo 8
Command
Module at
the Museum
of Science &
Industry.**

CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE

Chicago is among the most architecturally diverse cities in the world, with a mix of old, new and futuristic among its ever-changing skyline views and neighborhoods. Here are some highlights to chart during your visit to the Windy City. Also see the listings for art, museums and attractions.

Absolutely Chicago Segway Tours: The art and architecture tour explores architecture, statues, fountains, museums, outdoor art installations and parks, 312-552-5100, chicagosegway.com.

Bike and Roll Chicago: The Skyscraper Architectural Segway Tour explores the Riverwalk and skyline, meet at the Riverwalk, 316 N. Wabash, 312-729-1000, www.bikechicago.com.

Bronzeville: The Bronzeville Area Residents' & Commerce Council hosts an annual home tour, and can provide current information on other ways to visit this historic Chicago neighborhood, along the Near South Side, www.thebarcc.org/hometour. Also see www.chicagodetours.com/private-tours/chicago-neighborhoods-tour.

Chicago Architectural Club: Forum and support for architects, artists and writers, www.chicagoarchitecturalclub.org.

Chicago Architecture Foundation: The Chicago Architecture Foundation offers dozens of architectural tours, 312-922-3432, www.architecture.org.

Chicago Detours: The Loop Interior Architecture Walking Tour explores lobbies, corridors, and an underground Pedway system. The Best Architectural Walking Tour Since Sliced Bread is a visual timeline of Chicago through its architecture. Contact 312-350-1131, www.chicagodetours.com.

Chicago's Finest Tours: The Pedway and Loop Architectural Tour is an indoor/outdoor walking tour. Contact 312-202-0745, chicagosfinesttours.com.

Chicago Helicopter Experience: A helicopter ride to learn about the city's history, architecture and landmarks, 312-967-TOUR, www.chetours.com.

Chicago Line Cruises: A set of cruises around the Chicago area, 312-527-1977, www.chicagoline.com for more information.

Chicago Neighborhood Tours: Tours that offers highlights in each neighborhood, 312-742-1190.

Chicago's First Lady: Discover Chicago's legendary architecture on the award-winning Chicago Architecture Foundation River Cruise on Chicago's First Lady, 847-358-1330, www.cruisechicago.com.

Clarke House Museum: The Clarke House is Chicago's oldest home now preserved to show what life was like in the city's formative years, free tours Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., 1827 S. Indiana Ave.

Driehaus Museum: Richard H. Driehaus created the museum to promote the architecture and design of the past, 40 E. Erie St., 312-482-8933, www.driehausmuseum.org.

Flat Iron Arts: A labyrinth of studios that also offers unique architectural design as well as art events and performances, visit www.flatironartsbuilding.com.

Frank Lloyd Wright Trust: The trust preserves and tours Frank Lloyd Wright's original sites in Chicago and Oak Park. Tours include Frank Lloyd Wright's home and studio, the Prairie Style, the Robie House, Rookery, Bach House, Unity Temple, Wright around Oak Park and more. Contact 312-994-4000, visit flwright.org.

Free Tours by Foot: The Architecture Tour and Grant Park is a tour of skyscrapers and modern buildings as well as a taste of Frank Lloyd Wright. The Magnificent Mile tour is a tour of architecture, shopping, food, hotels and history. Contact 312-612-0826, www.freetoursbyfoot.com.

Gallery 400: A gallery devoted to contemporary art, architecture and design, 400 S. Peoria St., 312-996-6114, gallery400.uic.edu.

Glessner House Museum: A home designed by American architect Henry Hobson Richardson and completed in 1887. It was an inspiration to Louis Sullivan, Mies van der Rohe, and Frank Lloyd Wright and helped define domestic architecture. Richardson was generally regarded as America's first important architect and the style of the house—Richardsonian Romanesque—was named for him. Glessner House is a Chicago Landmark and a National Historic Landmark. Glessner House is one of just seven mansions that survive today on Prairie Avenue, which in the late 19th century was the most exclusive residential street in Chicago. At 1800 S. Prairie Ave., Chicago, 312-326-1480, www.glessnerhouse.org.



Glessner House Museum

1800 South Prairie Avenue

Step back to the Gilded Age at this
National Historic Landmark on
Chicago's legendary Prairie Avenue!

www.GlessnerHouse.org
312.326.1480



The Chicago River.

Photo by Hal Baim

Kayak Chicago: The Architectural Tour is a paddle tour of Chicago, 312-8-kayak-8, www.kayakchicago.com.

Magnificent Mile: Home to many iconic landmarks including the Drake Hotel, the John Hancock, the Tribune Tower, the Water Tower, DuSable Bridge and the Wrigley Building. The magnificent mile stretches along North Michigan Ave., 312-409-5560, www.themagnificentmile.com.

Metrowalkz Self-Guided Walking Tour: An electronic guide that allows individuals to tour on their own; www.evisitorguide.com/chicago/metrowalkz/.

Glessner House Museum.



Pullman: Pullman is a unique community on Chicago's Far South Side that blends the history from many different disciplines in a fascinating touring experience. See www.pullmanil.org/tours.htm.

Prairie Avenue Historic District: The architecture of the Prairie Avenue District represents every major building period in the history of Chicago, from the 1830s to present day. See www.pdnachicago.com. (See also Glessner House and Clarke House.)

Seadog Chicago: The River and Lake Architecture Tour is a tour of the famous buildings and architecture in Chicago. Visit www.seadogcruises.com/chicago.

See it All Mini Bus Tours: A set of bus tours around the Chicago area. Contact 773-525-6152, seeitallchicagotours.com.

Shoreline Sightseeing: The Architecture River Tour explores more than 40 landmarks all while on a cruise line. From Navy Pier's Polk Bros Park and Michigan Ave. Bridge at 600 E. Grand Ave., 312-222-9328, shorelinesightseeing.com.

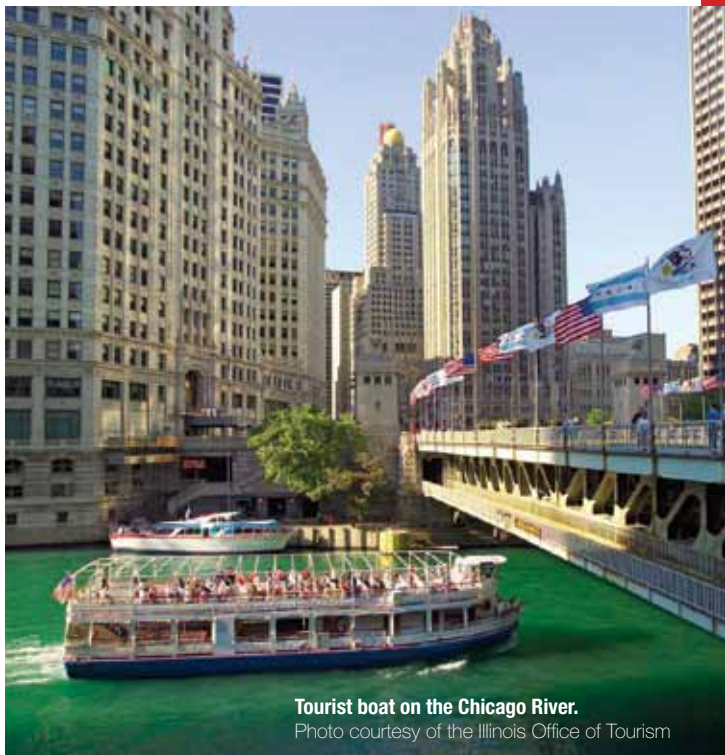
Signature Segway Tours: The See It All Tour explores the skyline, gardens, and architectural landmarks of Chicago all while riding a Segway, 312-479-2818, www.signaturesegwaytours.com.

Steve's Segway Tours: Set of tours on Segway rides. The architecture tour is 3 hours, 312-946-9467, www.stevessegwaytours.com.

Tall Ship Adventures: The Lakeside Architectural Sail is a cruise that explores the people, plans and persistence that shaped Chicago's most famous sights. At 600 E. Grand Ave., 312-451-2700, tallshipwindy.com.

Walk Chicago Tours: Personalized walking tours of the "city of Big Shoulders." See www.walkchicagotours.com.

Wendela Sightseeing Boats: The Chicago's Original Architecture Tour is a cruise that will navigate through the heart of the city in all three branches of the Chicago River. Wendella dock at 400 N. Michigan Ave. and from the Wendella dock at Trump Tower; 312-337-1446, www.wendellaboats.com.



Tourist boat on the Chicago River.

Photo courtesy of the Illinois Office of Tourism

ATTRACTIONS AND TOURS

Addresses in Chicago unless noted.

360 Chicago/John Hancock Building: A skyscraper with a 360-degree view of the city, 875 N. Michigan Ave., 94th floor, 888-875-8439 , www.360chicago.com.

606 trail: A series of parks, arts, history, design, trails for bikers, runners, and walkers, event spaces, alternative transportation avenues, and green, open space, 312-742-4622, visit www.the606.org.

Absolutely Chicago Segway Tours: 312-552-5100, chicagosegway.com.

Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool Gardens: A lily pool with gardens, landscaping and pavilion, April 21-Oct. 28, 2391 N. Stockton Dr., Chicago.

Amazing Chicago FunHouse Maze: 4,000 feet of tunnels and mazes at Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave., www.amazingchicago.com.

Argus Brewery tours: Chicago craft brewery, 11314 S. Front Ave., 773-941-4050, www.argusbrewery.com.

Baha'i Temple: Place of worship for members of the Baha'i religion, 100 Linden Ave., Wilmette, 847-853-2300, www.bahai.us/bahai-temple.

The Barrel Run: Beer-like trolley that offers tours of breweries, distilleries, and Prohibition history, 600 N. Clark St., 312-718-3295, visit www.thebarrelrun.com.

Begyle Brewing Co. Tours: Community-supported brewery, 1800 W. Cuyler, 773-661-6963, www.begylebrewing.com.

Bike and Roll Chicago: A series of bike and Segway tours of 312-729-1000, www.bikechicago.com.

Bizarre Bucktown Walking Tours: 90-minute tour that covers a mile through Bucktown, 773-435-0097, www.bizarrebucktown.com.

Breakwater Chicago: Floating island at 222 W. Merchandise Mart Plaza, www.breakwaterchicago.com.

Brookfield Zoo: A world-class zoo, features animals of all shapes and sizes as well as special exhibits, 3300 Golf Rd., Brookfield, Illinois, 708-688-8000, www.czs.org/Brookfield-ZOO.

Chagall's Four Seasons: Composed of thousands of inlaid chips in more than 250 colors, Marc Chagall's mosaic artwork The Four Seasons portrays six scenes of Chicago. At 10 S. Dearborn St., Chicago.



Chagall's Four Seasons.

Photo by Hal Baim

Chef Driven Food Tours: Pilsen, South Side, Lower West Side and Maxwell Street, 312-605-0643, www.chefdrivenfoodtours.com.

Chicago Aerial Tours: Helicopter and private airplane tours of 6150 S. Laramie Ave., 773-800-2700, www.chicagoaerialtours.com.

Chicago Architecture Foundation: Tours, special events and much more, 312-922-3432, www.architecture.org.

Chicago Balloon Rides: Shared and private hot air balloon tours of 312-702-1917, www.balloonrideschicago.com.

Chicago Beer Experience Tours: chicagobeerexperience.com.

Chicago Botanic Garden: Beautiful place for people of all ages, 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe, 847-835-5440, chicagobotanic.org.

Chicago Brew Bus: 773-340-BREW, www.chicagobrewbus.com.

Chicago Brews Cruise: 312-620-0185, brewscruisechicago.com.

Chicago Candy Tours: Walking tour of Chicago's candy history plus candy tastings, 312-607-8939, www.chicagocandytours.com.

Chicago Chinese Cultural Institute: Offers a Chinatown walking tour that explores Nine Dragon Wall, Chinatown Gate, Pui Tak Center, Chinese Buddhist Temple, St. Therese Church, Chinatown Square and Chinatown Mural. At 2121 S. China Pl., chicagocci.com.

Chicago Crime Tours: From the 19th century to modern times, 163 E. Pearson St., 312-888-6224, www.chicagocrimetours.com.

Chicago Cultural Center: A venue for free music, dance and theater events, films, lectures, art exhibitions and family events. Its interior features rare imported marbles, brass, fine hardwoods, and mosaics; 38-foot-diameter stained-glass Tiffany dome composed of 30,000 pieces of glass; 78 E. Washington St., www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/chicago_culturalcenter.html.



Tiffany Dome at Chicago Cultural Center.
Photo by Hal Baim

Chicago Detours: Architecture, pubs, blues and jazz, 1893 World's Fair site, 312-350-1131, www.chicagodetours.com.

Chicago Distilling Company tours: A local brewery, 2359 N. Milwaukee Ave., 872-206-2777, www.chicagodistilling.com.

Chicago's Finest Tours: Walking tours and bus tours of Chicago interests, 312-202-0745, visit chicagosfinesttours.com.

Chicago French Market: 30 food vendors, 131 N. Clinton, 312-575-0306, frenchmarketchicago.com.

Chicago Food Planet Food Tours: 312-818-2170, www.chicagoodplanet.com.

Chicago Ghost Investigations: A haunted tour of the city, 773-935-6332, www.ghostsofchicago.com.

Chicago Helicopter Experience: Chicago's history, architecture and landmarks, 312-967-TOUR, www.chetours.com.

Chicago Line Cruises: Cruises that tour the Chicago area, 312-527-1977, www.chicagoline.com.

Chicago Neighborhood Tours: Highlights neighborhoods of the city, 77 E. Randolph St., 312-742-1190.

Chicago Pizza Tour: 312-221-8502, www.chicagopizzatours.com.

Chicago Segway Tours: 312-890-3701, www.chicagosegwaytour.com.

Chicago's First Lady: Discover Chicago's legendary architecture on the award-winning Chicago Architecture Foundation River Cruise aboard Chicago's First Lady Cruises, 847-358-1330, www.cruisechicago.com.

Chicago Steakhouse Tours: 312-587-3474, www.chicagosteakhousetours.com.

Chicago Trolley and Double Decker Co: A hop-on-hop-off tour of Chicago. See www.coachusa.com/chicagotrolley.

Chicago Underground Pedway System: 40+ blocks of underground tunnels and overhead bridges, www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/cdot/pedestrian/Pedway/PedwayMap2013.pdf.

Chicago Untapped: Distillery tours, www.chicagountapped.com.

Chicago Women's Park and Gardens:

Pays tribute to the important women in the history of 1801 S. Indiana Ave. The Widow Clarke House, Jane Addams Helping Hands Memorial sculpture by Louise Bourgeois. See www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/Chicago-Womens-Park-and-Gardens.

City Segway Tours Chicago: 312-819-0186, chicago.citysegwaytours.com.

Clarence Buckingham Memorial Fountain:

With water shooting up in front of the gorgeous skyline, a well-known Chicago landmark, 301 E. Columbus Dr., 312-742-7529, www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/clarence-f-buckingham-memorial-fountain/.



Jane Addams Helping Hands Memorial sculpture.

Photo by Hal Baim



Clarence Buckingham Memorial Fountain.

Photo by Hal Baim

Ferris Wheel: At Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave.

Fox in a Box: Escape room, 312-878-7899, foxinaboxchicago.com.

Fountain of Time: Sculpture in Washington Park created by artist Lorado Taft, a lover of men. Taft's Fountain of Time was unveiled at the west end of Chicago's Midway Plaisance in 1922, at Cottage Grove and 59th Street: 100 figures passing before Father Time.

Fountain of Time.

Photo by Tracy Baim



Free Tours by Foot: 312-612-0826, www.freetoursbyfoot.com.

Garden of the Phoenix (formerly Osaka Garden): Example of Japanese architecture and garden design. Osaka Garden is located on Wooded Island in Jackson Park. Check for closures before visiting, www.jacksonparkadvisorycouncil.org.

Garfield-Clarendon Model Railroad Club: A true-to-life model railroad, 4501 N. Clarendon Ave., garfieldcentral.org.

Goose Island Brewing Company tours: Regular tours, 1800 W. Fulton St., Chicago, www.gooseisland.com.

Graceland Cemetery: Final resting place to many prominent Chicagoans, home to Eternal Silence, known as the Statue of Death, designed by gay sculptor Lorado Taft in 1909. At 4001 N. Clark St., 773-525-1105, visitwww.gracelandcemetery.org.

Grant Park: Performance venues, gardens, artwork, sporting and harbor facilities; 319 acres including Millennium Park, Buckingham Fountain, Art Institute and Museum Campus; 337 E. Randolph St., 312-742-3918, www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/grant-park/.

Half Acre Tours: A craft brewery, 4257 N. Lincoln Ave., 773-248-4038, www.halfacrebeer.com.

Hard Rock Cafe/Carbide and Carbon Building: A classic rock-and-roll-themed restaurant in historic building and hotel, 230 N. Michigan Ave., 312-345-1000, www.hardrockhotelchicago.com.

Haymarket Pub and Brewery tours: Craft brewery, 737 W. Randolph, 312-638-0700, www.haymarketbrewing.com.

Hershey's Chocolate Tour: At 822 N. Michigan Ave., 312-337-7711, www.hersheys.com/chocolateworld/locations/chicago.

Intelligentsia Coffee Tours: At 1850 W. Fulton St., 888-945-9786, www.intelligentsiacoffee.com.

Koval Distillery Tours: Organic distillery of whiskey, liqueurs and spirits, 5121 N. Ravenswood, 312-878-7988, kival-distillery.com.

Lagunitas Brewing Company Tours: At 2607 W. 17th St., 773-522-2097, visit lagunitas.com.

Lincoln Park Conservancy: Chicago's largest park, from Hollywood Avenue to Ohio Street along the lakefront, includes Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool Gardens, North Pond Nature Sanctuary and Lincoln Monument and Gardens. It also holds the Lincoln Park Gardens and Conservatory with four display houses: Palm House, Fern Room, Orchid House and Show House. Contact 312-883-PARK, lincolnparkconservancy.org.

Lincoln Park Zoo: Houses a variety of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians in a large facility just north of downtown Chicago; 2001 N. Clark St., 312-742-2000, www.lpzoo.org.

Long Grove Confectionery Tours: A chocolate and candy company, 333 Lexington Dr., Buffalo Grove, Illinois, 847-459-0269, www.longgrove.com.

Maggie Daley Park / Cancer Survivor's Garden: The garden in downtown Chicago was designed to be a celebration of life and give hope. Maggie Daley was the wife of the late Mayor Richard M. Daley. The design incorporates curvilinear forms, dramatic topography and whimsical elements. Ice rink in winter. At 337 E. Randolph St., 312-552-3000, visitmaggiedaley.com.

Maxwell Street Market: A tradition of merchandise from tools and tires to fresh produce to clothing to rare finds, Des Plaines from Polk to Taylor, 312-745-4676, maxwellstreet@cityofchicago.org.

Medieval Times: An 11th Century dinner, andalusian stallion show and jousting tourney, 2001 N. Roselle Rd., Schaumburg, 847-882-1496, www.medievaltimes.com.

Merchandise Mart: TheMART has been an icon in Chicago's history since the 1930s. It was developed by Marshall Field & Co. to create a central marketplace. It is the world's largest commercial building, largest wholesale design center and one of Chicago's premier international business locations. The Chicago icon encompasses 4.2 million gross square feet, spans two city blocks and rises 25 stories. It also hosts major events throughout the year. See themart.com.

Metrowalkz Self-Guided Walking Tour: An electronic guide that allows individuals to tour on their own, www.evisitorguide.com/chicago/metrowalkz/.

Cloud Gate at Millennium Park.

Photo by Hal Baim



Millennium Park: Home to architecture, landscape design and art as well as a number of events and event venues such as the Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Indian-born British artist Anish Kapoor's Cloud Gate, known as "The Bean," Crown Fountain, Wrigley Square and Lurie Garden. At 201 E. Randolph St., 312-742-1168, www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/millennium_park.html.

