

Chicago History Museum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Attention: Calendar Listing Editors and Reporters

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**CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM CALENDAR OF EVENTS
October, November, and December 2011**

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General Museum Information

Location: 1601 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614

Public Information: Call 312-642-4600 or visit www.chicagohistory.org

Hours: **MUSEUM HOURS**
Monday – Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 12 Noon – 5:00 p.m.

Special Holiday Hours:
Wednesday, November 23: 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 24: Closed
Saturday, December 24: 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 25: Closed
Saturday, December 31: 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 1: Closed

NORTH & CLARK CAFÉ
Monday – Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Sunday 12 Noon – 4:00 p.m.

RESEARCH CENTER HOURS
(Through May 2012)
Tuesday – Friday 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY

CLOSED WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23 AND THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

CLOSED SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 -- MONDAY, JANUARY 2

Admission:

GENERAL ADMISSION

\$14 Adults

\$12 Seniors, Students

FREE Children 12 years and under and Chicago History Museum members

Admission to the Research Center: \$5 daily fee or \$15 annual membership.

We will be offering a **new schedule of Illinois Resident Discount Days**, which provide free admission for Illinois residents. These days maximize opportunities for resident visitors, especially those unable to visit us on Mondays. Resident Discount Days at the Museum are on:

- Monday, October 3 - Friday, October 7
- Monday, October 10 - Thursday, October 13

Exhibitions/Installations

Ongoing

Chicago: Crossroads of America

Explore Chicago's changing economy, challenging crises, diverse neighborhoods, groundbreaking innovations, and lively cultural scene. Wander through these galleries to discover legendary stories, from the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 to Riverview Park or the renowned rivalry of the Cubs vs. Sox.

Ongoing

Sensing Chicago

History is beautiful, noisy, rough, stinky, and delicious. In this gallery, children use their five senses to explore Chicago, uncover its past, and discover that history is all around them.

Ongoing

Imagining Chicago: The Dioramas

The beloved dioramas feature Chicago's rise from a desolate frontier outpost to the bustling city that hosted the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893.

Ongoing

My Chinatown

The Chicago History Museum's first-ever multimedia theatre experience is driven by the personal experiences of the people who made Chinatown their home and keep its traditions alive. The exhibition provides visitors an insider's look at this unique and vibrant Chicago neighborhood.

Ongoing

Facing Freedom

Based on the central idea that the history of the United States has been shaped by conflicts over what it means to be free, this permanent exhibition uses images, artifacts, and interactivity to explore familiar and not-so-familiar stories from the nation's past. From women's suffrage and the formation of unions, to Japanese internment, to a local school boycott, the exhibition highlights some of the ways Americans have struggled over the true meaning of freedom.

Ongoing

Lincoln Park Block by Block

The community exhibition takes a fresh look at an extraordinary neighborhood from the opening of Chicago's first public beach in 1895 to the riots of the late 1960s.

Ongoing

Abraham Lincoln and Lincoln's Chicago

Portraits and personal stories of Chicagoans are paired with richly detailed views of the city as it appeared in the 1860s when Lincoln would have traveled here. It also highlights the key events of Lincoln's presidency: his election in 1860, the Civil War, and his tragic assassination.

- Ongoing ***Unexpected Chicago***
 Let history surprise you. The Museum will feature a new artifact on display each month handpicked by the Museum’s curators. The selections come from the Museum’s collection of more than 22 million artifacts.
- Ongoing ***Out in Chicago***
 The exhibition shows how the evolution of these Chicago communities against the backdrop of the dynamic forces that shaped Chicago’s development. *Out in Chicago* is one exhibition of a continuing series addressing Chicago neighborhoods and communities.
- Opening October 22 ***Charles James: Genius Deconstructed***
 This exhibition presents fifteen original pieces by American fashion designer Charles James, the world’s third-largest collection of his material. Discover James’ roots in Chicago and his efforts to preserve his legacy. Explore touchable replicas of four of his most iconic, innovative pieces. Join us as we delve into the unconventional genius of America’s first couturier.

Special Museum Events

- Oct. 3 – Oct. 7 **Illinois Resident Discount Days**
 Oct. 10 – Oct. 13 We now offer a new schedule of discount days, which provide free admission to Illinois Residents only. Illinois Resident Discount Days replace free Mondays as the Museum aims to maximize opportunities for state residents, especially those that are unable to visit us on Mondays. This gives us flexibility to share Chicago’s story with Chicagoans and residents for free beyond just Mondays.
- Wed., Oct. 19 **DressCode 2011**
 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Join us on the Museum’s Uihlein Plaza for the runway debut of rising stars from Chicago’s fashion design schools. Watch as the finalists from the Chicago History Museum’s “FashioNext: The Charles James Project” compete and a winner is unveiled! In this year’s competition, top students from local fashion design schools were challenged to create a garment inspired by a Charles James gown from the Museum’s costume collection. Reservations are required. \$25, \$15 Members.

