

# Together We Heal Creative Place 2024

## News Page



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CHICAGO.GOV



# Together We Heal Creative Place



### In Our Feelings: A Two-Part Healing Workshop Part 2

The second installment of the series is a session of deep rest through restorative yoga, reiki energy medicine, and crystal bowl sound healing. As we move into the winter season,

December 18, 2024



### The Teaching Artist Recording Booth

Long-time Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education (CAPE) teaching artist Laura Sáenz' "The Teaching Artist Recording Booth" collects the stories of teaching artists as they bring arts and arts-integrated learning into

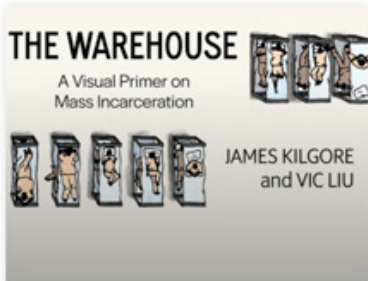
October 23, 2024



### World Premiere of Community Storytellers Shorts

Join us for an evening that brings the soul of Chicago's neighborhoods to the big screen! Experience the powerful stories of our community through the lens of three talented Chicago

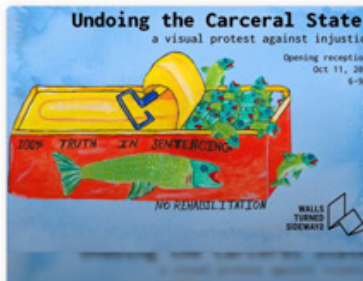
October 23, 2024



**Book Launch – The Warehouse: A Visual Primer on Mass Incarceration**

Join us to welcome James Kilgore and Vic Liu for a book launch of *The Warehouse: A Visual Primer on Mass Incarceration*. This concise, illustrated book is a collaboration between

October 9, 2024



**Undoing the Carceral State Exhibition Opening Reception**

Join us for food, art, and good company in celebration of the opening of our exhibition *Undoing the Carceral State: a visual protest against injustice*. *Undoing the Carceral State* is

October 9, 2024



**Creating Space Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**  
October 12 | 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

**Creating Space Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

Honoring Our Neighbors, Collaborative Mural Painting, Tip or Treat Scavenger Hunt. Come celebrate the completion of Creating Space Phase 1, honor our community stewards, and discover design all around us

October 9, 2024



**Market Day on MLK**

Embrace the fall vibes at Market Day on MLK! Join us, Saturday October 12 from 11am-4pm for sweet treats, awesome vendors, good vibes, and community fun. Music, Games,

October 9, 2024



**MÔI MỜI BY HAIBAYŌ #1 | Discussion & Documentary w Somethin' Sweet Donuts**

Join us for a discussion with the Chao family on their journey to their Albany Park Donut Shop and a film screening of *The Donut King*. Donut samples included. Conversation

September 25, 2024



**Calling in Our Ancestors: Healing Our Hearts**

We are collaborating with Duo as they "unwrap" their new community space in North Lawndale, Starling. Our photo and storytelling exhibit "Calling in the Ancestors: Healing Our Hearts" will be

September 16, 2024



**Together, We Have All We Need – An art market and silent auction benefiting the Chicago Torture Justice Memorial**

Join us for an evening of art, music, and community benefiting the Chicago Torture Justice Memorial (CTJM) at Walls Turned Sideways. CTJM aims to honor and to seek justice for

September 11, 2024



**Chicago Anti-Violence Education Community Check-in & SELF Reflection Circle**

Peer-led CAVE (Community Anti Violence Education) circles offered at Walls Turned Sideways are for formerly incarcerated people navigating life after incarceration. This will be a space specifically designed as a

September 11, 2024



**City Life: Creative Placemaking in Community**

A tour of the west side shows history and transformation. By Andrew Davis  
A tour of the city's west side highlighted just how much of a historical and artistic gem it actually is, and that parts of it are flourishing. On July 3, the city agency-led tour highlighted a few of 47 community-driven creative placemaking grant projects aimed at promoting racial healing and neighborhood revitalization.