Morton Arboretum: Maintains living collections on display across naturally beautiful landscapes. At 4100 Illinois Route 53 in West Suburban Lisle, Illinois, 630-968-0074, visit www.mortonarb.org.

Murals of Chicago: There are thousands of murals across the city—some approved, some not. See murallocator.org/tag/chicago to find many of them.

My Segway Experience: At 224 S. Michigan Ave, 312-663-0600, www.mysegwayexperience.com.

Navy Pier: Has more than 50 acres of parks, attractions, restaurants, shopping,



Ferris wheel at Navy Pier.

Photo by Hal Baim

sightseeing, cruise boats and more, including Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Chicago Children's Museum, IMAX, and many of Chicago's tourist boats. New Ferris Wheel. At 600 E. Grand Ave., 312-595-7437, navypier.com.

Noble Art Tours: Private tours of museums and galleries, 773-680-7823, www.noblearttours.com.

Northerly Island Park: A peninsula that juts out into Lake Michigan, 1521 S. Linn White Dr., 312-745-2910, www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/northerly-island-park/.

Oak Street Beach: Offers outdoor dining options as well as bike rentals, volleyball rentals and a view of the skyline, 1000 N. Lake Shore Dr., 312-988-4650, oakstreetbeach.com.

Obama Kissing Rock: The site of the first kiss of President Barack Obama and his future wife Michelle Obama, a plaque with a description of the date and kiss is at 53rd and South Dorchester.

Picasso Sculpture: See Richard J. Daley Center.

Pullman Rail Journeys: Historic train rides, 888-978-5563, www.travelpullman.com.

Randolph Street Market Festival: 100+ vendors, 1340 W. Washington St., 312-666-1200, www.randolphstreetmarket.com.

Red Square Chicago: Traditional bathhouse that includes a Russian sauna, 1914 W. Division St., 773-227-2284, redsquarechicago.com.

Red Witch Tall Ship: Tours of the Chicago skyline and the fireworks, 600 E. Waldron Dr., visit www.redwitch.com.

Revolution Brewing Tours: 3340 N. Kedzie, 773-588-CANS, revbrew.com.

Rhine Hall Distillery Tours: 2010 W. Fulton St., www.rhinehall.com.

Richard J. Daley Civic Center/Chicago Civic Center: Home to the largest circuit court in Illinois and the law library, one of the largest collections of law books in the nation. The City of Chicago commissioned Pablo Picasso to create a



**The Picasso sculpture
at Richard J. Daley
Civic Center.**

Photo by Hal Baim

steel sculpture for the building's plaza. "The Picasso" was the first monumental modern sculpture to be placed in Chicago's loop. Visit www.thedaleycenter.com.

Riverwalk: An open, pedestrian waterfront in and it is still being dreamed and created; www.riverwalkexpansion.com.

Route 66: Historic Route 66 is a national highway that starts in Chicago. A local stretch starts at Adams Street and Michigan Avenue in downtown Chicago and ends at Jackson Boulevard and Lake Shore Drive; www.historic66.com.

Seadog Chicago: Speedboats, www.seadogcruises.comchicago.

See it All Mini Bus Tours: The history, architecture and beauty of 773-525-6152, visit seeitallchicagotours.com.

Shoreline Sightseeing: Cruises, 312-222-9328, shorelinesightseeing.com.

Sidewalk Food Tours of Chicago: Local restaurants, including Wicker Park and River North, www.foodtourofchicago.com.

Signature Segway Tours: At 206 N. Michigan Ave., 312-479-2818, www.signaturesegwaytours.com.

Signs for Peace: An art project that turns human thumbprints into a signature for Universal Peace, www.peacemuseum.org.

Six Flags Great America: A well-known amusement park with roller coasters, water slides and shops, 1 Great America Pkwy, Gurnee, Northwest of Chicago, 847-249-1776, www.sixflags.com/greatamerica.

SkyDeck Chicago: A transparent glass platform in the Willis Tower, stretching above the city, 103rd floor of 233 S. Wacker Dr., 312-875-9447, theskydeck.com.

South Shore Cultural Center: A solarium, dining hall, theater and restaurant, plus a nature sanctuary, butterfly garden, golf course, beach and open spaces for walks and picnics. At 7059 S. South Shore Dr., 773-256-0149, www.chicagoparkdistrict.com.

Spice of Life Tours: Food and cultural tours of 773-644-1202, www.spiceoflifetours.com.

Spirit of Chicago: Spirit of Chicago is a lunch and dinner cruise, 600 E. Grand Ave., 866-273-2469, www.spiritcruises.comchicago.

Statue Stories Chicago: Chicago has incredible outdoor art, and Stature Stories can help you navigate these wonderful creations. Chicago's celebrated actors, writers and theaters have united to give voice to iconic statues across the city. Swipe your smartphone on a tag and get a 'call back' from the likes of Abe Lincoln, Paul Laurence Dunbar or a bronze lion; www.statuestorieschicago.com.

Steve's Segway Tours: 312-946-9467, stevessegwaytours.com.

Tall Ship Adventures: Cruise tours of Chicago, 600 E. Grand Ave., 312-451-2700, tallshipwindy.com.

Tastebud Tours Chicago: tastebudtours.com.

Tempel Lipizzans: A dressage show by the famous Lipizzaner horses, 17000 Wadsworth Rd., Old Mill Creek, Illinois, an hour north of Chicago, 847-244-5330, www.tempelfarms.com.

Two Brothers Roundhouse: A beer brewing factory, 205 N. Broadway St., Aurora, 630-264-2739, www.twobrothersbrewing.com.

Union Station: A train station as well as home to a wide variety of restaurants, convenience stores and specialty shops. The magnificent Great Hall used for many elegant special events. Originally designed by famed architect Daniel Burnham ("make no small plans, they have no magic to stir men's blood") and completed in 1925, it is considered to be one of the greatest indoor spaces in the U.S. At 500 W. Jackson Blvd., www.chicagounionstation.com.

Vertiport Chicago: Helicopter tours of Chicago, 1339 S. Wood St., 877-902-9292, visit vertiportviptours.com.

Water Tower: The Historic Water Tower, 806 N. Michigan, is the city's most familiar landmark. Constructed between 1867 and 1869, it was created for Chicago's municipal water system. It was one of the few buildings to survive the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. There is a City Gallery and Lookingglass Theatre operates in part of the old Water Tower property.

Wendela Sightseeing Boats: Cruises including an architecture tour, lake tour, sunset cruise, bridges tour and fireworks cruise, 312-337-1446, www.wendellaboats.com.

Wild Onion Walks Chicago: Tours of Chicago, 773-960-5470, www.wildonionwalks.com.

CHICAGO ART GALLERIES

Also see museums and attractions. In Chicago unless noted.

4Artinc: On the 4th floor of the Zhou B Art Center at 1029 W. 35th St., 773-254-5100, Rrios@4Artinc.com, www.4artinc.com.

33 Contemporary Gallery / Art NXT Level Projects: National and international, 1029 W. 35th St., 708-837-4534, 33contemporary.com.

Addington Gallery: Contemporary art, 704 N. Wells St., 312-664-3406, www.addingtongallery.com.

AdventureLand Gallery: Young and emerging talent, 1513 N. Western Ave., 312-617-5168, www.adventurelandgallery.com.

Alan Koppel Gallery: Contemporary art, furniture, photographers, 806 N. Dearborn., 312-640-0730, www.alankoppel.com.

Alibi Fine Art: A photography studio, 4426 N. Ravenswood Ave., 773-454-1512, alibifineart.com.

Andrew Bae Gallery: Asian artists, primarily Korea and Japan, 300 W. Superior St., 312-335-8601, www.andrewbaegallery.com.

Angela Komperda Studio: A scenic studio located at 1932 S. Halsted St, suite #208, akomperda@gmail.com.

Ann Nathan Gallery: Contemporary realism in all formats, 212 W. Superior, 312-664-6622, www.annanathangallery.com.

ARC Gallery: Innovative, emerging and/or experimental visual art, 2156 N. Damen, 773-252-2232, www.arcgallery.org.

Armstrong Fine Art: A gallery devoted to great works of art, 200 E. Walton Pl., 312-664-9312, www.armstrongfineart.com.

Art Institute of Chicago: Seeks to collect, preserve, and interpret works of art in the world's diverse artistic traditions, 111 S. Michigan Ave., 312-443-3600, www.artic.edu.

Artprentry: Uses construction, set/prop design, painting, printmaking, sculpture, digital design, music production, and fine art techniques, 1932 S. Halsted St., Chicago. www.artprentry.com.

Arts Club of Chicago: International art, established and emerging artists, 201 E. Ontario St., 312-787-3997, www.artsclubchicago.org.

Aspect / Ratio: Video and performance-based arts, 119 N. Peoria, 773-206-7354, www.aspectratioprojects.com.

Bert Green Fine Art: Emerging and mid-career artists, 8 S. Michigan Ave, 312-434-7544, www.bertgreenfineart.com.

Beverly Arts Center: Dance, visual arts, music, film and theater, 2407 W. 111th St., 773-445-3838, www.beverlyartcenter.org.

Bridgeport Art Center: A gallery that serves as a resource for creative minds, 1200 W. 35th St., 773-247-3000 bridgeportart.com.

Byran Sperry Studio: A studio for apocalyptic art, 1932 S. Halsted, sperryart@gmail.com.

Carl Hammer Gallery: Self-taught and outsider artists, 740 N. Wells St., 312-266-8512, www.carlhammergeallery.com.

Carrie Secrist Gallery: Modern art in many mediums, 835 W. Washington, 312-491-0917, www.secristgallery.com.

Catherine Edelman Gallery: Contemporary photographers, 300 W. Superior St., 312-266-2350, www.edelmangallery.com.

Chicago Arts District: Blocks of creative space, Pilsen, 312-738-8000 X108, chicagoartsdistrict.org.

Chicago Center for the Print: Vintage posters and art prints, 1509 W. Fullerton Ave., 773-477-1585, www.prints-posters.com.

Chicago Cultural Center: Music, dance, and theater events, films, lectures, art exhibitions and family events. Built to impress, its interior features rare imported marbles, brass, fine hardwoods and mosaics; 78 E. Washington St., Chicago. Visit www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/chicago_culturalcenter.html.

Chicago Public Art Group: Chicago is known for many beautiful public mural projects. See www.chicagopublicartgroup.org.

Chicago Printmakers Collaborative: At 4912 N. Western, 773-293-2070, www.chicagoprintmakers.com.

City Gallery at Chicago Water Tower: Run by the city at the Water Tower, 806 N. Michigan Ave. Visit www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/city_gallery_in_thehistoricwatertower.html.

Coletti Gallery: Masterworks from the late 19th through the early 20th centuries, 49 E. Oak St., 312-664-6767, collettigallery.com.

Corbett vs. Dempsey: Contemporary, 20th Century and Midwestern, 1120 N. Ashland, 773-278-1664, www.corbettvsdempsey.com.

Crude Creatures Contemporary Art Gallery: At 1747 S. Halsted, 312-929-3057, www.crudecreatures.com.

Douglas Dawson Gallery: From Africa, Asia and the Americas, 224 S. Michigan Ave., 312-226-7975, www.douglasdawson.com.

Dreambox Gallery: Cultural link between artists and creative currency, 2415 W. North, 773-292-0419, 2014.dreamboxgallery.com.

EC Gallery: A contemporary art gallery, 215 N. Aberdeen St., 312-604-2574, ec-gallery.com.

ECHT Gallery: A gallery specializing in studio glass, 222 W. Superior St., 312-440-0288, www.echtgallery.com.

Elephant Room: Emerging and mid-career artists, 704 S. Wabash, and 2727 S. Mary St.; 312-361-0281, elephantroomgallery.com.

ETA Creative Arts Foundation: Aims to be a major cultural resource for the promotion of the African American aesthetic, 7558 S. South Chicago Ave., 773-752-3955, www.etacreativearts.org.

Evanston Art Center: At 1717 Central St., Evanston, 847-475-5300, www.evanstonartcenter.org.

Firecat Projects: A gallery that gives artists total control, 2124 N. Damen Ave., 773-342-5381, www.firecatprojects.org.

Flat Iron Arts: Flat Iron is a labyrinth of studios that offers unique architectural design as well as art events and performances; 1579 N. Milwaukee Ave., www.flatironartsbuilding.com.

Frederick Baker Inc.: Works on paper, American and European fine prints, drawings, and watercolors, 1230 W. Jackson Blvd., 312-243-2980, www.fred-erickbakerinc.com.

Galerie F: Located at 2381 N. Milwaukee Ave., 773-819-9200, www.galerief.com.

Galleries Maurice Sternberg: 19th and 20th century American and European, 3000 N. Sheridan Rd., 312-642-1700, www.galleriesmauricesternberg.com.

Gallery 400: Contemporary art, architecture and design, 400 S. Peoria St., 312-996-6114, gallery400.uic.edu.

Gallery 2506: A contemporary art gallery, 2506 N. California Ave., 312-523-8774, visit www.gallery2506.com.

Gallery Guichard: Bronzeville's preeminent gallery of art, artists from around the world but specializes in art of the African Diaspora; 436 E. 47th St., 773-791-7003, www.galleryguichard.com/.

Gruen Galleries: 226 W. Superior St., 312-337-6562, gruengalleries.com.

Havana Gallery: Contemporary Cuban artists, 1139 W. Webster Ave., 773-549-2492, www.havanagallery.com.

Heaven Gallery: New and emerging artists, 1550 N. Milwaukee., 773-342-4597, visit www.heavengallery.com.

Heritage Museum of Asian Art: Wide range of art spanning many cultures and time periods of Asia; 211 W. 23rd St., 312-842-8884, heritageasianart.org.

Hildt Galleries: Fine original 19th and 20th century British, European and American oil paintings and watercolors, in the Drake Hotel, 140 E. Walton St., 312-255-0005, www.hildtgalleries.com.

Hilton/Asmus Contemporary: Modern and contemporary paintings, works on paper, fiber art, glass, sculpture and photography, 716 N. Wells St., 312-852-8200, www.hilton-asmus.com.

Hyde Park Art Center: Encourages artistic risk-taking, 5020 S. Cornell Ave., 773-324-5520, www.hydeparkart.org.

International Morgan Art Gallery: All forms of Polish art, 5350 N. Milwaukee Ave., 773-631-0680, www.morganartgallery.com.

Intuit The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art: Public awareness, understanding and appreciation of artists who demonstrate little influence from the mainstream art world, 756 N. Milwaukee Ave., 312-243-9088, www.art.org.

Irish American Heritage Center: An art gallery, performing arts center, library, genealogy and language educational institution, 4626 N. Knox Ave., 773-282-7035, irish-american.org.

J2 Gallery/Jackson Junge Gallery: 1389 N. Milwaukee Ave., 773-227-7900, www.j2gallery.com.

Jean Albano Gallery: Contemporary American painting, sculpture, mixed media, 215 W. Superior, 312-440-0770, jeanalbanogallery.com.

Jennifer Norback Fine Art: Contemporary art in the humanist and contemporary tradition, 217 W. Huron, 773-671-5945, www.jennifernorbackfineart.com.

Joel Oppenheimer Inc./Audubon Gallery Chicago: Natural art and conservation, 410 N. Michigan, 312-642-5300, audubonart.com.

Josef Glimmer Galleries: Artists known to the world's art institutions, 207 W. Superior St., 312-787-4640, www.josefglimergallery.com.

Josh Moulton Fine Art Gallery: Work of Josh Moulton, a painter, 2218 N. Clark St., 773-592-3434, www.joshmoultonfineart.com.

kasia kay art projects gallery: Contemporary art, 215 W. Chicago Ave., 312-944-0408, kasiakaygallery.wordpress.com/about.

Kass Meridian: Contemporary and modern, 325 W. Huron St., 312-266-5999, www.kassmeridian.com.

Kavi Gupta Gallery: Contemporary art by international artists: several locations, 312-432-0708, kavigupta.com.

Ken Saunders Gallery: Sculptural works by artists working with glass, 230 W. Superior St., 312-573-1400, kensaundersgallery.com.

KM Fine Arts: American and European artists of early modernism, postwar, and contemporary art, 43 E. Oak St. and 875 N. Michigan Ave., 312-255-1202, www.kmfinearts.com.

La Llorona Art Gallery: Works of known and unknown photographers, painters, sculptors, printmakers and muralists, 1474 W. Webster Ave., 773-281-8460, lalloronagallery.com.

Lacuna Artist Loft Studios: Cultural arts center, shared work space, 2150 S. Canalport Ave., 773-609-5638, lacuna2150.com.

Latvian Folk Art Museum: Latvian folk art, 4146 N. Elston Ave., 773-588-2085, www.chicagolatvianassociation.com.

Leigh Gallery: A diverse collection of art from established artists. Jean Leigh, a lesbian artist, is the owner of The Leigh Gallery, 3306 N. Halsted St., 773-472-1865, www.theleighgallery.com.

Lillstreet Art Center/ArtReach: Community of artists and students working together, 4401 N. Ravenswood Ave., 773-769-4226, www.artreachchicago.org.

Linda Warren Projects: Emerging and established artists in all styles, 327 N. Aberdeen, 312-432-9500, lindawarrenprojects.com.



Little Black Pearl: Serving youth in the Kenwood/Oakland, Woodlawn and Bronzeville neighborhoods on Chicago's South Side, 1060 E. 47th St., (773) 285-1211, www.blackpearl.org.

Loyola University Museum of Art: Art and artistic expression that illuminates

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the spiritual questions of all cultures and societies, 820 N. Michigan Ave., 312-915-7600, www.luc.eduluma.

Mars Gallery: Contemporary, modern pop art, abstract, figurative and other art mediums, 1139 W. Fulton Market St., 312-226-7808, www.marsgallery.com.

Matthew Rachman Gallery: Contemporary and vintage art, 1659 W. Chicago Ave., 773-245-3182, matthewrachmangallery.com.

Maya Polsky Gallery: A showcase of international contemporary artists, 215 W. Superior St., 312-440-0055, www.mayapolsky.com.

McCormick Gallery: Post-war abstract expressionists, 835 W. Washington Blvd., 312-226-6800, www.thomasmccormick.com.

Mongerson Gallery: Paintings and sculpture from the country's Westward Expansion, 25th floor, John Hancock building, 875 N. Michigan Ave, 312-943-2354, www.mongersongallery.com.

Monique Meloche Gallery: Conceptually challenging installations, 2154 W. Division, 773-252-0299, moniquemeloche.com.

Morpho Gallery: Artists on cusp of being discovered, 5216 N. Damen, 773-878-4255, www.morphogallery.com.

Museum of Contemporary Art: Aims to be a space where the public can experience the work and ideas of living artists and understand the historical, social and cultural context of the artwork; 220 E. Chicago Ave., 312-280-2660, www.mcchicago.org.

Museum of Contemporary Photography: A forum for the collection, creation and examination of imagemaking, at Columbia College 600 S. Michigan Ave., 312-663-5554, www.mocp.org.

National Museum of Mexican Art: The museum seeks to showcase, develop and preserve Mexican Art, 1852 W. 19th St., 312-738-1503, www.nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org.

National Veterans Art Museum: Focuses on impact of war and collects, preserves and exhibits art inspired by combat and created by veterans, 4041 N. Milwaukee Ave., 312-326-0270, www.nvam.org.

NYCH Art Gallery: Visual art, paintings, sculptures, photography, fashion and interior designs that promote simplicity, 643 W. 18th St., Chicago., 585-208-4593, www.nychgallery.com.

Oscar Martinez Gallery: Showcasing the narratives and dramas of Oscar Martinez, www.oscarmartinez.com.

Perimeter Gallery: Contemporary painting, sculpture and works on paper, 210 W. Superior St., 312-266-9473, perimetergallery.com.

Platt Fine Art: Devoted to the work of lesser-known artists from the 1930s and 1940s and major American artists, 625 W. Oakdale Ave., 773-281-2500, www.plattfineart.com.

Poster Plus: Wide range of specialty and event posters, 1867 N. Bissell St., 312-461-9277, posterplus.com.