Public Programs

- Sun., Oct. 2 **Project Sunday**
 Sun., Nov. 13 This documentary film series is FREE with museum admission. All films begin
 Sun., Dec. 11 at 1:30 p.m.
- October 2: **Taking the Heat**
 Meet Captain Brenda Berkman, the first woman to join one of the most celebrated—and macho—lifesaving organizations in the world: the New York City Fire Department. Narrated by Susan Sarandon. 60 minutes. Part of our Great Chicago Fire commemoration.
 - November 13: **Madness in the White City**
 It’s 1893 and the Columbian Exposition is taking center stage in Chicago. But amidst the fair’s new buildings and wonderful innovations, an evil predator lurks. This film takes a closer look at the life of H.H. Holmes, one of America’s first serial killers. In collaboration with Kurtis Productions, this film is part of our Crime in Chicago series. 50 minutes.
 - December 11: **TBD**

Tues., Oct. 4
Thurs., Nov. 10

In the K/Now

This monthly series, moderated by journalist Laura Washington, explores contemporary issues affecting life in Chicago. FREE admission.

- **October 4: Politics Today: Red, Purple, & Blue**

We are a little more than one year out from the 2012 national elections. The nation is mired in an economic moat, our troops are still at war, and Washington is in gridlock. At a time when we should be coming together, why is the nation is such a deep divide? Join us for a panel discussion where we pick apart politics, chronicle the political past, and ask what our leaders and voters can do now to reach true and meaningful compromise. **6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

- **November 10: Gays in the Military**

As the era of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” comes to an end, join us to talk about what it means and to discuss its effects, both local and international. Panelists include Jim Darby, president of the Chicago chapter of American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER). **6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.**

Tues., Oct. 11

Dinner Series

Combining history with good eats, all dinner series lectures begin at 7:00 p.m. Meet at the designated restaurant. Ticket price includes meal, select drinks, tax, and gratuity.

- **October 11: The Great Chicago Fire**

Ignite your taste buds at this dinner to commemorate the 140th anniversary of the fire that changed Chicago. Enjoy four courses paired with unique beers from brewmaster Pete Crowley. Haymarket Brewery & Pub (737 W. Randolph Street). \$55, \$50 members.

Wed., Oct. 12
Wed., Oct. 26

Movies in the Park

Movies begin at 6:00 p.m. on the Uihlein Plaza. It is recommended to come early as space fills up quickly. Bring your own chairs, blankets, food and beverages in non glass containers. This program is presented in collaboration with the Chicago Park District’s Movies in the Parks series. Free admission.

- **October 12: Silence of the Lambs**

- **October 26: The Shining**

Thurs., Oct. 20
Thurs., Nov. 10

Urban History Seminars

Learn from the experts at these intimate gatherings, each featuring a scholarly presentation and lively discussion. Reception with cash bar at 5:45 p.m. Dinner at 6:15 p.m. Presentation at 7:00 p.m. Tickets \$20.

- **October 20: Commerce and Chicago: Ziegfeld’s Cosmopolitan Chicago** presented by Susan E. Hirsch, Loyola-Chicago

- **November 10: The Thin Blue Picket Line: Labor Politics and the Chicago Police in the Late 20th Century** presented by Megan Adams, UC-Berkeley

Wed., Nov. 2
Tues., Nov. 8
Tues., Nov. 15

Crime in Chicago Seminars

Join us for an exploration of Chicago crime from historical and contemporary perspectives. All programs begin at 7:00 p.m. \$10, \$8 members. All three lectures \$27, \$22 members.

- **November 2: The Chicago Historical Homicide Project: 1870-1910**

Discover the nature of murder in Chicago through cases both famous and forgotten with Leigh Bienen, director of the Chicago Historical Homicide Project. Bienen’s work is based on primary police and court reports, and her lecture juxtaposes historic patterns of homicide with the modern day.

- November 8: **The Chicago "Outfit"**

Join mob expert Arthur Bilek for a discussion of the history of the "Outfit" from its earliest days, through the defining prosecutions of the 1990s, to the recent Operation Family Secrets. Bilek is an author and executive vice president of the Chicago Crime Commission.