August 30, 2024





**COMMUNITY MURAL CLEANING PROJECT:  
INDIAN LAND DANCING**

**Community Mural Cleaning Project:  
Indian Land Dancing**

Please join us and pitch in to restore and clean this vibrant bricolage mosaic that utilizes ceramic tile, mirror, acrylic paint, and image transfer, among other media to teach about

August 19, 2024



**Black August Black Memory:  
#LetUsBreathe's 10 Year Anniversary  
Celebration and Fundraiser**

BLACK AUGUST BLACK MEMORY, #LetUsBreathe's 10 Year Anniversary and Fundraiser, takes place on August 24, 2024 at Liberation Landing Campus from 1-7pm and includes visual installations, screenings, workshops, food, performances,

August 14, 2024



**Sankofa Story Garden**

Sankofa Story Garden opening. This is the culminating event of a 2 year project to bring a story garden to West Garfield. It will feature live performances, Leadership Authors and

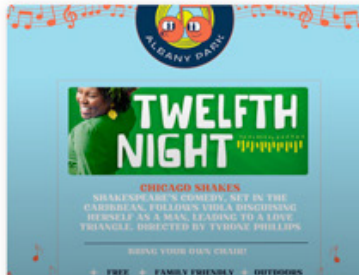
August 1, 2024



**Some Sort of Saint**

"Some Sort of Saint" is a powerful new play based on the true story of Dr. Mica Battle's life on the Southside of Chicago written by Linda Bright Clay and

July 19, 2024



**Lot Jams**

Lot Jams is a free, outdoor, summer concert series that showcases the people, businesses, and cultures that make Albany Park one of the best communities in Chicago. This event is

July 18, 2024



**Creativity Bus at Moran Park**

All aboard! The Creativity Bus has a free 2-hour program of movement and making activities — like art projects, drumming, double dutch, yoga and more — for all ages. The

June 13, 2024



**Creativity Bus at Taste of Lawndale**

All aboard! The Creativity Bus has a free 2-hour program of movement and making activities — like art projects, drumming, double dutch, yoga and more — for all ages. The

June 13, 2024



**Creativity Bus at Words of Wonder Festival**

All aboard! The Creativity Bus has a free 2-hour program of movement and making activities — like art projects, drumming, double dutch, yoga and more — for all ages. The

June 13, 2024



**Creativity Bus @ Hermitage Park**

All aboard! The Creativity Bus has a free 2-hour program of movement and making activities — like art projects, drumming, double dutch, yoga and more — for all ages. The

June 13, 2024



**Creativity Bus at Ea's Mindful Festival**

All aboard! The Creativity Bus has a free 2-hour program of movement and making activities – like art projects, drumming, double dutch, yoga and more – for all ages. The

June 13, 2024



**Creativity Bus at Unity Park**

All aboard! The Creativity Bus has a free 2-hour program of movement and making activities – like art projects, drumming, double dutch, yoga and more – for all ages. The

June 12, 2024



**CTA's 43rd Green Line Station Offers Best Views of New Multimedia Storytelling Installation; Community Celebration Event Announced**

Project celebrates the Black Metropolis of the Bronzeville Neighborhood, while bringing awareness to local, historic preservation project

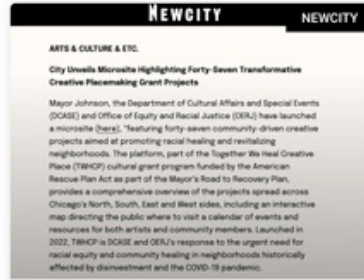
June 11, 2024



**City of Chicago Unveils Microsite Highlighting 47 Transformative Creative Placemaking Grant Projects**

Mayor Brandon Johnson, The City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) and Office of Equity and Racial Justice (OERJ) proudly announce a new microsite (chicagocreativeplace.com) featuring 47 community-driven creative projects aimed at

June 11, 2024



**City Unveils Microsite Highlighting Forty-Seven Transformative Creative Placemaking Grant Projects**

Mayor Johnson, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) and Office of Equity and Racial Justice (OERJ) have launched a microsite (here), "featuring forty-seven community-driven creative projects aimed at promoting racial healing and revitalizing neighborhoods. The platform, part of the Together We Heal Creative Place (TWHCP) cultural grant program funded by the American Rescue Plan Act as part of the Mayor's Road to Recovery Plan, provides a comprehensive overview of the projects spread across Chicago's North, South, East and West sides, including an interactive map directing the public where to visit a calendar of events and resources for both artists and community members. Launched in 2022, TWHCP is DCASE and OERJ's response to the urgent need for racial equity and community healing in neighborhoods historically affected by disinvestment and the COVID-19 pandemic.