Primitive: Antique to modern furniture and décor, much more, 130 N. Jefferson St., 312-575-9600, www.bepimitive.com.

Printworks Gallery: Works on paper, 311 W. Superior St., 312-664-9407, printworkschicago.com.

The Project Room: Under-recognized work around the world, 217 W. Huron St., 847-400-4626, www.theprojectroompb.com.

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center: Community-based, grassroots, educational, health and cultural services organization. See www.prcc-chgo.org/about/.



LGBT Chicago artist Sam Kirk works on a mural on 16th Street west of Halsted, an area with dozens of outdoor murals from a wide range of artists.

Photo by Tracy Baim

Rangefinder Gallery: Work from Leica photographers, 300 W. Superior St., 312-642-2255, www.tamarkin.com/leicagallery.

Renaissance Society: At U of Chicago, 5811 S. Ellis Ave., 773-702-8670, www.renaissancesociety.org.

Rhona Hoffman Gallery: International contemporary art in all medias, 118 N. Peoria St., 312-455-1990, www.rhoffmangallery.com.

Richard H. Driehaus Gallery of Stained Glass: At Navy Pier, Chicago, 312-482-8933, www.driehausmuseum.org.

Richard Norton Galleries: American fine art of the early 20th Century, 612 Merch. Mart, 312-644-8855, richardnortongallery.com.

Rosenthal Fine Art: Modernism, abstract expressionism, post-war, contemporary, 640 N. LaSalle, 312-475-0700, rosenthalfineart.com.

Rotofugi Gallery: Modern pop, illustration art and character/toy design, 2780 N. Lincoln Ave., 773-868-3308, gallery.rotofugi.com.

R.S. Johnson Fine Art: Museum-quality works of all genres, 645 N. Michigan Ave, 312-943-1661, www.rsjohnsonfineart.com.

Russell Bowman Art Advisory: Modern, contemporary and self-taught art, 311 W. Superior, 312-751-9500, www.bowmanart.com.

Schneider Gallery: Contemporary photography, 770 N. LaSalle Dr., 312-988-4033, www.schneidergallerychicago.com.

Smart Museum of Art: University of Chicago, 5550 S. Greenwood Ave., 773-702-0200, smartmuseum.uchicago.edu.

Society for the Arts: Promotes communication with Europe, 1112 N. Milwaukee Ave., 773-486-9612, www.societyforarts.com.

Stephen Daiter Gallery: Fine and vintage photos from 20th Century, 230 W. Superior, 312-787-3350, stephendaitergallery.com.

Temple Gallery/Posterchild: Multi-media art group, 1749 S. Halsted Ave., www.posterchildart.com.

Thomas Masters Gallery: The work of Thomas Masters, 245 W. North Ave., 312-440-2322, www.thomasmastersgallery.com.

Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art: Contemporary art, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., 773-227-5522, uima-chicago.org.

The Art Institute of Chicago.

Photo by Hal Baim



United Foundation for Arts and Technology: Represents minority artists, 1833 S. Halsted St., Chicago www.ufat.org.

Vale Craft Gallery: Clay, fiber, glass, metal, wood, mixed art, jewelry, 230 W. Superior St., 312-337-3525, www.valecraftgallery.com.

Valerie Carberry Gallery/Richard Gray Gallery: Two galleries that share a space and exhibit and sell modern, contemporary and post-war art, 38th floor, John Hancock Center, 875 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago. Gray Gallery 312-642-8877, Carberry Gallery at 312-397-9990, www.richardgraygallery.com or valeriecarberry.com.

Vertical Gallery: Exhibits and promotes urban, contemporary and street art, 1016 N. Western Ave., 773-697-3846, verticalgallery.com.

Western Exhibitions: Commercial contemporary art gallery, 845 W. Washington Blvd., 312-480-8390, www.westernexhibitions.com.

Windy City Strobists: Dedicated to the expression of imagery, 1932 S. Halsted, windycitystrobists.com.

Woman Made Gallery: Supports the work of female-identified artists, 685 N. Milwaukee Ave., 312-738-0400, www.womanmade.org.

Xavier Nuez Gallery: Showcasing the photographs of Xavier Nuez, 1932 S. Halsted St., 510-648-6810, www.nuez.com.

Zg Gallery: Contemporary art gallery, 300 W. Superior St., 312-654-9900, info@Zg-Gallery.com, www.zggallery.com.

Zhou B Art Center: Seeks to promote and facilitate a cultural dialogue, 1029 W. 35th St., 773-523-0200, www.zhoubartcenter.com.

Zolla/Lieberman Gallery: For beginning and established collectors, 325 W. Huron St., 312-944-1990, www.zollaliebermangallery.com.

Zygmant Voss Gallery: Original, museum-quality works of art, 222 W. Superior St., 312-787-3300, www.zygmantvossgallery.com.

Art AIDS show in Chicago



Art AIDS America, the groundbreaking exhibition examining the deep and on-going influence of the AIDS crisis on American art and culture, will be presented by the Alphawood Foundation, Dec. 1, 2016-April 2, 2017.

This free exhibition introduces and explores the whole spectrum of artistic responses to AIDS, from the politically outspoken to the quietly mournful, surveying works from the early 1980s to the present.

With more than 100 works of art, the exhibition includes landmark works by Ross Bleckner, Scott Burton, Judy Chicago, Karen Finley, Robert Gober, Félix Gonzalez-Torres, Gran Fury, Keith Haring, Thomas Haukaas, Jenny Holzer, Kia Labeija, Annie Leibovitz, Robert Mapplethorpe, Donald Moffett, Catherine Opie, Lari Pittman, Andres Serrano, Kiki Smith, David Wojnarowicz and Martin Wong, among others. There will also be some additional focus on the Chicago arts community's response to HIV/AIDS.



Art AIDS America will be at Alphawood Gallery, a new pop-up space, 2401 N. Halsted St., Chicago. See visit ArtAIDSAmericaChicago.org.

Above: Kia Labeija, *In My Room*, 2014. Inkjet print.

Courtesy of the artist

Right: Tino Rodriguez, *Eternal Lovers*, 2010. Oil on wood.

Private Collection



CHICAGO PERFORMING ARTS

20% Theatre Company: Dedicated to strengthening the presence and raising public awareness of women artists in theater. It is estimated that only 20% of theater professionals are women. Contact www.twentypercentchicago.com.

About Face Theatre: The theater creates plays to advance the national dialog on gender and sexual identity and to challenge and entertain audiences. Most shows are performed at Theater Wit at 1229 W. Belmont, Chicago. Contact About Face at 773-784-8565 or visit aboutfacetheatre.com.

Acorn Theater: This beautiful theater was launched by two gay men in nearby Three Oaks, Michigan. Contact 269-756-3879, www.acorntheater.com.

Actors Gymnasium: Circus arts, physical theater and multi-disciplinary shows, 927 Noyes St, Evanston, 847-328-2795, www.actorsgymnasium.org.

Adapt Theatre: Aims to disorient its audience so it can be reoriented to a new world view and have an open dialogue, (224) 999-0761, www.adapttheatre.com.

Adventure Stage Chicago: Shows for middle-school-aged audiences that seek to inspire all of us to be heroes in our own lives, 1012 N. Noble St., Chicago, 773-342-4141, adventurestage.org.

African American Arts Alliance of Chicago: The alliance hopes to strengthen and develop African American artists and arts organizations. Contact at 773-754-3923, www.aaaachicago.org.

American Blues Theater: Produces visceral theatrical works while engaging its audience with local service agencies. American Blues Theater illuminates the American ideas of freedom, equality and opportunity, 773-404-7336, visitamericanbluestheater.com.

American Theater Company: Founded in July 1985 as American Blues Theater, a company dedicated to exploring, nurturing, and developing theater that addresses and affects real working-class people of Chicago, 1909 W. Byron St., Chicago, 773-409-4125, www.atcweb.org.

Amundson Mysteries: Conducts murder-in-the-mansion mystery dinners, 773-267-6400, mysteryltd.com.

Annoyance Theater and Bar: The Annoyance uses improvisation to create new and original plays, musicals and sketch-comedy, 851 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, 773-697-9693, theannoyance.com.

antena: A project space that operates as a cultural space to transmit / broadcast art ideas, new media and installation projects, 1755 S. Laflin St., Chicago, www.antenapilsen.com.

Apollo Chorus of Chicago: Strives to advance musically and to increase appreciation of choral music, 420 W. Ontario St., Chicago, 312-427-5620, www.apollochorus.org.

Apollo Theater: Hosts their own productions and rents out, 2540 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, 773-935-6100, www.apollochicago.com.

Arcadia Theater: In suburban St. Charles, built in 1926 by local millionaire and Chicago Tribune cartoonist Lester J. Norris. Today, the "Gem of the Fox Valley" is back to its original state of elegance, complete with the original pipe organ, 630-962-7000, www.arcadalive.com.

Arie Crown Theatre: A performance venue for theater programs. Contact 312-791-6190 or visit www.ariecrown.com.



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Artemisia: A Chicago Theater: A theater that tells dynamic stories that hope to empower women, 312-725-3780, artemisiatheatre.org.

Athenaeum Theatre: For more than 100 years, the Athenaeum has stood as a cornerstone in the Lakeview neighborhood. The Athenaeum is Chicago's oldest continuously operating Off-Loop theatre. The Main Stage of the Athenaeum seats 985, with seating on the main floor, lower balcony and upper balcony. Located at 2936 N. Southport, Chicago, athenaeumtheatre.org.

Auditorium Theater of Roosevelt University: Committed to presenting international, cultural, community and educational programming to Chicago and to the continued restoration and preservation of the National Historic Landmark Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Parkway, Chicago, 312-341-2300, www.auditoriumtheatre.org.

Babes with Blades: Uses stage combat to place women and their stories center stage, 773-904-0391, babeswithblades.org.

Baby Wants Candy Improv Show: The actors and band perform the first name of a never-performed musical that they hear, 773-368-1685, visit babywantscandy.com.

Beast Women Productions: An all-female performance variety revue serving as a platform to showcase the best female talent in Chicago, www.beastwomenproductions.com.

Beverly Arts Center: Serving the Chicago metro area with programs in dance, visual arts, music, film and theater, 2407 W. 111th St., Chicago, 773-445-3838, www.beverlyartcenter.org.

Black Ensemble Theater: Founded in 1976 by actress, producer and playwright Jackie Taylor. It has grown from a small community arts organization to a vibrant nationally and internationally renowned arts institution. A leader and innovator in the African-American and mainstream arts communities, Black Ensemble Theater is recognized as one of the most diverse theaters in the country, 4450 N. Clark St., Chicago, 773-769-4451, www.blackensembletheater.org.

Black Mamba Theatre Company: The theater performs dark plays. See www.blackmambatheatre.com.

Blue Man Group / Briar Street Theatre: A show with men painted blue who perform a show of lights, colors, music and art, 3133 N. Halsted, Chicago, 773-525-9696, visit www.blue.com.

Broadway In Chicago: Performances in five theaters: The PrivateBank Theatre, Oriental Theatre, Cadillac Palace Theatre, the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University and the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place. Shows playing now or upcoming: Chicago May 10, 2016-May 15, 2016; Disenchanted! May 10, 2016-June 5, 2016; Disney's Beauty and the Beast May 24, 2016-May 29, 2016; The SpongeBob Musical June 7, 2016-July 10, 2016; The Sound of Music June 7, 2016-June 19, 2016; The Book of Mormon June 29, 2016-Aug. 14, 2016; Schoolhouse Rock Live! July 8, 2016-Aug. 28, 2016; Disney's Newsies July 28, 2016-Aug. 7, 2016; Summer Concert at Millennium Park Aug. 15, 2016-One Night Only!; Cheers Live On Stage Sept. 20, 2016-Oct. 23, 2016; Hamilton performances begin-Sept. 27, 2016; Graeme of Thrones Oct. 25, 2016-Nov. 13, 2016; Fun Home Nov. 2, 2016-Nov. 13, 2016; Annie Nov. 9, 2016-Nov. 13, 2016; Finding Neverland Nov. 22, 2016-Dec. 4, 2016; The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time Dec. 6, 2016-Dec. 24, 2016; The Phantom of The Opera Dec. 14, 2016-Jan. 8, 2017; The Bodyguard Jan. 31, 2017-Feb. 12, 2017; Hedwig and the Angry Inch March 7, 2017-March 19, 2017; Disney's Aladdin April 11, 2017-July 2, 2017; Beautiful—The Carole King Musical Dec. 5, 2017-Dec. 31, 2017. See more at: <http://broadwayinchicago.com/shows/#sthash.bZpVvPCd.dpuf>

Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Palace: One of the five Broadway in Chicago theaters, 175 E. Chestnut St., Chicago, www.broadwayinchicago.com.



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Cadillac Palace Theatre: One of the five Broadway in Chicago theaters, 151 W. Randolph St., Chicago, visit www.broadwayinchicago.com.

Charnel House Chicago: A theater that hopes to put on high-quality, original shows, 3421 W. Fullerton Ave., Chicago, 773-871-9046, www.thecharnelhousechicago.com.

Chicago Academy for the Arts: An independent arts high school, offering six courses of study, 1010 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, 312-421-0202, chicagoacademyforthearts.org.

Chicago Children's Theater: Aspires to enrich the community by inspiring the child in all of us, 1016 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, 872-222-9555, chicagochildrenstheatre.org.

Chicago Cultural Center: Free music, dance and theater events, films, lectures, art exhibitions and family events. Its interior features rare imported marbles, brass, fine hardwoods and mosaics. It is also home to a 38-foot diameter stained-glass Tiffany dome composed of 30,000 pieces of glass and a 40-foot diameter Renaissance style dome with 50,000 pieces of glass. At 78 E. Washington St., Chicago, www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/chicago_culturalcenter.

Chicago Human Rhythm Project / American Rhythm Center: A tap infused with African rhythmic and Irish dance traditions. CHRHP performs at venues throughout Chicago and offers classes in tap, 312-542-CHRP or 312-922-1ARC, visit chicagotap.org.

Chicago Magic Lounge: Features close-up and stage magic, 4707 N. Broadway, Chicago, 773-867-1946, www.chicagomagiclounge.com.

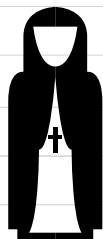
Chicago Opera Theater: Adventurous opera experiences of new and rarely performed works. The Chicago Opera Theater is housed at three venues: The Harris Theater, The Music Box Theater and the Studebaker Theater; 312-704-8414, www.chicagooperatheater.org.

Chicago Shakespeare Theater: The theater is known for vibrant productions that reflect Shakespeare's genius for storytelling, language and empathy for the human condition. Located at Navy Pier, 800 East Grand Ave., Chicago, 312 -595-5600, www.chicagosshakes.com.

Chicago Sinfonietta: Chicago Sinfonietta is a professional orchestra dedicated to modeling and promoting diversity, inclusion and both racial and cultural equity in the arts through the universal language of symphonic music. In 1987, Maestro Paul Freeman had a decidedly different vision of what an orchestra could, and should be. He was the first African American on the podium of more than 50 orchestras worldwide and had a huge catalog of recordings to his credit. By the mid-1980s he concluded that the time was right for a mid-sized orchestra dedicated to promoting diversity, inclusion and innovative programming, and he decided that Chicago was the right place to do this. Chicago Sinfonietta's 2016-'17 season, "Chromatic," includes its first-ever program dedicated to LGBTQ composers and musicians, March 25, 2017 at 8 p.m. at Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville; and Monday, March 27, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. at Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago. Among those whose works will be covered are Leonard Bernstein, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Jennifer Higdon and David Conte. Michael Morgan will be the guest conductor. Call 312-236-3681, ext. 2, www.chicagosinfonietta.org.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra: An orchestra that hopes to entertain artists with quality music. Founded in 1891, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is consistently hailed as one of the greatest orchestras in the world. In collaboration with the best conductors and guest artists on the international music scene, the CSO performs well over 100 concerts each year at its downtown home, Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, and at the Ravinia Festival on Chicago's North Shore. Call 312-294-3000 or visit csso.org.

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Chicago Theatre: Features a wide range of music, comedy and other performances throughout the year. The elegant lobby, majestic staircase and beautiful auditorium complete with murals above are components of an amazing building called “the Wonder Theatre of the World” when it opened in 1921; 175 N. State St., 312-462-6300, visit www.thechicagotheatre.com.

Chicago Theatre Works: The show Brew Ha-Ha is a raucous evening of dinner, dancing, drinking and bingo, 1113 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, 312-391-0404, www.wegottabingo.com.

Chopin Theatre: A theater that hopes to entertain artists with quality shows, 1543 W. Division, Chicago, 773-278-1500, visit www.chopintheatre.com.

Citadel Theater Company: Seeks to provide a home for an audience that wants to experience powerful works of insight and complexity, works that illuminate the challenges and joys of the human experience, 300 S. Waukegan Rd., Lake Forest, 847-735-8554, citadeltheatre.org.

City Lit Theatre: Dedicated to the literary imagination, producing concert readings and full-stage productions of adaptations of literary material, scripted plays by language-oriented playwrights, and original material developed especially for City Lit; 1020 W. Bryn Mawr, Chicago, 773-293-3682, www.citylit.org.

Clinard Dance Theatre Studio: The theater hopes to entertain audiences with dance, 312-399-1984, www.clinardance.org.

Collaboraction: Creates original experiences that push artistic boundaries in order to explore critical social issues, 1579 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, 312-226-9633, www.collaboraction.org.

ComedySportz Theater: Longest-running short-form improv comedy show in Chicago, 929 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, 773-549-8080, www.cszchicago.com.

Cornservatory: Robert Bouwman and Todd Schaner founded Corn Productions in 1992. Their goal was to provide artistic freedom for themselves and reasonably priced provocative entertainment for their audience. At 4210 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, 773-650-1331, visitscornservatory.org.

Coronado Performing Arts: The Coronado opened in 1927 as an atmospheric style theater and movie palace—complete with Spanish castles, Italian villas, oriental dragons, starlit skies and a Grande Barton Pipe Organ. Countless show business legends, including the Marx Brothers, Tommy Dorsey, Frank Sinatra, Louis Armstrong, George Gershwin, Bob Hope, Sammy Davis, Jr. and Gypsy Rose Lee have performed on the Coronado stage. At 314 N. Main St., Rockford, 815-968-2722, visit www.coronadopac.org.

Court Theatre: The professional theater of the University of Chicago, dedicated to innovation, inquiry, intellectual engagement and community service. Court mounts theatrical productions and audience enrichment programs in collaboration with faculty. These collaborations enable a re-examination of classic texts that pose the enduring and provocative questions that define the human experience. At 5535 S. Ellis Ave., Chicago, 773-753-4472, www.courttheatre.org.

Dance for Life: Dance for Life is an annual benefit event at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University. The 25th anniversary event is Aug 20, 2016. Other events throughout support their mission to mobilize Chicago’s dance community to support organizations and dance community professionals dealing with critical health issues, including, but not limited to HIV/AIDS, through the art of dance. See chicagodancersunited.org.

Den Theatre: At 1333 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, 773-697-3830, visitthedentheatre.com.

Dinner Detective Murder Mystery Dinner Show: An interactive murder mystery, 866-496-0535, www.thedinnerdetective.com.

Dong Fang Chinese Performing Arts: A theater that entertains audiences with works from Chinese culture, www.dongfangarts.org.

Drury Lane Theatre: A theater with performances and dining venue just yards away, 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, 630-530-0111, drurylanetheatre.com.

Edge Theatre: At 5451 N. Broadway, a 114-fixed seat proscenium theater equipped to support a variety of productions and events, www.edgetheater.com.

Emerald City Theatre: A national leader in developing new work for young audiences, having created more than 30 world premieres and worked with best-selling children's authors such as Mo Willems, Jon Scieszka and Laura Numeroff, as well as Grammy-nominated children's musician Justin Roberts. At various venues, 773-529-2690, visit www.emeraldcitytheatre.com.

Factory Theater: A theater that delivers unexpected and unapologetic performances, 1623 W. Howard St., Chicago, www.thefactorytheater.com.

