



Together We Heal Creative Place

Together We Heal Creative Place (TWHCP) funds 47 artists and community-based organizations for medium- and large-scale creative placemaking projects in low- and moderate-income Chicago neighborhoods.

Why?

The TWHCP program harnesses the transformative power of art to cultivate a more equitable, vibrant, and united city. The program was intentionally designed to acknowledge and uncover past [racial injustices and how they continue to show up today in Chicago neighborhoods](#). TWHCP projects create public spaces for dialogue, understanding, and reconciliation to help us learn from those injustices and build a better future.

The Creative Place Program positions resources in the hands of communities to use art as a vehicle to reflect, reclaim, and reimagine their neighborhoods using [OERJ's Together We Heal Framework](#).

What is creative place making?

Creative placemaking is the practice of using arts, culture, and community-guided design to transform public spaces into vibrant hubs of expression and connection that reflect the diverse voices within a community. It includes a strategic curation of performances and activations, public art, and inclusive initiatives that highlight issues including food insecurity and housing injustice that plague historically disinvested communities.

[← Guiding Principles](#)

- Place artists and art at the center of planning, execution, and activity
- Invites people to be involved in the creative activity
- Honors the legacy of cultural organizing in community
- Leverages the creative potential already present in a place
- Focuses on what makes a place unique and distinct based on its history and character
- Creates a place where people want to go and linger, socialize, learn, and connect with the neighborhood and their neighbors

[+ Outcomes](#)

How TWHCP works.

From Fall 2022 to December 2024, artists and community organizations working in partnerships with the [City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events](#) and the [Office of Equity and Racial Justice](#) will identify priorities that strengthen the economic, physical, and/or social needs and visions of neighborhood or place. These priorities inform the development of multi-year creative placemaking projects that promote dialogue and connection; activate shared spaces; beautify communities; and celebrate local cultural richness.

TWHCP encourages projects that leverage and enhance the capacity of the work and creative potential that already exist in communities. The 47 total projects feature multiple artistic disciplines, including architecture, dance, film, music, performance art, photography, public art and theater. They will energize public spaces and invite residents to interact through dialogues, activations and creative problem-solving. All project work and programming will be free to the public.

The Together We Heal Creative Place program is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act, a part of the Mayor's Road to Recovery Plan.



Locate the *Together We Heal Creative Place* grant programs by project in the list below. Click on as many projects as you want to view at one time on the map. Click the pin on the map or in the project address to learn more about the project and/or organization.

PROJECTS

- Acting Up in South Deering and Once Upon a Pose
- Activando Nuestro Espacio Comunitario: Camino Cultural
- Agua
- Argyle Community Healing & Placekeeping Project
- Arts Access and Cultural Healing on Devon, Chicago's Little South Asia
- Austin Safety Action Plan 2.0
- Breaking Community Bubbles
- Changing the Englewood Landscape
- Chicago Soul Arts: Some Sort of Saint
- Citizenship for All: Storytelling for Immigrant Justice through NongGi ...
- Community Storytellers
- Creative Conversations
- Creativity Bus
- De Colores Art Cafe (Archer Ave Art Cafe)
- Fertile Ground – A Community Theater, Dance + Garden Project for th...
- Front Porch Arts Center: Teen Theater and Storytelling Workshops
- Healing through a Pandemic
- Imagine South Shore: Legacy & Future



Discover a variety of "Together We Heal Creative Place" citywide events and programs. Utilize the filter option to sort through specific types of events, locations and dates. New events will be added to the calendar all summer long. Subscribe to the calendar and check back for updates!

[Find Events](#) [List](#)

< > Today Upcoming ▾

Filters December 2024

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event Category + Organizations + Day + Time + Series + Event Status + 	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>WED 18</p> </div> <div> <p>September 10, 2024 @ 10:00 am - January 17, 2025 @ 4:00 pm 📅 The Teaching Artist Recording Booth</p> <p>The Teaching Artist Recording Booth</p> <p>Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education 1010 35th Street, Suite 697, Chicago, IL, United States</p> <p>Long time Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education (CAPE) teaching artist Laura Slenz' "The Teaching Artist Recording Booth" collects the stories of teaching artists as they bring arts and arts-integrated learning into [...]</p> </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> </div> </div> <hr/> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>WED 18</p> </div> <div> <p>November 6 @ 3:00 pm - December 19 @ 1:00 am 📅 Calling in Our Ancestors: Healing Our Hearts</p> <p>Calling in Our Ancestors: Healing Our Hearts</p> <p>Staring 3243 W 16th St, Chicago, United States</p> <p>We are collaborating with Duo as they "unwrap" their new community space in North Lawndale, Staring. Our photo and storytelling exhibit "Calling In the Ancestors: Healing Our Hearts" will be [...]</p> </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> </div> </div>	
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TO LEARN MORE



Learn more about OERJ's efforts in advancing equitable transformation across the City of Chicago



Learn more about DCASE's Cultural Grant Program offerings



Learn more about the Together We Heal Creative Place Program investment



chicago.gov

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