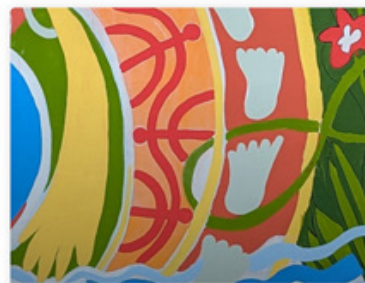
June 11, 2024



**Mandala Maker Music Festival**

Mandala Makers Festival is an annual celebration that supports multidisciplinary South Asian performing artists. The festival provides a professional platform for artists to progress and renew traditions of the South

June 10, 2024



**Mandala Maker Mural Opening**

People of Devon neighborhood, along with artist Indira Freitas Johnson, designed and painted a mural at the Republic Bank of Chicago, representing their idea of a community. Through a month-long

June 10, 2024



**Women in Blues Discussion and Front Porch Series**

Free public discussion about the role of women in Blues music and an outdoor Blues concert at the Muddy Waters MOJO Museum, "Original House of the Blues."

June 10, 2024



**Front Porch Series**

Free outdoor Blues concert at the Muddy Waters MOJO Museum, "Original House of the Blues."

June 10, 2024





**Shake Your Back to School Blues**

Free, family friendly community celebration with music, food trucks and arts activities at the Muddy Waters House, the "Original House of the Blues." Join us!

June 10, 2024



**The Giving Tree Mural Reveal**

Join us for an exciting event, The Giving Tree Mural Reveal, featuring the talented artist Marco Rios. Get ready to be amazed as we unveil a stunning mural that celebrates

June 10, 2024



**Once Upon a Pose**

Once Upon a Pose focuses on improving reading engagement and comprehension skills with movement and mindfulness. Along with many other health benefits, research shows that yoga can develop reading skills

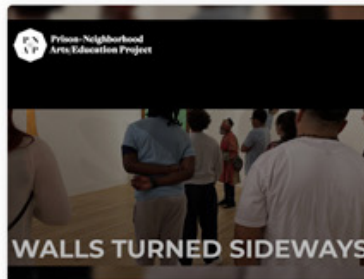
June 10, 2024



**Reckless Law, Shameless Order**

An Intimate Experience of Incarceration Curated by Narsin Navab Featuring artists include: Monica Cosby, Faranak MirafTAB Pablo Mendoza, Imran Mohammad, Marilyn Mulero, Nasrin Navab, Ana Navarro, Kenneth Norton, Vincent Robinson

June 10, 2024



**Closing Party: It Ain't That Funny**

Join us for a closing party and screening of Arkee, a shortfilm about Arkee's work and life by Truth & Documentary. We'll have food, drink and celebrate Arkee Cheney, who is

June 4, 2024



**The Forum - E. 43rd Street, Chicago**

Beginning June 12, Train of Thoughts will continuously broadcast short films and other informative local content based on the following themes: "Legacy Stories": Series of untold or little-known stories within

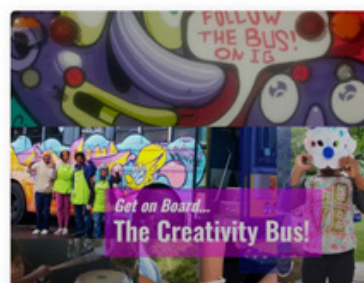
June 3, 2024



**City of Chicago Unveils Microsite Highlighting 47 Transformative Creative Placemaking Grant Projects**

Together We Heal Creative Place promotes racial healing and community development in Chicago neighborhoods

May 27, 2024



**Creativity Bus**

CCRx and T.H.U.G Hippy are collaborating to offer the CREATIVITY BUS and its 2-hour program of Movement and Making activities for all ages. Movement activities can include Double Dutch Workshops,

May 27, 2024



**Calling In The Ancestors: Healing Our Hearts**

Spend a beautiful Sunday on the boulevard with us. Join us for the closing event of our photography exhibit and the sharing of Chicago women's stories.