Flat Iron Arts: A labyrinth of studios that also offers unique architectural design as well as art events and performances, 1579 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, www.flatironartsbuilding.com.

Ford Oriental Theater: One of the five Broadway in Chicago theaters, 24 W. Randolph St., Chicago, visit www.broadwayinchicago.com.



About Face Theatre's after all the terrible things I do.

Photo by Christopher Semel

GayCo Productions: A theater ensemble that specializes in creating sketch-comedy revues based on gay/lesbian themes. Since starting as a lesbian/gay focused workshop at the Second City Training Center in 1996, they have performed for massive, enthusiastic, sexy gay audiences across the country. See www.gayco.com.

Genesee Theatre: In 1926, A.L. Brumund, H.C. Burnett, and D.T. Webb purchased land, at the corner of Genesee and Clayton Streets, in Waukegan, Illinois from the Y.M.C.A. for \$130,000. Their wish was to create a community center for Waukegan focused on high-quality entertainment, commercial and living spaces. The City of Waukegan purchased the building in 1999 and began renovations at a cost of almost \$23 million with the help of over 120 volunteers. Call 847-782-2366, www.geneseetheatre.com.

Gift Theater: Believes a play is a sacred conversation between actor and audience and hopes to offer that gift to its audience, 4802 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, 773-283-7071, thegifttheatre.org.

Giordano Dance Chicago at North Central College: A jazz dance company that hopes to entertain audiences and offers classes to aspiring performers, 312-922-1332, www.geneseetheatre.com.

Goodman Theatre: Seeks to make an essential contribution to the quality of life in Chicago. Chicago's oldest and largest not-for-profit theater has won international renown for the quality of productions, the depth and diversity of artistic leadership, and the excellence of its community and educational programs. Goodman is committed to producing both classic and contemporary works, giving full voice to a wide range of artists and visions. At 170 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, 312-443-3800, www.goodmantheatre.org.

Greenhouse Theater: A nonprofit performance venue that hopes to grow local theater, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, www.greenhousetheater.org.

Griffin Theatre Company: Seeks to create extraordinary and meaningful theatrical experiences for both children and adults by building bridges of understanding between generations, 5301 N. Damen, Chicago, 773-549-2433, griffintheatre.com.

Halcyon Theatre: A theater committed to making the stage as diverse as the city of Chicago by presenting works by underrepresented artists, 3255 W. Wilson Ave., Chicago, 773-413-0454, halcyontheatre.org.

Harris Theater: The Joan W. and Irving B. Harris Theater for Music and Dance is a 1500-seat state-of-the-art performance venue located in Chicago's Millennium Park. Opened in 2003, the nonprofit Harris Theater was the first multi-use performance venue built in downtown Chicago since 1929. Harris Theater serves as a unique national model of collaboration between the philanthropic community and performing arts organizations in music and dance. More than a decade later, the theater features the most diverse offerings of any venue in Chicago, hosting local, national and internationally renowned artists and ensembles. See www.harristheaterchicago.org.

Hell in a Handbag Productions: Dedicated to the preservation, exploration and celebration of the art of camp and parody onstage, in the most ridiculous manner possible. HIAH's debut production was POSEIDON! An Upside-Down Musical. HIAH has also produced Fa La La This, their annual holiday monologue showcase, How 'What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?' Happened, Judy's Scary Little Christmas, SCARRIE—The Musical, The Birds, Silent Night of the Lambs, Summer Camp, Lady X, TROGG! A Musical and Pussy on the House. See www.handbagproductions.org.

Her Story Theater Company: Her Story creates all its original plays based on Chicago lives. See www.herstorytheater.org.

Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre/First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre: One of the biggest music venues in America, 19100 Ridgeland Ave., Tinley Park, Southwest of Chicago, 708-614-1616, www.tinleyparkamphitheater.com.

Hoover Leppen Theater: The Hoover Leppen is a venue for queer performances, in Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St., Chicago, www.centeronhalsted.org.

House Theater of Chicago: Aims to unite Chicago in the spirit of community thru storytelling, 773-769-3832, thehousetheatre.com.

Hubbard Street Dance: Hopes to entertain its audiences with quality work, 312-850-9744, www.hubbardstreetdance.com.

The Hypocrites: Hopes to inspire its audiences by encouraging interactions with people, 1329 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, 872-205-6525, www.the-hypocrites.com.

The iO Theater: An improv company, 1501 N. Kingsbury St., Chicago, 312 929-2401, ioimprov.com.

Irish American Heritage Center: An art gallery, performing arts center, library, genealogy and language educational institution, and museum devoted to Irish American culture, 4626 N. Knox Ave., 773-282-7035, irish-american.org.

Jackalope Theater Company / The Frontier: Performs newly developed and established American works that encourage audiences to consider what it means to American, 1106 W. Thorndale Ave., Chicago, 773-340-2543, www.jackalopetheatre.org.

Jedlicka Performing Arts: A college venue that showcases stage and musical productions, Morton College, 3801 S. Central Ave., Cicero, 708-656-1800, jpactheatre.com.

Joel Hall Dancers: Joel Hall, an openly gay man, had an honorary street dedication ceremony in Chicago in May 2016. The mission of the Joel Hall Dancers

& Center is to use the arts to enrich the lives of its community through dance performance and education. The signature dance style of JHD incorporates ballet, jazz, modern, funk and “street dance” using contemporary jazz and house music to create an innovative and continuously evolving dance style. See joelhall.org.



GayCo's ensemble cast.
PR photo

Joffrey Ballet: A world-class, Chicago-based ballet company and dance education organization committed to artistic excellence and innovation, presenting a unique repertoire encompassing masterpieces of the past and cutting-edge works. The Joffrey Ballet has been hailed as “America’s Company of Firsts.” The Joffrey Ballet’s long list of “firsts” includes being the first dance company to perform at the White House at Jacqueline Kennedy’s invitation, the first to appear on TV, the first classical dance company to go multi-media, the first to commission a rock ‘n’ roll ballet, the first and only dance company to appear on the cover of Time magazine, the first company to have had a major motion picture based on it, Robert Altman’s *The Company*, and the first U.S. ballet company to livestream video of a rehearsal on YouTube. Contact 312 739-0120, visit www.joffrey.org.

Kalapriya Center for Indian Performing Arts: One of the foremost Indian arts organizations in Chicago, Kalapriya perpetuates the rich classical and folk traditions of the subcontinent, along with the current, contemporary and hybrid innovations of our time. Contact 312-436-2789, www.kalapriya.org.

Kokandy Productions: A musical theater that aims to tell complex and challenging stories. Shows are held at Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont., Chicago, 773-975-8150, www.kokandyproductions.com.

Late Nite Catechism: The longest-running religious comedy in Chicago. And Bible Bingo, where you laugh, learn and win goofy prizes! Royal George Theatre, 1641 N. Halsted, Chicago, 312-988-9000, www.nuns4fun.com.

Lifeline Theatre: A theater that focuses on literary adaptations and new work, 6912 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, 773-761-4477, www.lifelinetheatre.com.

Lincoln Loft: A group of eight artists who live and work in the same space, 3036 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, www.thelincolnloft.com.

Links Hall: Hopes to encourage innovation and public engagement; an artistic incubator and launch pad. At 3111 N. Western Ave., Chicago, 773-281-0824, visitlinkshall.org.

Lookingglass Theatre Company: Combines a physical and improvisational rehearsal process with training in theater, dance, music, and the circus arts. Lookingglass is a nationwide leader in the creation and presentation of new, cutting-edge theatrical works and in sharing its ensemble-based theatrical techniques with Chicago-area students and teachers through education and community programs. Recipient of the 2011 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, 821 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312-337-0665, visitlookingglasstheatre.org.

Logan Center for the Arts: Advances the arts at the University of Chicago, 773-702-ARTS, arts.uchicago.edu.

Lyric Opera of Chicago: Lyric Opera of Chicago is one of the world's great opera companies. It is renowned internationally for its artistic excellence and financial strength. Founded in 1954, Lyric has always distinguished itself by presenting the finest international singers, conductors, directors and designers in classic and less-familiar operatic repertoire and in world-premiere productions. The Civic Opera House is located at 20 N. Wacker Dr., Chicago, 312-827-5600, www.lyricopera.org.

Magic Parlour: Performances by magicians and dinner for an additional cost before and after shows, 773-769-3832, www.themagicparlourchicago.com.

Marriott Theatre: Sells more than 400,000 tickets a year, and boasts the largest subscription base of any musical theater. In all, the Marriott Theatre has presented more than 180 productions to an estimated 11 million people. At 10 Marriott Drive., Lincolnshire, 847-634-0200, www.marriotttheatre.com.

Mary-Arrchie Theatre Co.: Committed to producing theater as an ensemble including actors, directors and designers who are intimately involved in the process, 735 W. Sheridan Rd., Chicago, 773-871-0442, www.maryarrchie.com.

Mary's Attic: Upstairs performance venue of Hamburger Mary's, 5400 N. Clark St., Chicago, 773-784-6969, www.hamburgermarys.com/chicago/attic/

McAninch Performing Arts: A venue for music, dance, theater, comedy and specialty entertainment, College of Dupage, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, 630-942-4000, visit www.atthemac.org.

MCL Chicago: Dedicated to music improv and music comedy, 3110 N. Sheffield Ave., Chicago, 773-610-5939, www.mclchicago.com.

Mercury Theater: An intimate theater for musicals and local performances, 3745 N. Southport., Chicago, 773-325-1700, visitmercurytheaterchicago.com.

Metropolis Performing Arts: For professional entertainment and arts education, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights, 847-577-2121, www.metropolisarts.com.

The Music Box: A venue for independent and foreign films and performances, 3733 N. Southport, Chicago, 773-871-6604, www.musicboxtheatre.com.

Neo-Futurists: The Neo-Futurist aesthetic draws upon Dada, Surrealism, the work of the original Italian Futurists, and an array of other artistic and performance disciplines to create something new. At 5153 N. Ashland, Chicago, 773-878-4557, www.neofuturists.org.

NightBlue Performing Arts: Embraces difficult topics and tells stories that examine who we are as human beings, 11976 Holly Ct., Lemont, 630-410-8790, www.nightbluetheater.com.

Northlight Theatre: Aspires to promote change of perspective and encourage compassion "by exploring the depth of our humanity across a bold spectrum of theatrical experiences, reflecting our community to the world and the world to our community." At 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, 847-673-6300, www.northlight.org.

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts: Part of Skokie's plan to provide cultural, literary and educational programs, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, 847-679-9501, www.northshorecenter.org.

No Exit Café / Theo Ubique Cabaret Theater: A theater hoping to engage actors and audiences in an intimate and honest conversation with great theatrical works. The dinner theater is located at 6970 N. Glenwood, 773-347-1109, visit www.theo-u.com.

Nuns4Fun Entertainment: Nuns4Fun Entertainment was created by Chicago playwright and producer Vicki Quade. The company specializes in producing

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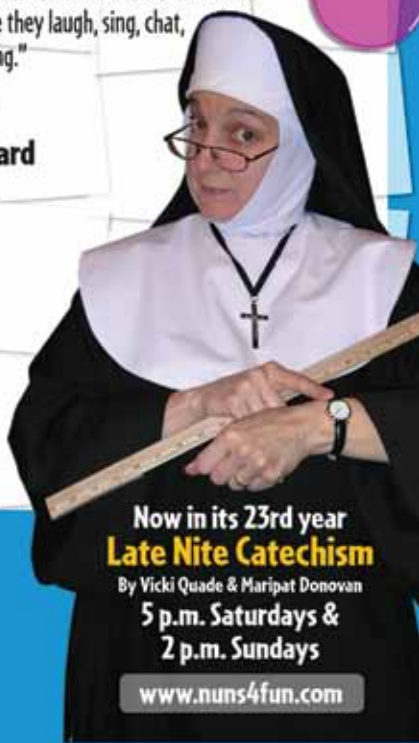
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one-woman religious comedies, including: Late Nite Catechism, Put the Nuns in Charge!, Sunday School Cinema, Saints & Sinners, and Mother Superior's Ho-Ho-Holy Night. They also have a bingo series among other productions. See nuns4fun.com.

Oak Park Festival Theatre: Now in its 42nd season, Oak Park Festival Theatre is the Midwest's oldest professional (Actors' Equity Association) classical outdoor theater. Their summer productions of Shakespeare and other theater masters are staged in idyllic Austin Gardens in the heart of downtown Oak Park. Contact 708-445-4440, oakparkfestival.com.

Oil Lamp Theater: Immerses the guest with a personal greeting by the artistic director and a comforting lobby, 1723 Glenview Rd., Glenview, 847-834-0738, visitoillamptheater.org.

Oracle Theatre: Devoted to making sure everyone everywhere has a chance to experience the arts by offering free programs, 3809 N. Broadway, Chicago, 252-220-0269, publicaccesstheatre.org.

Outspoken!: A monthly, fantastically diverse and curated LGBTQ storytelling event at Sidetrack. David Fink created this first-Tuesday series, which is co-hosted by Kim Hunt and Sidetrack co-owner Art Johnston. See www.sidetrackchicago.com/outspokenchicago.

Paramount Theater: Known for its Broadway shows, 23 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora, 630-896-6666, visit paramountaurora.com.

The Playground Theater: Artist-led comedy theater committed to entertaining audiences with fun, freedom and opportunity, 3209 N Halsted St., Chicago, 773-871-3793, theplaygroundtheater.com.

Porchlight Music Theater: Music theater venue providing performance, education and appreciation, at Stage 773, 1225 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, 773-327-5252, www.porchlightmusictheatre.org.

Pride Films and Plays: The mission of Pride Films and Plays is to change lives through the generation of diverse new work (or work that is new to Chicago) with LGBTQ+ characters or themes that is essential viewing for all audiences. They accomplish this mission through fully staged productions, writing contests and staged readings, film screenings and special events. Contact 773-250-3112, pridefilmsandplays.com.

PrivateBank Theatre: A Broadway in Chicago theater, 18 W. Monroe St., Chicago, 312-977-1700, www.broadwayinchicago.com.

Profiles Theatre: An actor-driven theater known for dark and edgy works, 4139 N. Broadway and 4147 N. Broadway, both in Chicago, 773-549-1815, profiles-theatre.org.

Prop Theatre: Prop Thtr functions as an incubator for new talent; they concentrate on stories that expand our perception of who we are as human beings, 3502 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, 773-742-5420, www.propthtr.org.

Provision Theater: Producing works of hope, reconciliation and redemption, 1001 W. Roosevelt Rd., Chicago, 312-455-0066, www.provisiontheater.org.

Public House Theatre: Theater and comedy in a cabaret setting, 3914 N. Clark St., Chicago, 773-230-4770, pubhousetheatre.com.

Quare Square Collective: Queer-identified artists of color; a monthly open mic for queer women of color. Held on Chicago's predominately Black South Side at one of the city's oldest gay bars, it has quickly become a support network for queer artists of color who often feel isolated from the larger queer community and events on the city's North Side. See www.quare2collective.org.

Raven Theatre: A theater arts organization dedicated to performing arts that illuminate the American experience and work that provides reflection on our identity in a global context, 6157 N. Clark, Chicago, 773-338-6547, visit www.raventheatre.com.

A Red Orchid Theatre: An ensemble of artists dedicated to the proliferation of live theater in the modern world, 1531 N. Wells St., Chicago, 312-943-8722, www.aredorchidtheatre.org.

Rivendell Theatre: An award-winning, critically acclaimed professional theater company committed to recognizing and cultivating the talents of women in theater—from playwrights and actors to designers and managers; 5779 N. Ridge Ave., Chicago, 773-334-7728, visitrivendelltheatre.org.

RedTwist Theatre: Strives to do drama that packs emotion, examines moral dilemmas and reveals greater truths, 1044 W. Bryn Mawr, Chicago, 773-728-7529, www.redtwist.org.

Remy Bumpo Theatre Company: An ensemble-based theater company that believes in the power and beauty of language, 2257 N. Lincoln, 773-404-7336, www.remybumpo.org.

RH School of Performing Arts: Dedicated to promoting, inspiring and empowering youth to express their energy, gifts and talents through the art of dance and modeling, 1514 E. 63rd St., Chicago, 773-850-1487, www.rhspa.com.

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel: The spiritual and ceremonial center of the University of Chicago and a venue for music, theater and visual arts events, 5850 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, 773-702-2100, rockefeller.uchicago.edu.

Route 66 Theatre Company: Introduces, develops, produces and exports new work for the stage that embrace the American spirit of exploration and risk, route66theatre.org.

Royal George Theater/Liberty Theatres: At 1641 N. Halsted, Chicago 312-988-9000, www.theroyalgeorgetheatre.com.



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Ruth Page Center for Arts: A platform for developing great artists and connecting them with audiences and community, 1016 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, 312-337-6543, www.ruthpage.org.

The Second City: An unconventional and non-conformist theater. The Second City opened its doors on a snowy Chicago night in December of 1959. No one could have guessed that this small cabaret theater would become the most influential and prolific comedy theater in the world. At the corner of North Avenue and Wells Street in Chicago, 312-337-3992, visit www.secondcity.com.

The Side Project: An intimate black-box theater with collaborations between established and new artists, 1439 W. Jarvis, Chicago, 773-340-0140, visit thesideproject.net/.

Signal Ensemble Theatre: Actors, designers, writers, directors and stage managers who have created a collaborative environment, 1802 W. Berenice Ave., Chicago, 773-698-7389, www.signalensemble.com.

Silk Road Rising: Creates live theater and online videos that tell stories through primarily Asian American and Middle Eastern American lenses. "In representing communities that intersect and overlap, we advance a polycultural worldview," they state. The founders are a gay couple, Jamil Khoury and Malik Gillani. Silk Road Rising is located at the Chicago Temple building, 77 W. Washington St., Chicago, 312-857-1234, www.silkroadrising.org.

Stage 773: A nonprofit piece of the Belmont Theatre District offering shows in comedy, theater, dance, musicals and more, 1225 W. Belmont, Chicago, 773-327-5252, visit www.stage773.com.

Steep Theatre: A dedicated, close-knit group of 31 actors, directors, designers and writers driven by a shared commitment to the organization's mission: "To bring out the everyday truths in the stories we tell through ensemble work and to reach out to non-traditional theatregoers by seeking out stories and creating experiences relevant to them." At 1115 W. Berwyn Ave., Chicago, 773-649-3186, visit steeptheatre.com.

Steppenwolf Theater: The Steppenwolf ensemble first began performing in the mid-1970s in the basement of a Highland Park, Illinois, church, the ambitious brainchild of three high school and college friends: Jeff Perry, Terry Kinney and Gary Sinise. Fast forward 40 years and the Steppenwolf Theatre Company has become the nation's premier ensemble theater. At 1650 N. Halsted, Chicago, 312-335-1650, www.steppenwolf.org.

Strawdog Theatre: Committed to ensemble acting and an immersive design approach, offering Chicago a premiere storefront theater experience, 3829 N. Broadway, Chicago, 773-528-9696, www.strawdog.org.

StoryTown: A fully improvised adventure where actors use child audience suggestions and ideas to create a different story every week, 1225 W. Belmont, Chicago, 773-245-3443, visit storytownimprov.com.



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Strange Loop Theatre: Focuses on new work, stories of scope, collaboration and immediacy, 2616 N. Spaulding Ave, Chicago, 312-772-6275, strangeloop-theatre.org.

Teatro Luna: Founded in June 2000 by Coya Paz and Tanya Saracho, with an original ensemble of 10 women from diverse Latina/Hispana backgrounds. They came together because they realized that the stories and experiences of Latina/Hispana women were undervalued and underrepresented not only on the Chicago stage, but beyond. See www.teatroluna.org.


Teatro Vista: Teatro Vista, Theatre with a View, was founded in 1990 by Edward Torres and Henry Godinez to address the lack of opportunities for Latino artists and other artists of color, and to explore the new work of Latino writers that challenged not only the actor and director, but also the audience. Contact 773-599-9280, visit www.teatrovista.org.

The Theatre School at DePaul University: Features student work in all areas of production, 773-325-7900, visit theatre.depaul.edu.