- November 15: **Street Gangs in Chicago**

John M. Hagedorn leads an exploration of the historical roots of gangs in Gaslight-Era Chicago and a discussion of contemporary gangs and their historical representations. Hagedorn is an inner-city gang expert and professor of Criminal Justice. Author Richard Lindberg assists with this program.

Off-Site Guided Tours

Bus Tours

Tours meet at the Chicago History Museum, unless otherwise noted. It is recommended to arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled tour time.

Reservations required. Tickets are \$45 (\$40 members) or \$115 for three (\$110 members). Tours run 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Sat., Oct. 1

Hot Time in the City: The Great Chicago Fire

Sound the alarm! Blaze through town with historian Al Walavich, visiting sites related to this amazing story of tragedy and triumph. Please leave all lanterns and/or cows at home.

Sat., Oct. 15

Devil in the White City

Sat., Dec. 10

Experience the excitement of life in 1893 Chicago on this popular tour based on Erik Larson's best-selling book. Follow the trails of Daniel Burnham and learn about the devilish doings of H.H. Holmes.

Sat., Oct. 22

Chicago's Literary Infrastructure

Great writers need an urban infrastructure to thrive. Bill Savage of Northwestern University leads this tour of the spots that nurtured (or hindered) Chicago's greatest writers and the places they depicted.

Sat., Nov. 5

Sat., Nov. 12

Sat., Nov. 19

Chicago Crime Scene Bus Tours

Richard Lindberg, author of 15 books about Chicago history, politics, crime and sports, will lead three separate bus tours in conjunction with our "Crime in Chicago" seminar series.

- November 5: **The Chicago Outfit**

We'll tour famous and forgotten organized crime scene locales and the residences of organized crime figures in Chicago.

- November 12: **Murder and Mayhem in Chicago: North by Northwest**

Visit Chicago's historic underworld on the North and Northwest sides. Discuss what happened where, the aftermath, and historical implications on Chicago's identity.

- November 19: **Murder and Mayhem in Chicago: South and West**

Visit Chicago's historic underworld on the South and West sides. Discuss what happened where, the aftermath, and historical implications on Chicago's identity.

Sat., Dec. 3

Sacred Spaces

This annual favorite returns. Get in the holiday spirit with architectural historian Rolf Achilles as he guides us through some of Chicago's most beautiful, non-traditional sacred spaces.

'L' Tours

Select Sundays, all tours begin at 1:00 p.m. and last approximately two to two and half hours. Meet at the Concierge Desk of the Palmer House Chicago, 17 E. Monroe. Ticket price includes a one-day CTA transit pass. \$16,\$11 Members. **Reservations are required.** Walk-ups cannot be accepted.

Sun., Oct. 2
Sun., Nov. 6

Brown Line

Thread through the treetops between historic buildings, back porches and pocket yards, and learn about the broad ethnic heritage, farming history and noteworthy architecture of Chicago's north-side neighborhoods.

Sun., Oct. 9

Green Line South

Ride Chicago's oldest 'L' and retrace the urban expansion that created the dynamic South Side, home to mansions and public housing, railroads and stockyards, decline and rebirth. We'll stop and stroll once or twice to visit Bronzeville and the Illinois Institute of Technology campus.

Sun., Oct. 16
Sun., Nov. 13

Green Line West

Learn about West Side neighborhoods, whose common residents include heavy-duty industries, railroads and old factories, alongside some of the city's gems. The tour will visit a few sites along the way, such as the historic Garfield Park Conservatory and Oak Park.

Sun., Oct. 23

The Loop 'L'

Greg Borzo, author of *The Chicago 'L,'* leads this journey of the Loop L. The tour includes commentary about stations and buildings along the route and amazing photographic opportunities. Please be prepared for 1.5 miles of walking.

Sun., Nov. 20

Blue Line

Long before the Blue Line ran to O'Hare, it was the most ambitious of the city's original 'L' lines. Travel above and below ground through the renovated "Paulina Connector," Pilsen and Wicker Park, and learn about the history of the subways.

Walking Tours

Spend a morning enjoying the outdoors and learning more about your city. \$15,\$10 Members unless otherwise noted.

Sat., Oct. 1
Sat., Oct. 15
Sat., Nov. 5
10:00 a.m. – noon

Glitzy Gold Coast

Whisk away to a time when Chicago's rich and famous caroused on the coast. Learn about the city's early history, founders, public art, and architecture. Meets at the Chicago History Museum.

Sat., Oct. 8
Sat., Nov. 19
10:00 a.m. – noon

The Old Town Trek

From Germans to hippies to yuppies, Old Town has seen an assortment of residents come and go. Discover the neighborhood's colored past and vibrant present. Meets at the Chicago History Museum.