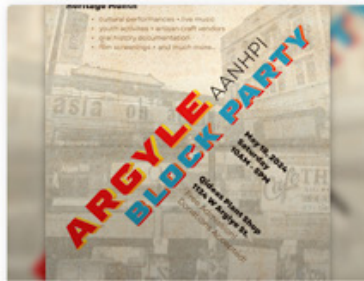
May 13, 2024



**Calling In The Ancestors: Healing Our Hearts "Let's Sing to the Water" Water Ceremony**

Join us for a day of honoring our Mother Water through mandala making, singing and sound healing. Bring your instruments and fresh flowers.

May 13, 2024



**Argyle AANHPI Block Party**

In celebration of Asian American and Native Hawaii/Pacific Islander Heritage Month Cultural performances, live music, youth activities, artisan craft vendors, oral history documentation, film screenings and much more... Free

April 29, 2024



**Calling in the Ancestors: Healing our Hearts**

Come join us as we connect with our ancestors to heal our hearts and honor our roots in a powerful and transformative gathering.

April 25, 2024



**Sanando nuestros corazones: Llamando a nuestras ancestas**

Acompañanos a ser testigo de las historias de mujeres Latinas y Afro Americanas de la ciudad de Chicago. Será una noche de conexión.

April 25, 2024



**Black History Month Premiere**

Please join us for Black History Month premiere of Train of Thoughts, along with a conversation with the cast. Light refreshments will be provided.

April 9, 2024



**Sisters in Cinema Celebrates Visibility and Representation in Filmmaking at New South Shore Media Center**

PROJECT | SOUTH SHORE REMEMBERS  
A nonprofit celebrating the work of Black women and gender-nonconforming media makers opened its doors Friday.

March 16, 2024



**The new Sisters in Cinema Media Arts Center aims to be a catalyst for change on 75th Street**

PROJECT | SOUTH SHORE REMEMBERS  
Uplifting Black women media makers is Yvonne Welbon's mission. That's why she founded Sisters in Cinema as an online resource in 1997. Now, the digital resource and nonprofit is about to open a physical media and community center, called the Sisters in Cinema Media Arts Center, in Welbon's neighborhood in South Shore on 75th Street.

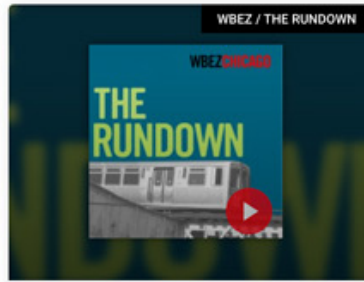
March 13, 2024



**Sisters In Cinema Opening South Shore Media Center This Month**

PROJECT | SOUTH SHORE REMEMBERS  
After nearly 30 years of educating and highlighting Black women, girls and gender nonconforming storytellers, a local nonprofit will open its flagship media center next week in South Shore.

March 7, 2024



**To offset decades of racist housing policies, this Chicagoan is getting creative**

PROJECT | UnBlocked  
Tonika Lewis Johnson calls her latest project – unBlocked Englewood – “a very unusual art project.” It involves beautifying the 6500 block of South Aberdeen Street in Chicago’s Englewood neighborhood – though things like murals, gardens, gazebos, and landscaping – that’s not the unusual part.

February 23, 2024





BLOCK CLUB CHICAGO

### Short Film 'Train Of Thoughts' Centers Stories From Bronzeville Residents

**PROJECT | TRAIN OF THOUGHTS**  
Award-winning filmmaker Asia Taylor collected vignettes from local residents, artists and entrepreneurs for the film, which will be screened Thursday at the Bronzeville Incubator.

February 19, 2024



HYDE PARK HERALD

### Muddy Waters Mojo Museum approved for garden expansion

**PROJECT | MOJO GARDEN & PERFORMANCE CENTER**  
Plans to create an outdoor performance space for the forthcoming Muddy Waters Mojo Museum moved forward this week, with City Council's approval to sell an adjacent vacant lot to the museum.

January 25, 2024



BLOCK CLUB CHICAGO

### How An Englewood Artist And Activist Is Helping Black Families Keep Their Homes

**PROJECT | UnBlocked**  
Through "unBlocked Englewood," Tonika Lewis Johnson and the Chicago Bungalow Association are paying for home repairs along one block, which the organizer hopes can help reverse decades of discriminatory housing policies.