Theater Wit: Hopes to provide intelligent, humorous and challenging works. At 1229 W. Belmont, Chicago, 773-975-8150, www.theaterwit.org.

TimeLine Theater: Presents stories inspired by history that connect with today's social and political issues. Their collaborative artistic team produces provocative theater and educational programs that engage, entertain and enlighten. At 615 W. Wellington, Chicago, 773-281-TIME, www.timelinetheatre.com.


Tommy Gun's Garage Dinner Show: An interactive comedy dinner theater in a Roaring Twenties speakeasy atmosphere, 2114 S. Wabash, Chicago, 312-225-0273, www.tommygunsgarage.com.



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Trap Door Theatre: Tells stories in old traditions mixed with new to illustrate absurdities of life, 1655 W. Cortland, Chicago, 773-384-0494, trapdoortheatre.com.

TUTA Theatre: TUTA's mission is to excite the American audience with theater that is both relevant and challenging in both form and/or content. At 4670 N. Manor Ave., Chicago, 312-945-6398, visit www.tutato.com.

Under the Gun Theater: Theater in the mediums of improvisation, stand-up, sketch comedy, plays, storytelling, music and physical theater with a bent toward comedy, 956 W. Newport, Chicago, 773-270-3440, www.undertheguntheater.com.

Up Comedy Club: A venue for stand-up, sketch, improv, podcasts and other entertainment that hopes to be smart, funny and provocative, 3rd floor of Piper's Alley, 230 W. North Ave., Chicago, 312-662-4562, upcomedyclub.com.

Uptown Underground: A theater for burlesque, cabaret, music, magic and comedy, 4707 N. Broadway, Chicago, 773-867-1946, www.uptownunderground.net.

Victory Gardens: Dedicated to artistic excellence while creating a vital, contemporary American theater that is accessible and relevant to all people through quality productions of challenging new plays and musicals. In 2001, Victory Gardens received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre. At 2433 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, 773-871-3000, 773-549-2779, visitvictorygardens.org.

Windy City Playhouse: A theater that hopes to be inspired and moved by its audiences, 3014 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago, 773-891-8985, windycityplayhouse.com.

Woodstock Opera House: Devoted to the art of opera, 121 W. Van Buren St., Woodstock, 815-338-4212, www.woodstockoperahouse.com.

The Writers Theatre: For more than 20 years, Writers Theatre has captivated Chicagoland audiences with inventive interpretations of classic work, a bold approach to contemporary theater and a dedication to creating the most intimate theatrical experience possible. Called one of the top half-dozen regional theaters in the nation by The Wall Street Journal. Their new theater center in downtown Glencoe was designed by the award-winning, internationally renowned Studio Gang Architects, led by Founder and Design Principal Jeanne Gang, FAIA, in collaboration with Theatre Consultant Auerbach Pollock Friedlander. At 325 Tudor Ct., Glencoe, Illinois, 847-242-6000, visit www.writerstheatre.org.

See The League of Chicago Theatres website for more theatrical information: leagueofchicagotheatres.org and their complete membership list here: www.chicagoplays.com/member-list.html.

Also see the Illinois Theatre Association, www.illinoistheatre.org.

COMEDY IN CHICAGO

Chicago is the funniest city in America. Don't believe us, ask Time magazine. Stand-up comics and improvisers from across the country flock to Chicago to be a part of the city's celebrated comedy scene.

The Second City, arguably the most iconic and prolific comedy theater in the county, has introduced some of the most influential comedic voices in American comedy including Joan Rivers, Jerry Stiller, Alan Arkin, Anne Meara, John Belushi, Gilda Radner, Bill Murray, John Candy, Betty Thomas, Dan Aykroyd, Tom Kazurinsky, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Andy Dick, Jane Lynch, Aaron Freeman, Tim Meadows, Chris Farley, Steve Carell, Stephen Colbert, Amy Poehler, Rachel Dratch, Tina Fey and so many more. Thanks to their dedication to diverse voices, LGBT performers are frequently featured in the casts of their Main Stage and ETC casts. Housed in what is basically a comedy mall, you can find something to make you laugh seven days a week. Second City Chicago is located at the corner of North Avenue and Wells Street in Chicago, 312-337-3992 or visit www.secondcity.com.

io (formerly Improv Olympic), also in the Lincoln Park neighborhood, features several theaters and a variety of shows ranging from improvised Shakespeare and sketch revues to storytelling and improvised musicals. See ioimprov.com.



The Revival



Chicago is also home to a thriving LGBT comedy scene. The queer improv group **Baby Wine** performs regularly at **The Annoyance Theater**, and **GayCo** (www.gayco.com) is celebrating 20 years of fabulous comedy. If you are looking for stand up, **Chigaygo** is Laugh Factory Chicago's evening of gay and gay-friendly comedy, and **Just Dickin' Around** is a free weekly show at **Hydrate** bar featuring a rotating cast of all ladies, queer, and mixed-gender comics.

The Annoyance Theatre has created some of Chicago's finest comedy for 25 years. Home of the longest-running musical *Co-ed Prison Sluts*, The Annoyance uses improvisation to create new and original plays, musicals, sketch-comedy and more in a vibrant, uncensored atmosphere. See <https://theannoyance.com> for details on upcoming shows during your Chicago visit.

Jokes and Notes is a South Side-based comedy club in the Bronzeville

area, 4641 S. King Dr. See www.jokesandnotes.com.

A bit further south is **The Revival**, in Hyde Park, where improvisational comedy was invented in 1955, when the Compass Players opened a makeshift theater at the northeast corner of 55th Street and University Avenue. One night, the theater was performing for a capacity crowd. The bartender, Fred Wranovics, pulled director Paul Sills aside (Sills had founded Compass with David Shepherd) and asked him to extend the show so he could sell another round of drinks. Without any additional scripted material prepared, Sills decided to present a third act comprised entirely of improvisational games based on audience suggestions. Needless to say, it was a huge success. Soon, the Compass Players ditched scripted material altogether in favor of improvised performances that became known for pointed social satire and political commentary. By 1958, the group splintered. Company members Mike Nichols, Elaine May and Shelly Berman went to New York where they quickly gained national acclaim. Director Paul Sills moved north and co-founded The Second City with Bernard Sahlins and Howard Alk. The Revival is inspired by the legacy of the Compass Players and returns improvisation to its birthplace on the northeast corner of 55th St. and University Avenue in Hyde Park. The Revival presents live performances to the South Side's diverse population of residents, students, faculty/staff, neighborhood professionals and visitors in a 150-seat cabaret theater. See www.the-revival.com.

Zanie's Comedy Club is a standup comedy club. The theater is located at 1548 N. Wells St., Chicago. Contact the box office at 312-337-4027 or visit www.zanies.com.

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chicago.zanies.com. They also have clubs in suburban St. Charles and Rosemont.

Laugh Factory is a comedy venue that hopes to make audiences laugh. Located at 3175 N. Broadway, Chicago, www.laughfactory.com.


Up Comedy Club is a venue for standup, sketch comedy, improv, podcasts, and other entertainment that hopes to be smart, funny and provocative. UP is best for savvy teen and adult audiences and cannot admit those under 10 years of age. The club is located on the 3rd floor of Piper's Alley at 230 W. North Ave., Chicago, 312-662-4562 or visit upcomedyclub.com.

Playground Theater is an artist-led comedy theater, providing a home for comedians to grow as performers, writers, directors and producers. See theplaygroundtheater.com.

ComedySportz Chicago is at CSZ Theater in Lakeview, 929 W. Belmont, and hosts shows and workshops. See www.cszchicago.com.

There are also festivals year-round featuring comedians and improvisers from across the globe. The **Chicago Improv Festival** (chicagoimprovfestival.org) sprawls across the city each spring, and **Stage 773** (stage773.com), located in the heart of the Belmont Theatre District, has a diverse programming of comedy festivals year round: **Chicago Sketch Comedy Festival**, **Chicago Women's Funny Fest**, **Chicago Nerd Comedy Fest** and the **Youth Comedy Fest**.

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LIVE MUSIC IN CHICAGO

Chicago has a vibrant and varied music scene that continues to evolve and grow each year. Read below for a current overview on things to check out in the Windy City to suit almost any musical taste.

Overall Chicago's concert season is controlled by the weather and time of year. The slow times happen around the cold holiday season while things start amping up around March. When planning to visit Chicago for a music festival keep in mind that hotels book up quickly. Mark your calendars and start planning your summer fun early in the year.

Warm up with neighborhood street festivals, where streets are blocked and stages built. Those with a special LGBT focus include **Andersonville's Midsommarfest** June 10-12 in 2016, and two fests on Halsted: **Pride Fest** June 18-19, 2016, and **Northalsted Market Days** in August (in 2016, Aug. 13-14).



The Cabaret Project performs at Northalsted Market Days.

Photo by Jerry Nunn

Also on Pride Weekend, there is the **Dyke March**, with a music and networking festival after the march. The 20th anniversary Dyke March is Saturday, June 25, 2016, starting 2 p.m. at Division and Western, and ending in the area north of Luis Munoz Marin Drive near California and Division. See www.facebook.com/DykeMarchChicago.

Plus, the Far North Side Glenwood Arts District hosts **Pride North** on Pride Sunday, this year June 26, with lots of music and socializing. See www.facebook.com/GlenwoodAvenuePrideNorth.

Here is a guide to the 2016 street tests in Chicago: www.choosechicago.com/articles/view/CHICAGO-FESTIVALS/1446.

Depending on the time of year for your visit, Chicago has a vibrant LGBT choral community.

The **Chicago Gay Men's Chorus** schedule is at www.cgmc.org, **Windy City Performing Arts** is www.windycitysings.org and **Artemis Singers**, a lesbian-feminist chorus, is at www.artemissingers.org. Many of the city's LGBT bars have music nights, or karaoke nights with some amazing talent. And of course the city has great openly LGBT professional singers of all backgrounds. Check the Windy City Times newspaper for schedules of concerts happening during your visit to the city.

The **Lakeside Pride Music Ensembles** offer a wide range of music for LGBTQ and allied audiences. Their three major ensembles are the Freedom



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Marching Band, Jazz Orchestra and Symphonic Band. They reflect a musical legacy that began in 1979 with the original Chicago Gay Pride Band. Today, Lakeside Pride Music Ensembles—more than 17 years strong and counting—serves as the umbrella organization for their current ensembles that celebrate this heritage. See www.lakesidepride.org.

Back Lot Bash is an annual women's party, mostly lesbian, held during Pride Month in Chicago, in the LGBT area known as Andersonville. In 2016, the dates are June 16-19 and June 24-26. The venues range from a large outdoor space to indoor comedy and music shows. See www.backlotbashchicago.com.

Grant Park and **Millennium Park** present a variety of styles of music with blues, jazz, gospel, and world festivals. See <http://www.grantparkmusicfestival.com/> and www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/millennium_park.html. At Millennium Park, you can listen and see the concerts in the beautiful Frank Gehry-designed Pritzker Pavilion. Highlights in 2016 include the Chicago Gospel Festival June 3-4, Grant Park Music Festival June 15-Aug. 20, Film Series June 21-Aug. 30 and the Chicago Jazz festival Sept. 1-4.

Taste of Chicago turns 36 in 2016, running July 6-10, and while it can be a bit overwhelming, the music acts have been stellar in the past. **Fitzgerald's** at 6615 W. Roosevelt Rd. in Berwyn speaks to that jazz and blues audience even holding open mics at the side bar. For the oldest-running jazz club in the U.S., head up north to the **Green Mill**, 4802 N. Broadway, founded in 1907 and featuring traditional, contemporary and improvisational jazz.

Ravinia Festival in Highland Park runs from June 2 to Sept. 8 with Indigo Girls, Diana Ross and Dolly Parton waving her coat of rainbow colors to fans sitting on the lawn and pavilion. Ravinia, North America's oldest music festival, stands today as its most musically diverse, presenting more than 140 different events throughout the summer. These concerts run the gamut from Yo-Yo Ma to John Legend to the annual summer residency of the nation's finest orchestra, The Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The 36-acre park is nestled in a gently wooded area that makes it an enchanting place to experience music. Guests can bring their own picnics or eat at one of the park restaurants. Children up to age 15, high school and college students are admitted free to the lawn for classical performances. See www.ravinia.org.



From Mamby on the Beach.

Photo by Jerry Nunn

Mamby on the Beach was so popular in 2015 on Lake Michigan that it will return again for more EDM mixed with indie bands July 11-12. **Spring Awakening** dances again on June 10 with more electronic music.

Country music is sometimes lacking in the city but the new three-day coun-

try music festival **Windy City LakeShake** changed all of that, returning June 17-19 at the First Merit Bank Pavilion at Northerly Island, featuring such acts as Lady Antebellum and Sam Hunt.

Pitchfork Music Festival in Union Park is a little more artsy running July 15-17. In 2016 attendees will hear Brian Wilson performing Pet Sounds and Carly Rae Jepsen calling her gay fanbase.

After that, **Lollapalooza** celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2016 beginning on July 28 with another day added on, making it a four-day festival. Historic Grant Park will be turned upside down with food, merchandise, eight stages and more than 170 bands including Radiohead and Red Hot Chili Peppers.

Electronic music-themed **North Coast Music Festival**, often described as “summer’s last stand” runs Sept. 2-4 and rocking **Riot Fest** brings up the rear Sept. 11-13.

The atmosphere of a venue can change the sound and feel of an artist playing live. **City Winery** is an intimate spot to see concerts on Randolph Street and has a new location along the River Walk seasonally. Close to the West Loop location is also the **Bottom Lounge** full of industrial and indie band music.

The **Riviera Theatre** and the **Aragon Ballroom** in Uptown can sometimes clash being almost across the street from each other, so shows are not usually planned at the same time.

The historic **Metro** is just down the road from **The Vic Theater** and both have carved out a place in music history.

Park West in Lincoln Park doesn’t have a bad view in the house but seating can be challenging as that is usually sold separately, leaving concert-goers standing-room-only.

House of Blues and **Chicago Theatre** are just across the bridge from each other downtown but have completely different feels of space and décor, both iconic in their own way.

Historic Landmark **Thalia Hall** is a newly rehabbed concert venue in Pilsen. The two owners have teamed up to make this venue truly majestic thanks to past experience with Evanston’s **Space**, **Empty Bottle** and **Beauty Bar**.

For sound the **Civic Opera House** has most places beat but only holds concerts sporadically throughout the year. Also beautiful venues for concerts are the **Auditorium Theatre** and the **Harris Theater**, with many classical music artists stopping in. **Chicago Sinfonietta** is a professional orchestra dedicated to modeling and promoting diversity, inclusion, and both racial and cultural equity in the arts through the universal language of symphonic music. The **Chicago Chorale** also offers great concerts with music from the 16th Century to the present. **Mandel Hall** at the University of Chicago features a great classic Victorian interior. There are also many Chicago churches which hosts concerts, both downtown and in the city’s neighborhoods.

Arie Crown Theater in the Near South Loop and **The Promontory** in Hyde Park usually host R&B and other musical artists while look for reggae music at the **Wild Hare**. Look for rock music at **Reggies**, transformed from an auto repair shop on South State Street.

New hot spots include **Concord Music Hall** and **Lincoln Hall**, where both keep up with the young times, as does **27 Live** in Evanston.

Uptown Underground, 4707 N. Broadway, is a 7,000-square-foot speak-easy-style venue featuring the Moonlight Mainstage, 150-seat performance hall and the Starlight Lounge, 50-seat private party room with small stage and cozy atmosphere, an antique bar stocked with hand-crafted and local spirits, VIP seating and a full range of “retrotainment”; burlesque, magic, variety, circus arts, drag and more. See uptownlounge.net.



Stephin Merritt performs at Old Town School of Folk Music.

Photo by Vern Hester

Some of the city's best clubs for blues include **Kingston Mines** in Lincoln Park, **Rosa's Lounge** on the West Side, **Buddy Guy's Legends** in the South Loop, **Blue Chicago** in River North, **B.L.U.E.S.** on the North Side, the House of Blues special Back Porch Stage downtown, **Lee's Unleaded Blues** on the South Side, and **The Smoke Daddy** in Wicker Park. **Honky Tonk BBQ** in Pilsen features jazz, blues and more.

You can also see more jazz at Buddy Guy's, or nearby **Jazz Showcase**, and **Andy's Jazz Club** in River North.

Some smaller but long-lasting spaces include **Schubas Tavern**, **Martyrs'**, **Double Door**, **Katerina's**, **Beat Kitchen**, **Empty Bottle** and **Subterranean**. This is a chance to see a solo artist or band grow into something big early on in their career.

The **Old School Town of Folk Music** is a Chicago treasure, with live music for varied tastes. It is a theater committed to teaching and presenting music that reflects the cultural traditions of Chicago's diverse communities.

Larger venues include **United Center**, **Wrigley Field** where the Chicago Cubs play, and **Soldier Field**, home of the Chicago Bears, with **Allstate Arena** and the **Rosemont Theatre** just outside of the city and near O'Hare. Singers including Adele and Beyonce pack these monster places with legions of fans.

Meanwhile, **Navy Pier** is quickly growing as a place to go for large electronic music concerts.

To find out when many acts are heading to Chicago try individual venue websites as well as www.Livenation.com, jamusa.com and the old standby www.ticketmaster.com for ticket information. The trick is to set up alerts for upcoming shows such as chicago.eventful.com/events where there is even an app to keep informed.

With a thriving music scene, most artists make their way to the Windy City, so don't miss out on the music.

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CHICAGO LGBTQ NIGHTLIFE

BARS (In Chicago unless noted)

@mosphere 2.0: Eclectic Andersonville neighborhood bar. Frequent drag shows and male dancers Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. 5355 N. Clark St., 773-784-1100, www.atmospherebar.com

The Anvil: Edgewater's premiere gay dive. Cheap drinks, juke box, back patio, no attitude. 1137 W. Granville Ave., 773-973-0006

The Baton Show Lounge: World-class female impersonation since 1969. A jewel of Chicago's downtown gay scene. 436 N. Clark St., 312-644-5269, www.thebatonshowlounge.com

Berlin: Goths, punks, club kids, queens and everyone in between. Legendary dance club for over 30 years. Open late (4 am, 5 am on Saturday). 954 W. Belmont Ave., 773-348-4975, www.berlinchicago.com

Big Chicks/Tweet: A chill, welcoming Uptown watering hole, catering to all crowds. Special nights for bears (The Bear Den), all-genders (Formerly Known As) and more. Late night kitchen open every night. 5024 N. Sheridan Rd., 773-728-5511, www.bigchicks.com

Bobby Love's: Boystown's go-to karaoke joint, featuring Karaoke by Create every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. 3729 N. Halsted St., 773-525-1200, rclsixty1.wix.com/welcome

Brian's Speakeasy: Swanky downtown basement bar with an upscale speakeasy theme. 440 N. State St., 312-955-0678, www.brianschicago.com

The Call: Andersonville's home for drag and entertainment, with frequent mixed-entertainment shows and occasional country/western line dancing. 1547 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., 773-334-2525, www.callbarchicago.com

Cell Block: A raunchy mainstay of Chicago's Boystown area. A mostly male crowd. 3702 N. Halsted St., 773-665-8064, www.cellblock-chicago.com

Charlie's: Boystown's classic country/western hotspot, transforming into a high-energy dance club after-hours. Open late (4 am, 5 am on Saturdays). 3726 N. Broadway, 773-871-8887, www.charlieschicago.com

The Closet: Cozy mixed-crowd bar (leaning more towards women) for over 40 years. Open late (4 am, 5 am on Saturdays). 3325 N. Broadway, 773-477-8533, www.theclosetchicago.com

Club Escape: South Side's energetic dance club with regular DJs, live performances and drink specials. 1530 E. 75th St., 773-599-9372

Club Krave: High-class drag and massive drink specials in the South Suburbs. Karaoke, bingo, dancing and gaming machines. 13126 S. Western Ave., Blue Island, Illinois, 708-597-8379, www.clubkrave.com

Crew Bar + Grill: Award-winning LGBT sports bar in Uptown. Full menu, games on big screens and a chance to achieve "Beer God" status. 4804 N. Broadway Ave., 773-784-2739, www.crewbarchicago.com

D.S. Tequila Co.: A fun Mexican-inspired eatery with colorful Margaritas and a full menu. 3352 N. Halsted St., 773-697-9127, www.dstequila.com

Dick's R U Crazee: A mixed crowd well east of the city. Drag shows on the weekends. 1221 E. 150th St., Hammond, Indiana, 219-852-0222, www.dick-srucrazee.com

Elixir Lounge: Boystown's classy cocktail spot. Window/people-watching seating available. 3452 N. Halsted St., www.elixirchicago.com



Big Chicks (above) and Hamburger Mary's Oak Park (below).