January 25, 2024



WTTW

### Project Aims to Repair Englewood Homes, Combat Disinvestment Through the Arts

**PROJECT | UnBlocked**  
In the 1950s and '60s, Black families were often forced to pay often double – or more – to buy a home, in what was known as contract buying. As a result, instead of earning equity and passing down generational wealth, Black homeowners often lost their homes.

January 15, 2024



CHICAGO TRIBUNE

### Repairing homes as a form of public art, Tonika Lewis Johnson helps Englewood reinvest in the disinvested

**PROJECT | UnBlocked**  
Segregation. Redlining. Land sale contracts, where real estate speculators in the 1950s and '60s sold homes to Black families on rent-to-own contracts for double – or more – what the property was worth. Artist Tonika Lewis Johnson has been highlighting these decadeslong injustices against the Black community in projects such as "The Folded Map" and "Inequity for Sale."

January 5, 2024



READER

### Deeply Rooted Dance Theater celebrates new work and makes plans for a new home

**PROJECT | GROWING TOGETHER**  
"We're trying to do something bold as a Black dance organization by creating a space not just for us but for others as well."

October 31, 2023



CBS2 NEWS CHICAGO

### Urban Male Network turns overgrown Chicago lot into safe space for area youth

**PROJECT | REDFINING THE URBAN LANDSCAPE**  
An empty lot once overgrown with grass and weeds is being turned into a safe outdoor space for Englewood kids.

August 2, 2023



HYDE PARK HERALD

### Muddy Waters Mojo Museum gets \$1.1 million grant for restoration and programming

**PROJECT | MOJO GARDEN & PERFORMANCE CENTER**  
The Muddy Waters Mojo Museum, 4339 S. Lake Park Ave., has received a \$1.1 million capital grant for the restoration of the legendary Blues musician's Kenwood home and future programming once it opens.

June 7, 2023



CHICAGO MAGAZINE

### We Sow We Grow Wants to Make West Pullman an Agri-Neighborhood

**PROJECT | ROOTS & BLOOMS**  
"We want to build a food forest that adds to the beauty of the neighborhood," says Natasha Nicholes, founder of the small farm that occupies a single lot in the Far South Side neighborhood.

June 6, 2023



BLOCK CLUB CHICAGO

### Deeply Rooted Dance Company Gets \$5 Million City Grant Ahead Of Big Washington Park Move

**PROJECT | GROWING TOGETHER**  
The 27-year-old dance company hopes to move into its new \$15.6 million home in December 2024.

June 1, 2023

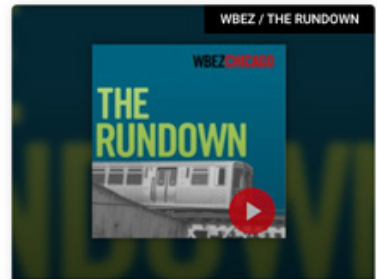


CHICAGO DEFENDER

### Take a Walk With Sisters in Cinema to Celebrate Juneteenth

**PROJECT | SOUTH SHORE REMEMBERS**  
Sister Outsider is a walking program that promotes the usage of outdoor space to young Black girls, women and gender nonconforming individuals. The program leads participants on a conversational walk through the commercial thoroughfare of South Shore's 75th Street and the residential beauty of 76th Street.

May 27, 2023



WBZ / THE RUNDOWN

### Hac Tran works to amplify Asia on Argyle

**PROJECT | ARGYLE COMMUNITY HEALING & PLACEKEEPING PROJECT**  
In the Southeast Asian community on Argyle Street in Uptown, Hac Tran says he's seen nearly 10 businesses close due to rent increases, gentrification, pandemic complications and other issues.

January 25, 2023



READER

ARTS & CULTURE

### Walls Turned Sideways aims to foster community on the west side

#### Walls Turned Sideways Aims to Foster Community on the West Side

**PROJECT | WALLS TURNED SIDEWAYS**  
The Prison + Neighborhood Arts/Education Project finally opens a gallery and community space of their own.

January 23, 2023



# 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](https://chicago.gov)

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