Photos by Kirk Williamson



Elixir Lounge Andersonville: Upscale cocktails from the folks who brought you Elixir in Boystown ... in Andersonville! 1509 W. Balmoral Ave., 773-654-1751, www.elixirandersonville.com

Fantasy Nightclub: Dancing, drag and shows for Chicago's Latino/Latina queer community. 3641 N. Halsted St., www.facebook.com/fantasychicago/

Forest View Lounge: A no-frills Southwest Side bar welcoming to all. 4519 S. Harlem Ave., Berwyn, Illinois, 708-484-3067, www.forestviewlounge.com

The Glenwood: A true neighborhood bar in Rogers Park which attracts a mixed crowd, but decidedly LGBT. Karaoke, trivia, darts, pool and tall drinks. 6962 N. Glenwood Ave., 773-764-7363

Hamburger Mary's/Mary's Attic: The flagship shop of the national chain of sassy burger joints. Have a meal at Hamburger Mary's, knock back a few pints at Andersonville Brewing Co., and take in a show or dance up in "the attic." 5400 N. Clark St., 773-784-6969, www.hamburgermarys.com/chicago/

Hamburger Mary's Oak Park: Newest addition to the chain. Dining With the Divas drag show followed by Mary-oke each Friday and Saturday. 155 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park, Illinois, 708-445-0272, oakparkbeer.com/hamburgermarys

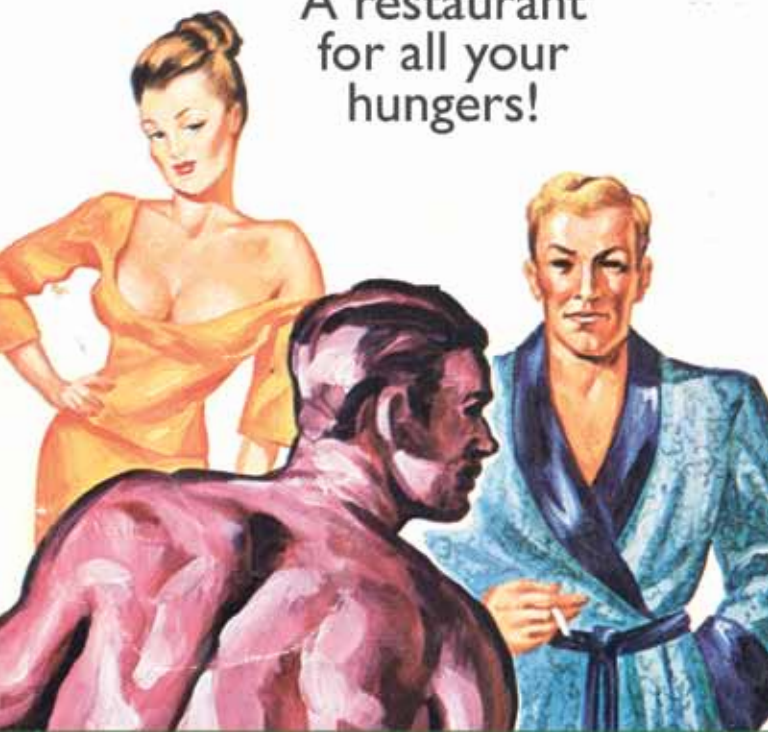
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www.bigchicks.com

Hydrate: Boystown's anchor high-energy dance club. Special drag shows Monday and Wednesday. Comedy nights every Thursday. Open late (4 am, 5 am on Saturdays). 3458 N. Halsted St., 773-975-9244, www.hydratechicago.com

InnExile: Karaoke and strippers every weekend in the Midway airport area. 5758 W. 65th St., 773-582-3510

The Jackhammer Complex: Catering to the fetish crowd. Mostly men gather for deep drinks, raucous drag Mondays and Thursdays, dancing and fun down in "The Hole." Open late (4 am, 5 am on Saturdays). 6406 N. Clark St., 773-743-5772, www.facebook.com/chijackhammer

Jeffery Pub: A popular South Side gathering spot, with dancing, poetry readings, performances. 7041 S. Jeffery Blvd., 773-363-8555

Joie de Vine: A quaint neighborhood wine bar, popular with women, open to all. 1744 W. Balmoral Ave., 773-989-6846, www.facebook.com/joiede.vine

Kit Kat Lounge & Supper Club: Popular spot for an extensive Martini menu and drag performances from a regular cast. 3700 N. Halsted St., 773-525-1111, www.kitkatchicago.com

La Cueva: Drag and drinks, popular in the Latino/Latina community. 4153 W. 26th St., 773-475-6544

Little Jim's: Chicago's longest-running gay bar in the heart of Boystown. Classic "beer and a shot" spot. Open late (4 am, 5 am on Saturdays). 3501 N. Halsted St., 773-871-6116

Lucky Horseshoe: Boystown's favorite spot for male dancers and ... well, more male dancers. 3169 N. Halsted St., 773-404-3169

Maneuvers: Suburban hotspot for over 20 years. Regular drag shows and friendly faces southwest of the city. 118 E. Jefferson St., Joliet, Illinois, 815-727-7069

Manhandler: Blast-from-the-past bar with a leathery feel, a cozy fireplace and a cruisy back patio area. 1948 N. Halsted St., 773-871-3339

Manhole: Boystown's newest leather/fetish basement, where gear is the rule. Hot, sweaty dancing with men of all shapes and sizes. 3210 N. Halsted St., www.manhole.com

minibar: A mixed-orientation cocktail-crowd magnet with hot bartenders and crafty drinks. 3341 N. Halsted St., 773-871-6227, www.minibarchicago.com

North End: Chicago's classic LGBT sports bar with multiple pool tables and a sporty staff. 3733 N. Halsted St., 773-477-7999, www.northendchicago.com

Phoenix Bar and Nightclub: State-of-the-art dance floor in the western suburbs. A very mixed clientele for karaoke and dancing all weekend. 1932 E. Higgins Rd., Elk Grove Village, Illinois, 847-258-3087, www.phoenixbarchicago.com

Progress Bar: Marvel at the stunning overhead light installation as you enjoy drink specials and a trendy crowd in the heart of Boystown. 3359 N. Halsted St., 773-697-9268, www.progressbarchicago.com

R Public House: Burgers, beers and a neighborhood feel in Rogers Park. Enjoy a hockey, soccer, or football game over a pint with friends. 1508 W. Jarvis Ave., 872-208-7916, www.rpublichouse.com

Replay Lakeview: Classic arcade games and a wide whiskey selection exemplify this Boystown playground. Ink up at Tat Tuesdays. 3439 N. Halsted St., 773-661-9632, www.replaylakeview.com

Replay Andersonville: More arcade fun, with a full menu for lunch or dinner. 5358 N. Clark St., 773-654-1369, www.replayandersonville.com

Rogers Park Social: Swanky seasonal cocktails and a jazzy vibe. Enjoy a board game in the retro lounge or yuk it up at their monthly “Laughs in the Lounge” comedy showcase. 6920 N. Glenwood Ave., 773-791-1419, www.rogersparksocial.com



Sidetrack.

Photo by Kirk Williamson

Roscoe's: A hub of Chicago's LGBTQ nightlife, offering national drag names, dancing and frequent performances from club superstars. Five bars to serve you. 3356 N. Halsted St., 773-281-3355, www.roscoes.com

Scarlet: A young, hip crowd throngs the dancefloor nightly, with popular DJs and wall-to-wall Fireball. 3320 N. Halsted St., 773-348-1053, www.scarletbarchicago.com

Scot's: A quaint neighborhood watering hole where friends gather for a good beer and a good chat. 1829 W. Montrose Ave., 773-528-3253, www.chicago-scotsbar.com

Second Story Bar: Downtown's no-nonsense after-work meeting spot. 157 E. Ohio St., 312-923-9536, www.secondstorybar.com

Seven Nightclub & Lounge: High-energy dance club at the gateway to Boystown. Frequent appearance by many national performers. 3206 N. Halsted St., 872-206-2052, www.whatisseven.com

Shakers on Clark: A chill, neighborhood bar just south of the Boystown strip. Friendly bartenders, karaoke and fun, interactive game shows. 3160 N. Clark St., 773-327-5969, www.shakersonclark.com

Sidetrack: The center of gay nightlife in Chicago. The original video bar. A sunny upper deck bar, world-famous Slushies, and a must-have showtunes night every Sunday and Monday. A complex of bars, catering to every need in Boystown. 3349 N. Halsted St., 773-477-9189, www.sidetrackchicago.com

The Sofotap: A corner pub with a stunning back patio, perfect for summer cocktails. Revolving live game shows every Wednesday, Karaoke Sundays and home of the monthly DILF and OTTER parties. 4923 N. Clark St., 773-784-7636, www.thesofotap.com

Spyners: An off-the-beaten-path lesbian karaoke joint. 4623 N. Western Ave., 773-784-8719, www.spyner.com

Taverna 750: An Italian-themed, shared-plate experience with seasonal craft cocktails and shaded outdoor seating available. 750 W. Cornelia St., 773-904-7466, www.taverna750.com

Touché: Home of many of Chicago's leather and fetish groups. An old-school leather bar with demos and more in The Club Room. Open late (4 am, 5 am on Saturdays). 6412 N. Clark St., 773-465-7400, www.touchechicago.com

Uptown Underground: A queer-friendly performance venue with raucous drag and male and female burlesque revues. 4707 N. Broadway, 773-867-1946, www.uptownunderground.net

Wang's: Great gay raunch against a quirky Chinese-inspired decor. 3317 N. Broadway, 773-296-6800, www.wangslive.com

PARTIES

Burly @ The Burlington: A night for burly bearded boys and their allies. DJs spin punk, disco and new wave. Every third Wednesday night. 3425 W. Fullerton Ave., www.facebook.com/burlychicago

Chances Dances: A queer collective roving dance party celebrating inclusion and expression. At a variety of locations. www.chancesdances.org

Clandestina: A monthly pop-up party for queer women, allies and friends hosted by Chicago Fire star Monica Raymund, Brooke Webster and Alma Izquierdo. At a variety of locations. www.facebook.com/clandestinachi/

Doll House Chicago: A night for hot young lesbians and the hot young lesbians who love them. DJs and go-go dancers. A variety of locations. Instagram:[dollhousechicago](https://www.instagram.com/dollhousechicago)

Fabitat @ Double Door's Door No. 3: Gathering spot for fabulous queer misfits, featuring DJs, dancing, stiff ones and performances from a regular cast of queens. Every other Wednesday night. 1551 N. Damen Ave., www.facebook.com/doorno3fabitat/

Glitter Creeps @ The Empty Bottle: A rock/punk/new wave queer night, taking place every third Wednesday. 1035 N. Western Ave., www.facebook.com/glittercreeps/

Men's Room: A down and dirty roving party with cruising men and resident DJs Harry+Jpeg. www.facebook.com/harryjpeg/

NEO Thursdays @ Debonair Social Club: A queer (and everything else) new wave party with two DJs on two floors. 1575 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Off Chances @ Danny's: A queer collective dance party celebrating inclusion and expression, taking place every second Tuesday of the month. 1959 W. Dickens Ave., www.chancesdances.org

Quare Square @ Jeffery Pub: A non-profit organization for queer artists of color in the Midwest. Monthly open mic featuring poetry, spoken word, music, singing, rapping, etc. 7041 S. Jeffery Blvd., www.facebook.com/groups/1424460307799671/

Queen! @ Smart Bar: Chicago's hottest weekly club night with world-class house DJs and club-kid luminary hosts. Every Sunday night. 3730 N. Clark St., www.facebook.com/queensundays/



Fabitat @ Double Door's Door No. 3.
Photo by Kirk Williamson

Salonathon @ Beauty Bar: A home for underground, emerging and genre-defying art. Every Monday night. 1444 W. Chicago Ave., www.facebook.com/salonathon/

Slo 'Mo @ The Whistler: Polysexual slow jam dance party in Logan Square. 2421 N. Milwaukee Ave., www.slomoparty.com

Thirsty Thursdays @ Watra: Live drag shows weekly on the South Side with resident DJs and host Shadiamond. 4758 S. Pulaski Rd., www.facebook.com/thirstythursdayschicago/

The Welcoming Committee: Broadening social options for LGBTQs with friendly takeovers of bars, performances, sports games and travel destinations. New location announced each month. www.facebook.com/thewelcomingcommittee/info/

BATHS

Man's Country: Classic bathhouse with history dating back to the heady '70s. Just south of the Andersonville strip. 5017 N. Clark St., www.manscountrychicago.com

Steamworks: Men's club in the heart of Boystown with full gym, steamrooms and all the rest. 3246 N. Halsted St., www.steamworksbaths.com/chicago/

EATING YOUR WAY THROUGH CHICAGO

Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Choose Chicago Board Chair Desiree Rogers announced that, in 2015, domestic visitors to Chicago passed 50 million for the first time.

That's a lot of people going through the more than 7,000 restaurants in the Windy City. Regarding where to go in a few neighborhoods, Windy City Times is providing a mix of hideaways and more well-known spots for travelers to visit.

Most tourists tend to visit certain areas, such as The Loop, Boystown/Wrigleyville/Lakeview, Andersonville and the River North area. However, keep in mind that Chicago is a huge city with literally dozens of neighborhoods—Bronzeville, Chinatown, Pilsen, Little Village, Hyde Park, Bridgeport, Beverly and so many more—and that the more adventurous could be rewarded with some incredible finds. And don't forget Chicago's suburbs, near and far, for delectable treats.

On a weekly basis, the dining section of Windy City Times contains information about everything from menu offerings to restaurant openings/closings.

The Loop

Chicago's business district, as one might expect, is packed with restaurants that cater to every type of craving.

Some of the best eateries are in the Loop's hotels. The Hard Rock Hotel is a prime example, with **Chuck's: A Kerry Simon Kitchen** (180 N. Michigan Ave.; ChucksChicago.com) and the Jamaican hot spot **Mr. Brown's Lounge** (81 E. Wacker Pl.; MrBrownsLounge.com). The Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel is home to the Italian eatery **Filini** (221 N. Columbus Dr.; FiliniChicago.com), and the Palmer House Hotel has **Lockwood** (17 E. Monroe St.; LockwoodRestaurant.com).

Other hot spots in the Loop include the Italian place **312 Chicago** (136 N. LaSalle St.; 312Chicago.com) and the **Atwood** (1 W. Washington St.; Atwood-Restaurant.com), which now offers everything from salmon blintzes to duck fat-fried chicken thighs to a popcorn concoction with white cheddar, bacon and chives.

River North/Gold Coast

Possibly the city's most tourist-dense part, River North and the Gold Coast have enough top-notch restaurants to handle them all.

There are several reasons **Spiaggia** (980 N. Michigan Ave.; SpiaggiaRestaurant.com) is considered one of the best restaurants in Chicago (and one that President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama have visited)—and one is pastry chef Melanie Diamond-Manlusoc's creations. Chef Tony Prioli has made **Piccolo Sogno** (464 N. Halsted St.; PiccoloSognoRestaurant.com) one of the most enticing Italian spots in the area.

Enolo Wine Cafe (450 N. Clark St.; EnoloWineCafe.com) is deceptively named, as it offers large and small plates in addition to its amazing selection of wines. **Beatrix** (519 N. Clark St. and 671 N. St. Clair St.; BeatrixChicago.com) has gained a reputation as a breakfast spot (complete with the famed Bulletproof coffee) although it serves all meals. **Bistronomic** (840 N. Wabash St.; Bistronomic.net) is one of the premier French spots in the city, along with **Bistrot Zinc** (1131 N. State St.; BistrotZinc.com).

Well-known gay philanthropist and chef **Art Smith** has taken not just Chicago by storm, but the entire nation. His Chicago restaurant Table Fifty-two transformed into **Blue Door Kitchen and Garden** in 2016, 52 W. Elm St.



Brisket mac 'n cheese at Luella's Southern Kitchen.

Photo by Ed Negron

While you are in the city, why not take a cooking course from one of the top cooking-class businesses in the country, **The Chopping Block**, owned by openly lesbian chef Shelley Young. See www.thechoppingblock.com for details on classes at the Merchandise Mart.

Bernie's Lunch & Supper opened in Chicago's historic River North neighborhood in the summer of 2015, at 660 N. Orleans. This is Chef Zack Sklar's first venture in the city, in collaboration with his partner and Executive Chef Ryan Sand, who is openly gay. Located on the corner of Erie and Orleans streets, Bernie's is set in an inviting and casual yet refined space that includes family-style seating with rich turquoise banquets, coffered ceilings and an eclectic collection of textiles. See bernieslunchandsupper.com.



The strawberry salad at Chuck's: A Kerry Simon Kitchen.

PR photo

If you have a hankering for barbecue, head on over to **Chicago Q** (1160 N. Dearborn St.; ChicagoQRestaurant.com) for some prime brisket. The restaurant features Art Smith's mac and cheese, made with Munster and Cheddar cheese.

And in yet another Art Smith connection, the amazing entrepreneur is part owner of the multiple locations of **Lyfe Kitchen**, with excellent healthy, vegetarian and vegan selections, in addition to meat. See lyfekitchen.com for their locations in downtown Chicago and the suburbs.

Boystown, Andersonville, Uptown

Chicago's gayborhoods (about two miles apart from each other) offer plenty of intriguing dining options.

In Boystown, **Kit Kat Lounge & Supper Club** (3700 N. Halsted St.; Kit-KatChicago.com) offers camp along with cuisine, thanks to a rotating line-up of drag divas. **Wood** (3335 N. Halsted St.; WoodChicago.com) is renowned for its dinner, drinks and brunch. And speaking of brunch, **Nookies-Tree Restaurant** (3334 N. Halsted St.; NookiesChicago.com) and **Ann Sather** (two Lake View locations; AnnSather.com) is renowned far and wide for its all-day breakfast and dinner options. Ann Sather is owned by openly gay Chicago Alderman Tom Tunney. Also, be sure to check out **Revolucion Mexican Steakhouse** (3443 N. Broadway; RevolucionSteakhouse.com) for some amazing Mexican food at affordable prices.

As for Andersonville, it's loaded with eateries that draw locals and tourists. **Appellation** (5212 N. Clark St.; PastoralArtisan.com/appellation) is a bistro that's an extension of Pastoral Artisan Cheese, Bread & Wine. **Ombra** (5310 N. Clark St.; Ombrahi.com) and **Anteprima** (5316 N. Clark St.; AnteprimaChicago.net) are two Italian spots that warrant visiting, while **La Fonda Latino Grill** (5350 N. Broadway; LaFondaLatinoGrill.com) offers some mind-boggling Colombian dishes. And don't make the mistake of underestimating **Calo** (5343 N. Clark St.; CaloRestaurant.com), which advertises itself as Italian but serves so much more.

Don't miss **Hamburger Mary's** in Andersonville during your visit—for the food, and their Mary's Attic entertainment space, plus the LGBT camp. As they state: "It's true what they say honey, you are what you eat! That's why we serve only the freshest and most delicious items. And it's why we use meats that are humanely raised, with no growth hormones!" The location is 5400 N. Clark., Chicago, 773-784-6969, www.hamburgermarys.com/chicago.

In nearby Uptown, Chef Enrique Cortez is behind **Riques Cocina Mexicana** (5004 N. Sheridan Rd.; RiquesChicago.com).

Crew Bar + Grill in Uptown is Chicago's gay sports bar and restaurant, with a friendly crowd, 24 Hi-Def TVs, food, 60+ Beers and tasty cocktails. They show live Hi-Def broadcasts of NFL, MLB, NBA and college football and basketball games. They state: "As a member of the GLBT and Uptown communities, Crew Bar + Grill understands the importance of supporting local community and GLBT groups in a variety of ways." Located at 4804 N. Broadway, Chicago, 773-784-2739, crewbarchicago.com.

Plus, you must not miss **Big Chicks** bar at 5024 N. Sheridan Rd., an LGBT spot for everyone, with its excellent **Tweet** restaurant next door at 5020 N. Sheridan Rd. Born in 2003 as the sister restaurant to Big Chicks and nestled within a vintage art deco building, Tweet serves a wide range of both classic and non-traditional dishes made from fresh, organic-when-possible ingredients. As you dine within this jewelbox of an interior, designed by artist Zuleyka Benitez, you'll notice that the walls are filled with owner Michelle Fire's personal art collection favorites. See tweet.biz or bigchicks.com

Gay couple Dan Smith and Steve McDonagh are the duo behind **The Hearty Boys**, which has restaurants, catering, and more. See www.hearty-boys.com for their newest news.



Wood Restaurant in Boystown.
PR photo

Other spots

Obviously, it's impossible to point out all of Chicago's restaurants—but this piece points out some spots to check out in some of the more heavily visited areas.

However, beyond those areas are some amazing restaurants. Among them are the spots located in the famed West Loop line of eateries, including the Italian spot **Forno Rosso** (1048 W. Randolph St.; FornoRossoPizzeria.com); **Au Cheval** (800 W. Randolph St.; AuChevalChicago.com), with its famed burger; **bellyQ** (1400 W. Randolph St.; BellyQChicago.com), with Asian-inspired BBQ; and the iconic **Blackbird** (619 W. Randolph St.; BlackbirdRestaurant.com).

Logan Square is emerging as a spot to dine (and drink), thanks to places such as the Southern-themed **Analogue** (2523 N. Milwaukee Ave.; AnalogueChicago.com). If you find yourself in Lincoln Square, you must try **Luella's Southern Kitchen** (4609 N. Lincoln Ave.; LuellasSouthernKitchen.com), which has items such as shrimp and grits, fried chicken and collard greens, crawfish etouffee and buttermilk pie.

On the Far North Side, look for Brandon Byxbe, a transgender business owner, and his **The Amazing Kale Burger**. As they state: "Accept no substitutes folks, this flavorful, veggie-filled, protein-packed burger is made from a unique top-secret recipe right here in Chicagoland, with help from Montalbano Farms, River Valley Ranch, Geneva Lakes Produce and other amazing local farmers." See amazingkaleburger.com.

Bridgeport, once a staunch white ethnic area of the city, on the Southwest Side, is really morphing into a diverse place for food, shopping and socializing. Owned by gay businessman Dave Samber, **Polo Cafe and Catering**, 3322 S. Morgan St., offers both cuisine and a B&B upstairs. See polocafe.com.

In Pilsen, openly gay chef Cesar Pineda is one of the minds behind **Ciao Amore** (1134 W. 18th St.; [Facebook.com/CiaoAmoreChicago](https://www.facebook.com/CiaoAmoreChicago)).

Chicago is also a very friendly town for **Farmer's Markets** and **food trucks**. You can find the Farmer's Market schedule here: cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/farmersmarkets0.html. With more than 60 food trucks making their loop around the Windy City, there's never a shortage of unique food served curbside. Events in 2016 include a line-up of trucks offering different culinary options at various locations, including at Daley Plaza and Willis Tower. See chicagofoodtruckfinder.com.

Don't miss the great ethnic flair of Chicago's many diverse neighborhoods, from Asian cuisine in Chinatown to Latino food in Pilsen and Little Village and Greek food in, where else, Greek Town, to Middle Eastern food in West Ridge, African foods on the Far North Side, Italian food in Little Italy, and so much more. It is a melting pot, and we do know how to mix the pot here in Chicago. Choose Chicago offers advice on the myriad ethnic food choices at www.choosechicago.com/articles/view/ETHNIC-FOOD-IN-CHICAGO/979/.

Bon appetit!

TURNING THE PAGE: CHICAGO'S LITERARY SCENE

Some amazing and award-winning authors have called Chicago home, from mainstream to the LGBTQ community. There is a world-class Chicago Public Library system based downtown and branching out into the neighborhoods (they also host the annual One Book, One Chicago events), plus festivals, new and used bookstores, and a thriving scene of performance spaces where poets, performance artists and spoken-word artists can share their stories. Here are just a few literary selections for you to enjoy.

57th Street Books / Seminary Co-op Bookstores: These two stores are co-ops. 57th Street is 1301 E. 57th St., 773-684-1300 and Seminary is 5751 S. Woodlawn Ave., 773-752-4381, both in the Hyde Park area of Chicago, www.semcoop.com/57th-street-books. The Woodlawn store was founded in 1961 by 17 book lovers who invested \$10 each; this member-owned bookstore has an extensive list of titles in a wide range of disciplines. The flagship store on Woodlawn Avenue is widely regarded as one of the best academic bookstores in the world.

Bookends & Beginnings: This store, tucked into an alley in North Suburban Evanston, has a great mixture of used and new books, gift ideas and wonderful programming. Located at 1712 Sherman, Alley No. 1, Evanston, 224-999-7722, www.bookendsandbeginnings.com

The Book Cellar: This store is located in the heart of the culturally diverse neighborhood once known as the city's Germantown and now known more commonly as Lincoln Square on the Northwest Side. They state: "Our neighbors are a collection of other independently owned establishments including boutiques, specialty shops, restaurants, taverns, an independent movie theater, a world-renowned music school, and the Sulzer Library." Located at 4736-38 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, 773-293-2665, bookcellarinc.com.

Book Expo America: Held each May, usually with a few LGBT authors mixed in among other mainstream scribes. See www.bookexpoamerica.com for its next Chicago visit.

Gerber/Hart Library and Archives: Gerber/Hart is an LGBTQ library, archives and cultural center as well as a safe atmosphere for research, exploration, and discovery. Gerber/Hart Library and Archives was founded in 1981 to be a depository for the records of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer-identified individuals and organizations, and for other resources bearing upon their lives and experiences in American society. Gerber/Hart Library and Archives has since grown into being the Midwest's largest LGBTQ circulating library with more than 14,000 volumes, 800 periodical titles, and 100 archival collections. The library is located at 6500 N. Clark St., Chicago, 773-381-8030, info@gerberhart.org, or visit www.gerberhart.org.



Women & Children First Bookstore received an honorary street dedication Oct. 11, 2014. The store's founders Linda Bubon (left) and Ann Christophersen (right) are pictured with new owners Lynn Mooney (second from left) and Sarah Hollenbeck.

Photo by Tracy Baim

The Guild Complex: A 25-year-old Chicago-based literary organization presenting and supporting diverse, divergent and emerging voices through programming. Guild seeks to connect seemingly disparate groups and geographies through literature—bringing unexpected writers, programs and audiences together. See guildcomplex.org.

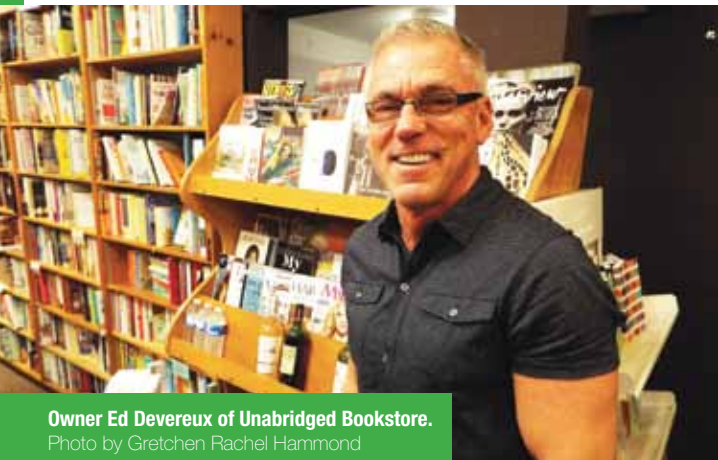
Harold Washington Library Center: Harold Washington, named for the late Chicago mayor, is the main branch of the Chicago Public Library. They have an extensive collection under a massive roof, plus ongoing special programs. The complete Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame is on exhibit there through early July, 2016. The library is located at 400 S. State St., Chicago, 312-747-4300, info@chipublic.org or visit www.chipublic.org.

Newberry Library: The Newberry Library has an extensive non-circulating collection of rare books, maps, music, manuscripts and other printed material spanning six centuries. The Newberry's Genealogy and Local History reference staff will introduce beginners to the basics of genealogy research on the first Saturday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Admission is free. The library is located at 60 W. Walton St., just north of downtown Chicago, 312-943-9090 or visit www.newberry.org.

Outspoken!: This is a monthly, fantastically diverse and curated LGBTQ storytelling event at Sidetrack bar. David Fink created this first-Tuesday series, which is co-hosted by Kim Hunt and Sidetrack co-owner Art Johnston. Located at 3349 N. Halsted, www.sidetrackchicago.com/outspokenchicago.

Poetry Foundation: A leader in shaping a receptive climate for poetry. The Poetry Foundation, publisher of Poetry magazine, is an independent literary organization committed to a vigorous presence for poetry in our culture. It exists to discover and celebrate the best poetry and to place it before the largest possible audience. Rather than celebrating the status quo, the Foundation seeks to be a leader in shaping a receptive climate for poetry by developing new audiences, creating new avenues for delivery, and encouraging new kinds of poetry. They do extensive monthly programs. Established in 2003 upon receipt of a major gift from philanthropist Ruth Lilly, the Poetry Foundation evolved from the Modern Poetry Association, which was founded in 1941 to support the publication of Poetry magazine. The Foundation is located at 61 W. Superior St., Chicago, www.poetryfoundation.org.

Powell's Books: Powell's Books Chicago has been recycling ideas to the world for more than 40 years. Their independent retail store in Hyde Park has well over a quarter million quality used, rare and discounted books. They primarily specialize in academic and scholarly books, but also have extensive general interest sections. Located at 1501 E. 57th St., Chicago, 773-955-7780, www.powellschicago.com.



Owner Ed Devereux of Unabridged Bookstore.

Photo by Gretchen Rachel Hammond

Printers Row Lit Fest: The Printers Row Lit Fest is held every June in Chicago. The Fest was founded in 1985 by the Near South Planning Board to attract visitors to the Printers Row neighborhood (once the city's bookmaking hub). By 2002, it had grown to five city blocks (on Dearborn, from Congress to Polk), attracting more than 200 booksellers from across the country. The Chicago Tribune purchased the Printers Row Book Fair in 2002. It is considered the largest free outdoor literary event in the Midwest—drawing more than 150,000 book lovers to the two-day showcase. The 2016 Fest is June 11-12. See printersrowlitfest.org.

Quimby's Bookstore: On Sept. 15, 1991, Steven Svymbersky, the founder of Quimby's, opened the store in Chicago on 1328 N. Damen in Wicker Park, in a 1,000-sq.-ft. space. Since 1985 he has published more than 50 zines with his friends, and had published Quimby Magazine for five years in Boston. Steven explained the philosophy of the store with these words: "I really want to carry

every cool-bizarre-strange-dope-queer-surreal-weird publication ever written and published and in time Quimby's will. Because I know you're out there and you just want something else, something other, something you never even knew could exist." (And yes, that was a V.) In 1997 Steven sold the store to Eric Kirsammer, the owner of Chicago Comics. Eric moved it to its current locale, 1854 W. North Avenue, to provide it with a more permanence. Contact 773-342-0910, quimbys.com.

Soulful Chicago: A free outdoor celebration of literacy and literary arts found throughout the African Diaspora. Set for July 16, 2016, featuring artists, song-writers, workshops, children's literature, history, spoken-word, food and more. At 61st Street and Cottage Grove. See soulfulchicagobookfair.com.

Unabridged Books: Owner Ed Devereux opened Unabridged Bookstore Nov. 1, 1980, and the store has been successful ever since. Unabridged is known for its dedicated and knowledgeable staff and the staff's hand-written personal recommendations. Unabridged has an unparalleled sale book section, and an award-winning children's section, an extensive travel room, and offers a great selection of fiction and poetry. For 36 years, Unabridged Bookstore has also been Chicago's premier go-to-bookstore for LGBT literature. Located at 3252 N. Broadway, Chicago, 773-883-9119, unabridgedbookstore.com.

Vives Q: Vives Q is a three-month summer series that occurs every first Tuesday. Vives Q is an independent cultural arts project committed to creating an LGBTQ movement-building experience through art, music, spoken word, dance and oral history that enables intergenerational dialogue across multiple identities and communities. See vivesq.org.

Women & Children First Bookstore: One of the oldest and last remaining feminist bookstores in the U.S., this independently owned Chicago store thrives in the Andersonville area on Chicago's North Side. The store's new owners (Sarah Hollenbeck and Lynn Mooney), who took over from its founders (Ann Christophersen and Linda Bubon), have continued the tradition of vibrant and engaging programming, special events and well-curated selections on their shelves. Women & Children First began in a modest storefront in 1979. Over the years they have moved twice and are now in a neighborhood known for its diversity, queer-friendliness, women-owned businesses and community spirit. Located at 5233 N. Clark, Chicago, 773-769-9299, www.womenandchildrenfirst.com.



WOMEN & CHILDREN FIRST

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CHICAGO FILM TREATS

Chicago has a rich tradition of filmmaking, both mainstream and LGBTQ. But it's equally known of its film viewers—who get treated to an amazing array of film festivals, special event screenings, and beautiful film venues each year. There are plenty of great first-run screening rooms available, but below are some of the special venues and film festivals in the Windy City. In Chicago unless noted.

Asian Pop-Up Cinema: Dedicated to cultivating the general public's interest in Asian culture, 312-315-6393, asianpopupinfo@gmail.com, www.asianpopupcinema.org.

Black Alphabet Film Festival: Promotes, nurtures and celebrates stories of Black LGBTQ-identified people, 872-256-BAFF, visit blackalphabet.org.

Chicago Comedy Film Festival: Independent comedy, Nov. 11-Nov 12, 2016, www.chicagocomedyfilmfestival.com.

Chicago Critics Film Festival: Recent fest faves and new works, 847-439-5750, chicagocriticsfilmfestival.com.

Chicago Film Archives: A regional film archive dedicated to identifying, collecting, preserving and providing access to films that represent the Midwest. At 329 W. 18th St., Chicago, 312-243-1808, www.chicagofilmarchives.org

Chicago Food Film Festival: A food and film experience, thefoodfilmfestival.com.

Chicago Horror Film Fest: Visit chicagohorrorfest.com.

Chicago International Film Festival: Cinema/Chicago hosts this annual film festival with movies from across the globe, Oct. 13-27, 2016, 312-683-0121, www.chicagofilmfestival.com.

Chicago International Movies and Music Festival (CIMMfest): A four-day showcase of films, concerts, VJ/DJ sets, Q&As, live performances, and panels and presentations from all different countries and cultures; 773-234-CIMM, cimmfest.org.

Chicago International Social Change Film Festival: Visit www.chicago-socialchange.org.

Chicago Jewish Film Festival: A festival of films that are significant to the Jewish culture; 847-763-3507, www.jccfilmfest.org.

Chicago Latino Film Festival: Films that are significant to the Latino culture; 312-431-1330, chicagolatinofilmfestival.org.

Chicago Serbian Film Fest: A set of Serbian movies shown over three nights; 773-744-0373, serbianfilmfest.com.

Chicago South Asian Film Festival: Seeks to advance diversity through cinema, conversation and culture, www.csaff.org.

Chicago Underground Film Fest: An annual event showcasing independent, experimental and documentary films from around the world. Visit cuff.org.

Community Film Workshop of Chicago: Showcasing ethnographic works that explore the intersection of race, age, class, gender and sexuality; 773-752-9335, www.cfwichicago.org.

Facets Multimedia: Home for world, classic and independent film. At 1517 W. Fullerton Ave., 800-331-6197, www.facets.org.

Gene Siskel Film Center: The film center conducts annual film festivals, premieres of trailblazing work by today's independent filmmakers, restorations and revivals of essential films from cinema history, and insightful, provocative discussions with filmmakers and media artists. Festivals and series at the film center include Asian American Showcase, Black Harvest Film Festival, Chicago European Film Festival, Chicago Palestine Film Festival, The Child in Cinema lecture series, and Conversations at the Edge. At 164 N. State St., 312-846-2800, www.siskelfilmcenter.org.

Greek Film Fest Chicago: A series of films that celebrate Greek culture; 312-925-2166, www.greekfilmfestchicago.org.

Logan Theatre: At 2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., has a lot of unusual and special event screenings, www.thelogantheatre.com.

Midwest Independent Film Festival: Held every first Tuesday of the month, 312-642-4222 or visit www.midwestfilm.com.

Millennium Park Summer Film Series: An outdoor film series. The festival runs June 21-Aug. 30, 2016 at 201 E. Randolph.

Music Box Theatre: Opened 1929, the Music Box Theatre retains its original architecture and design. Premiere venue for independent and foreign films; 773-871-6604, musicboxtheatre.com.

Polish Film Festival: A series of European arts and film. Contact at 773-486-9612, www.pffamerica.com.

The Queer Film Society: A consortium of LGBT critics, historians, artists and scholars dedicated to the exploration and celebration of queer images in world cinema; www.QueerFilmSociety.org.

ReelAbilities Chicago Film Festival: A festival that seeks to bring people together through new and independent film and art. ReelAbilities showcases the stories, art and lives of people with disabilities. Contact 773-203-5039, chicago.reelabilities.org.



Reeling Chicago LGBTQ+ International Film Festival: A festival that seeks to recognize the cinematic contributions that LGBTQ+ filmmakers have made to the culture, educate the public about LGBTQ+ issues, examine the history of LGBTQ+ film and counteract stereotyping. The festival will run Sept. 22-29, 2016 and will feature approximately 75 to 100 films over the eight days. Contact the organizers at 773-293-1447, reelingfilmfestival.org.

Silent Film Society of Chicago: A society dedicated to the preservation and proper presentation of silent films; 773-205-SFSC, visit www.silentfilmchicago.com.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Chicago is a sports city. From the little leagues to the big leagues, we have it all.

Professional sports offer a wide range of quality athletic events, from the women's sports of pro tackle football (Chicago Force), soccer (Red Stars), softball (Bandits) and basketball (Chicago Sky) to the men's sports of baseball (Chicago Cubs and White Sox), football (Chicago Bears), ice hockey (Blackhawks and Wolves), soccer (Fire) and basketball (Bulls). There are also great college dynasties in Illinois, from the city and suburbs to downstate.

The LGBT sports world is also diverse, from individual teams in certain sports playing in mainstream leagues, to organizations for a specific athletic activity such as running, to large-scale associations with multiple sports. Chicago's LGBT sports scene is possibly the largest in the world, given the city's size and decades-long sports history. And that infrastructure made it possible for the city to host Gay Games VII in 2006, with almost 12,000 athletes from nearly 70 countries participating in more than 30 sports and culture activities. Opening Ceremony was at Soldier Field and Closing Ceremony at Wrigley Field.

The city also has miles and miles of lakefront running and walking paths, many annual running events including the triathlon and marathon, boating events, dozens of major parks, beach volleyball courts, kayaking on the Chicago River and Lake Michigan, paddle boarding on the lake, rock climbing walls, and pretty much any recreational activity short of downhill skiing. And even then, there is a small hill at Montrose and the lake that folks sled down in the winter.

We do sports. Come out and play.

What follows is a listing of sports leagues, teams and venues, just a sampling of what the Chicago region has to offer for sports fans big and small. First, the mostly LGBT.

LGBTQ and Allies Groups and Teams:

AIDS Run & Walk Chicago: Held each fall, in 2016 it is on Oct. 1, presented by AIDS Foundation of Chicago. See events.aidschicago.org.

Athletic Alliance of Chicago: Gay/lesbian-friendly Chicago sports leagues. See sportsaac.com.

Bikes and Mics: Created to support a welcoming environment for riders of all genders, ethnicities and experience levels. See www.bikesandmics.com/.

Center on Halsted: Billie Jean King Recreational Hall, named for the lesbian tennis legend, hosts multiple indoor sports leagues, www.centeronhalsted.org.

Chi-Town Squares: LGBT square dance club. www.chitownsquares.org.

Chicago Dragons Rugby Football Club: First men's club in Midwest launched to invite members from traditionally under-represented groups, particularly gay men, www.chicagodragons.org.

Chicago Gay Hockey Association: www.ChicagoGayHockey.org.

Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association: The largest not-for-profit gay and lesbian sports org in Midwest. Rec and competitive in a variety of leagues. See chicagomsa.leagueapps.com.

Kayaking on the Chicago River.

Courtesy of the Illinois Office of Tourism



Chicago Rowing Union: Promotes rowing to the LGBT community and its allies. See www.chicagorowingunion.org.

Chicago Smelts: Chicago's predominantly gay and lesbian U.S. Masters Swim Team. See chicagosmelts.org.

Chicago Spirit Brigade: Chicago's LGBT-friendly cheerleading squad. See www.chicagospiritbrigade.org.

Crew Bar + Grill: Chicago's gay sports bar and restaurant, 4404 N. Broadway, Chicago, crewbarchicago.com.

Dykes on Bikes: A lesbian motorcycle group. See <https://www.facebook.com/dykeson.bikeschicago.9?fref=ts>.

Euchre Chicago: Mostly LGBT euchre, www.euchrechicago.org.

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers Chicago: Weekly runs/walks Saturday morning, Tuesday evening, www.frfwchicago.org.

Illinois Gay Rodeo Association: See www.ilgra.com.

Lincoln Park Lagooners: Chicago's oldest gay and lesbian sports and recreational group, includes social events. See www.lplchicago.com.

North End: Gay sports bar, 3733 N. Halsted, northendchicago.com.

North Shore Women's Rugby: See www.northshorerugby.com.

Organized Chaos: Lesbian motorcycle group. See <https://www.facebook.com/organizedchaoschicago/?fref=ts>.

Proud to Run Chicago: Held the Saturday before Chicago's Pride Parade. See www.proudtorun.org.

Ride for AIDS: Held every July, to benefit the fight against AIDS, July 9-10, 2016, tpan.convio.net/site/TR?fr_id=1040&pg=entry.

Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corp: See https://www.facebook.com/groups/48988666184/?__mref=message.

SCOTCH, formerly Chicago Pride Invitational Bowling Tourney: See www.scotchbowling.com.

Second City Tennis Association: Tennis and related activities serving the gays and lesbians, www.secondcitytennis.com/.

Sidetrack: A key player on the local gay sports scene, 3349 N. Halsted, Chicago, www.sidetrackchicago.com.

Team Chicago: Helps organize Chicago's participation in the Gay Games, teamchicago.org.

Windy City Cycling Club: Chicago's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender bike club. See www.windycitycyclingclub.com.

Other Chicago Sports and Recreation Options

606 trail: The 606 is a series of parks, arts, history, design, trails for bikers, runners and walkers, 312-742-4622, www.the606.org.

63rd St. Beach House: Revival-style pavilion, 6300 S. Lake Shore Dr., www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/63rd-street-beach.

Allstate Arena: Chicago Sky women's basketball team and the Chicago Wolves men's ice hockey, www.rosemont.com/allstate/.

Arlington International Racetrack: www.arlingtonpark.com.

Chicago Bandits: Women's pro fast-pitch softball team, home games are in Rosemont, Illinois. See chicagobandits.com/home/.

Chicago Bears: Men's football, chicagobears.com/.

Chicago Blackhawks: Men's ice hockey, blackhawks.nhl.com.

Chicago Blaze Rugby Club: Men's, chicagoblazerugby.com.

Chicago Bulls: Men's basketball, www.nba.com/bulls.

Chicago Cubs: Men's baseball, chicago.cubs.mlb.com.

Chicago Fire: Men's soccer, www.chicago-fire.com.

Chicago Force: Women's pro tackle football, www.chicagoforcefootball.com.

Chicago Lake Front Trail: The lakefront is a paved path that extends from Ardmore at 5800 N. Sheridan Rd. to 7100 S. South Shore in Chicago. In addition to Lake Michigan, it has green parks, boat harbors, nature sanctuaries, boardwalks, beaches and gardens and recreational areas such as playgrounds, soccer fields, volleyball nets, and tennis courts. Bathrooms, drinking fountains and concession stands are also available along the trail as are several attractions such as Lincoln Park Zoo, Theater on the Lake, Soldier Field, South Shore Cultural Center, Museum of Science and Industry, McCormick Place, Grant Park, Monroe Harbor, Navy Pier, Jackson Park, Belmont Harbor and Burnham Park.

Chicago Marathon: In 2016 it is on Oct. 9. Team to End AIDS runs, www.t2ea.com. Known as T2, the endurance-training program is very LGBT-inclusive.

Chicago Race Factory: 40,000-square-foot go-kart venue, 6955 S. Harlem Ave., Bedford Park, www.chicagoracefactory.com.

Chicago Red Stars: Women's soccer, chicagoredstars.com.

Chicago Running Tours: 630-702-9364, chicagorunningtours.com.

Chicagoland Speedway: NASCAR and other racing, 500 Speedway Blvd., Joliet, www.chicagolandspeedway.com.

Chicago Sky: Women's basketball, sky.wnba.com.

Chicago Sport and Social Club: Amateur leagues, www.chicagosocial.com.

Chicago White Sox: Men's baseball, chicago.whitesox.mlb.com/.

Chicago Wolves: Men's ice hockey, www.chicagowolves.com/.

Chicago Women's Rugby Football Club: Founded in 1976, for women of all backgrounds, Division 1 rugby. See www.cwrfc.org.

Clarendon Park: LGBT teams have played here, 4501 N. Clarendon, www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/Clarendon-Park-Community-Center/.

Columbus Park Refectory: The masterpiece of Jens Jensen, now known as dean of Prairie-style landscape architecture. Waterfalls, native plants, a golf course and ball fields, 500 S. Central Ave., Chicago, www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/columbus-park/.

Forest Preserves of Cook County: Thousands of acres of nature in several regional areas, fpdcc.com.

Hawthorne Race Course: Horseracing track, 3501 S. Laramie, Cicero, www.hawthorneracecourse.com.

Humboldt Park: 219 acres of soccer fields, baseball fields, tennis courts and playgrounds with a field house, 1400 N. Sacramento Ave., www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/humboldtpark/.

iFly: Indoor skydiving center, wind tunnel, 800 W. Scott St., plus in Rosemont and Naperville, Illinois. See www.iflyworld.com.

Jackson Park: A gymnasium, multi-purpose rooms, and a fitness center. The outdoor area includes a wooded island, Japanese garden, Bobalink meadows, three harbors, a beach, basketball and tennis courts and a golf course, 6401 S. Stony Island Ave., www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/jackson-park/.

K1 Speed: Go-kart racing, 301 Hastings Dr., Buffalo Grove, 847-941-9400, www.k1speed.com.

Kayak Chicago: Fireworks, architecture, lights, sunset, and general kayaking tours, 312-8-kayak-8, www.kayakchicago.com.

Lincoln Park: Lincoln Park is Chicago's largest park. It stretches from Hollywood Avenue to Ohio Street, 312-883-PARK, lincolnparkconservancy.org.

Maggie Daley Park: The park has a skating rink in the winter months. See visitmaggiedaleypark.com.

Margate Park: Home to many LGBT teams, 4921 N. Marine Dr., www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/Margate-Park-Fieldhouse/.

Maywood Park: Horseracing track, 8600 W. North Ave., Melrose Park, www.maywoodpark.com.

McKinley Park: Two gyms, gymnastics center, 2210 W. Pershing Rd., www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/McKinley-Park/.

Montrose and Wilson Beach: Kayak, paddle board and volleyball rentals and distance swimming as well as food, showers and restrooms; 4400 N. Lake Shore Dr., www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/montrose-beach/ and see kayakchicago.com.

Oz Park: Oz Park is a Wizard of Oz-themed park with Dorothy's Playlot, Emerald Garden, and statues of characters as well as tennis courts, ball fields, basketball courts and soccer/football fields; 2021 N. Burling, www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/Oz-Park/.

Pinstripes: A bistro, bowling, and bocce center, 312-527-3010, www.pinstripes.comchicago-illinois/.

Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs.

Photo by Hal Baim



Soldier Field: Home of the Chicago Bears, plus concerts and international sporting events. See www.soldierfield.net.

Sports Monster: This groups hosts hundreds of mainstream amateur sports teams and leagues, see www.sportsmonster.net.

U.S. Cellular Field: Home of the Chicago White Sox, 333 W. 35th St., Chicago, chicago.whitesox.mlb.com.

United Center: Home of the Chicago Blackhawks and Chicago Bulls, 1901 W. Madison, Chicago, www.unitedcenter.com.

Urban Kayaks: Kayaking tours including a sunset tour, historic tour, 312-965-0035, www.urbankayaks.com.

Urban Adventure Quest: Teams guided by any smart phone, 805-603-5620, www.urbanadventurequest.com.

Wateriders Kayak Tours and Rentals: Contact 312-953-WATR, www.wateriders.org.

Washington Park: Washington Park features two gymnasiums, racquetball court, fitness center, game room and multi-purpose rooms. Outside nature area, Harvest Garden and an arboretum, much more; 5531 S. Martin Luther King Dr., www.chicagoparkdistrict.comparks/washington-park/.

Waveland Bowl: Home to many Chicago LGBT bowling teams, 3700 N. Western Ave., 773-472-5900, www.wavelandbowl.com.

WhirlyBall Chicago: 1825 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, 773-486-7777, www.whirlyball.com.

Wicker Park: Fieldhouse with gymnasium plus outdoor park with a playground and interactive spray feature, baseball field, basketball courts and an athletic field; 1425 N. Damen Ave., www.chicagoparkdistrict.comparks/Wicker-Park/.

Wrigley Field: Wrigley Field, built in 1914, is the official home of the Chicago Cubs. They also host summer concerts; 1060 W. Addison, 800 843-2827 or <http://chicago.cubs.mlb.com/chc/ballpark/>.



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www.bridgeportbedandbreakfast.com

The Godfrey Hotel Chicago: There's no missing the stunning Godfrey Hotel Chicago—the distinctive cubist design of the 16-story building is unlike any other in the city. 127 W. Huron at LaSalle, Chicago, IL, 60654, 312-374-1842, sandi.robinson@godfreyhotelchicago.com,
www.godfreyhotelchicago.com

BARs

Big Chicks: An eclectic neighborhood bar welcoming to all genders and expressions. Late-night kitchen open 7 days. Celebrating 30 years! 5024 N. Sheridan Rd., www.bigchicks.com

Sidetrack: The center of gay nightlife in Chicago. The original video bar. A sunny upper deck bar, world-famous Slushies, and a must-have showtunes night every Sunday and Monday. A complex of bars, catering to every need in Boystown. 3349 N. Halsted St., 773-477-9189,
www.sidetrackchicago.com

CHAMBERS

Andersonville Chamber of Commerce: Called "the 'shop local' capital of Chicago" by DNAinfo, Andersonville is a quaint neighborhood on Chicago's north side with Swedish roots, a thriving local business district, and welcoming community. Events

and neighborhood information at www.andersonville.org.

Illinois Office of Tourism: Explore amazing ways to travel with pride in Illinois. Illinois: Are you up for amazing? www.enjoyillinois.com/lgbt

Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce: Celebrate Pride Month in Lakeview East! Boutique hotels, dining, exciting nightlife, trendy shops 12th Annual Lakeview East Festival of the Arts, Sept. 10-11, 2016.
www.lakevieweast.com

LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois: See the website for a listing of all chamber members, including a wide range of businesses and social-service providers. Partners on multiple special events throughout the year. 3179 N. Clark St., 2nd Fl., Chicago 773-303-0167, www.lgbtcc.com

Northalsted Business Alliance: Serving our community for over 35 years, the Northalsted Business Alliance works for their members to make sure Boystown remains the PROUDEST neighborhood in Chicago. Hosting Chicago Pride Fest, Northalsted Market Days, Northalsted Halloween Parade and more events throughout the year.
www.northalsted.com

The Rosemont Convention

Bureau: The Village of Rosemont has created a thriving mecca of tourism, entertainment and convention and trade-show business. Located five minutes from O'Hare Airport and twenty minutes from Chicago's downtown. Enjoy extensive hotel and dining options, the Allstate Arena, Rosemont Theatre, the entertainment district MB Financial Park and the new Fashion Outlets of Chicago.
www.rosemont.com

GALLERIES

The Leigh Gallery: The Leigh Gallery represents original artwork from over 80 local artists. We offer a diverse and innovative selection of art in most media and are dedicated to exhibiting quality art at reasonable prices. 3306 N. Halsted St., Chicago, IL, 60657, 773-472-1865,
www.theleighgallery.com

MUSEUMS

The Richard H. Driehaus Museum:

The Richard H. Driehaus Museum is a premier example of historic preservation, offering visitors an opportunity to experience through its architecture, interiors, collection, and exhibitions how the prevailing design philosophies of the period were interpreted by artists, architects, and designers at the waning of the 19th-century and the dawn of the 20th-century. 40 E. Erie St., 312-482-8933, www.driehausmuseum.org

Glessner House Museum: Step back to the Gilded Age at this National Historic Landmark on Chicago's legendary Prairie Avenue. 1800 S. Prairie Ave., Chicago, 312-326-1480 www.GlessnerHouse.org

NON-PROFITS

Center on Halsted: Chicago's LGBTQ community center. Connect with the LGBTQ community with tours, cyber center, recreational activities, art gallery, performances, walk-inHIV testing. 3656 N. Halsted St., 773-472-6469, www.centeronhalsted.org

The Legacy Walk: The world's only outdoor LGBT museum, 3245-3707 N. Halsted, Chicago. Bronze memorials of LGBT contributions to world history and culture. Guided group tours and shopping packages available. 312-608-1198, www.legacyprojectchicago.org

PRIDEChicago: The host organization for Chicago's annual Pride parade, the last Sunday of June each year. 773-348-8243, PrideChgo@aol.com, www.ChicagoPrideCalendar.org

RESTAURANTS/CATERING

Polo Cafe & Catering: Something different ... something special. Lunch, dinner, Saturday Bloody Mary brunch and Sunday sing-along gospel bunch. Reservations recommended. 3322 S. Morgan, Chicago, 773-927-7656, www.polocafe.com

Tweet: Let's eat! Mostly organic, fresh-from-the-farm good eatin'. A sumptuous brunch spot with outdoor seating. 5020 N. Sheridan Rd., www.tweet.biz

RETAIL

Leather 64TEN: Chicago's best source for handmade and custom leather clothing and accessories. Underwear, boots and a full selection of fetish gear in Rogers Park. 6410 N. Clark St., www.leather64ten.com

Rogers Park Provisions: A modern take on the classic general store. Bar products, cheeses, gifts, meat/charcuterie and more. Your one-stop dinner party shop. 6928 N. Glenwood Ave., www.squareup.com/store/rogers-park-provisions

Women & Children First: Books, magazines, cards, gifts, weekly story time, frequent author events, book clubs and much more at this Chicago institution. 5233 N. Clark St., Chicago, 773-769-9299, www.womenandchildrenfirst.com

TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION

Orbitz: Orbitz Rewards allows you to earn and redeem instantly on your next vacation. Get instant Vacation Gratification. www.orbitz.com/GayTravel

Uber: Special offer: get.uber.com/go/windycitytimes. Get there. Your day belongs to you. The best way to get wherever you're going. www.uber.com

THEATER/PERFORMANCE

About Face Theatre: About Face Theatre creates exceptional, innovative, and adventurous plays to advance the national dialogue on gender and sexual identity, and to challenge and entertain audiences in Chicago, across the country, and around the world. 5252 N. Broadway, 2nd floor, 773-784-8565, www.aboutfacetheatre.com

American Blues Theater: American Blues Theater illuminates the American ideas of freedom, equality, and opportunity in the plays they produce and communities they serve. Greenhouse Theater Center (performance venue), 2257 N. Lincoln Ave., 773-404-7336, www.americanbluestheater.com

The Annoyance Theatre: For 25 years, The Annoyance Theatre has created some of Chicago's finest

comedy. The Annoyance uses improvisation to create new and original plays, musicals, sketch-comedy and more in a vibrant, uncensored atmosphere. 851 W. Belmont Ave., 773-697-9693, www.theannoyance.com

Bible Bingo and Late Nite

Catechism: Bible Bingo by Vicki Quade is a comedy with God, games and goofy prizes. Late Nite Catechism, in 23rd year, by Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan. 312-988-9000, www.nuns4fun.com

Chicago Shakespeare Theater:

Rooted in the legacy of Shakespeare as an unparalleled theatrical innovator, CST's unforgettable productions are at the heart of our mission. 800 E. Grand Ave. (at Navy Pier), Chicago, IL, 60611, 312-595-5600, www.chicagoshakes.com

Chigaygo/The Kates: Laugh Factory Chicago presents a double bill of inclusive comedy the first Thursday of every month. "the kates," hosted by Keslie Huff, showcases a hilarious all-female cast, and "Chigaygo," hosted by Scott Duff, is Chicago's premiere night of LGBTQA comedy. 3175 N. Broadway, 773-327-3175, www.laughfactory.com/clubs/chicago

Goodman Theatre: Chicago's oldest and largest not-for-profit theater, Goodman has won international renown for the quality of productions, the depth and diversity of artistic leadership, and the excellence of its many community and educational programs. 170 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL, 60601, 312-443-3800, www.goodmantheatre.org

Hell in a Handbag Productions: Dedicated to the preservation, exploration and celebration of the art of camp and parody onstage, in the most ridiculous manner possible. www.handbagproductions.org

Just Dickin' Around: A weekly women and queer friendly stand-up comedy showcase at Hydrate Nightclub in the heart of Boystown. The 1st and 3rd Thursdays feature an all-female cast, and the 2nd and 4th Thursdays feature all genders.

The show is free (as is the pizza)! Open mic at 8:30, showcase at 9:45. 3458 N. Halsted St., 773-975-9244, www.justdickinaroundcomedy.com

Pride Films And Plays: The mission of Pride Films and Plays is to change lives through the generation of diverse new work (or work new to Chicago) with LGBTQ+ characters or themes. 2215 W. Giddings #1, 1-800-737-0984, www.pridefilmsandplays.com

Ravinia Festival: Ravinia is Chicagoland's concert destination for the hottest stars of summer! See Paul Simon, Dolly Parton, Phillip Phillips, Indigo Girls, Andy Grammer, Seal, or the world famous Chicago Symphony Orchestra! 418 Sheridan Rd., Highland Park, IL, 60035. www.ravinia.org

The Second City: Shows nightly. 15-minute cab ride from The Loop. North and Wells. 1616 N. Wells St. 312-664-4032, www.secondcity.com

Steppenwolf Theatre Company: Steppenwolf's artistic force remains rooted in the original vision of its founders: an artist-driven theater, whose vitality is defined by its sharp appetite for groundbreaking, innovative work. 1650 N. Halsted St., Chicago, IL, 60614, 312-335-1650, www.steppenwolf.org

TimeLine Theatre Company: TimeLine Theatre Company presents stories inspired by history that connect with today's social and political issues. Their collaborative artistic team produces provocative theatre and educational programs that engage, entertain and enlighten. 615 W. Wellington, 773-281-8462 x 6, www.timelinetheatre.com

Writers Theatre: For more than 20 years, Writers Theatre has captivated Chicagoland audiences with inventive interpretations of classic work, a bold approach to contemporary theatre and a dedication to creating the most intimate theatrical experience possible. 325 Tudor Ct., Glencoe, IL, 60022, 847-242-6000, www.writerstheatre.org

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