Sat., Oct. 15
Sat., Nov. 12
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Out in Andersonville

Andersonville was settled in the 1850s by Swedish immigrants. Local lesbians began claiming it as their own in the 1980s, and today the area is home to a thriving LGBT community. Join us on an exploration of the rich history of one of the city's oldest neighborhoods. Meets at the corner of Clark and Argyle Streets.

<p>Sat., Oct. 22 Sat., Nov. 12 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Saturdays in the Park: Oz Park Stroll down the yellow-brick road. Learn the history of Oz Park and Chicago’s influence on the creation of L. Frank Baum’s beloved story. Meets at the corner of Webster Avenue and Burling Street. Presented in collaboration with the Oz Park Advisory Council.</p>
<p>Sat., Oct. 29 10:00 a.m. – noon & 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Sun., Oct. 30 10:00 a.m. – noon & 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Mon., Oct. 31 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Graceland Cemetery Ghosts and ghouls beware! Experience the history of Old Chicago as you venture through one of the country’s most famous cemeteries. Celebrate Halloween as Al Walavich takes you a fascinating tour through the graves of Graceland Cemetery, including those of famous Chicagoans Marshall Field, Louis Sullivan, Potter and Bertha Palmer, and George Pullman. Meet at the entrance at Irving Park Road and Clark Street.</p>
<p>Sat., Nov. 5 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Out in Lakeview At the turn of the 20th century, Lakeview was a burgeoning suburb full of affordable single family homes. The construction of Wrigley Field made the neighborhood a destination. And in the 1970s, the area started to blossom thanks to the arrival of LGBT businesses. Come explore the history and architecture of what is the country’s first officially recognized gay neighborhood.</p>
<p>Sun., Nov. 6 Sun., Nov. 20 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Bohemian National Cemetery: After Hours! Join us on an exclusive and unique opportunity as we tour Bohemian National Cemetery after hours. Spanning 126 acres, Bohemian National Cemetery contains one of the city’s finest collections of funerary art and was founded as a last resting place for persons of Czech (Bohemian, Moravian, and Slovakian) descent. We’ll begin our journey just before closing time and end our experience after dusk. Headlamps or flashlights recommended. Reservations required. Space is extremely limited for this rare opportunity. \$30, \$25 members.</p>
<p>Bike Tours</p>	<p>Participants must be able to maintain a pace of 12 to 14 mph. Helmets are mandatory: no exceptions. Bring your own bike and helmet. Tickets are \$25, \$20 members.</p>
<p>Sun., Oct. 16 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Ride Like the Devil Cycle into Chicago’s past, discovering the fascinating history behind the 1893 world’s fair. This 20-mile tour is led by Greg Borzo, author of <i>Where to Bike Chicago</i>, and includes stories about Daniel Burnham’s buildings and H.H. Holmes’ devilish doings.</p>
<p>Pub Crawl Tours</p>	<p>Meeting locations of pub crawls are provided when tickets are purchased. Ticket price does not include beverages, but history pub crawl participants will receive drink specials at each location. All history pub crawls are \$30, \$25 for members unless otherwise noted.</p>
<p>Fri., Oct. 7 Fri., Nov. 4 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Chicago’s Greatest Dives Feeling ready for the poor house? Join us as we pour into some of Chicago’s best dive bars. We’ll learn about the history behind each drinking den we visit and discuss the history behind moonshine, bathtub gin, and other historically homemade drinks.</p>

- Thurs., Oct. 13
Thurs., Oct. 20
Thurs., Oct. 27
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- BOO-ze! Haunted History Pub Crawl**
Travel by trolley to some of Chicago’s most haunted drinking establishments. Get a glimpse into the city’s paranormal past as you enjoy “spirits” on this spooktacular pub crawl.
- Sun. Oct. 16
Sun., Nov. 13
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Booze, Bars and Bootlegging! Prohibition Era Chicago**
Travel by trolley to speakeasies frequented by the likes of Capone, Moran, and Dillinger. Learn how Prohibition came to be and how it shaped the city and its image. \$35, \$30 members.
- Fri., Nov. 11
6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
- The Western Ave. Project**
Spanning approximately 24 miles, Western Avenue is Chicago’s longest street. Over the course of four days, two individuals visited the thoroughfare’s 64 bars and recorded their adventures in the Western Avenue Project. This history-filled bus excursion includes a screening of the film and stops at four taverns (one from each day). \$35, \$30 members.
- Thurs., Dec. 8
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- Deck the Pubs! Holiday Cheer, Glitz, & Glam**
Bury the bah-humbug and ring in the holidays with the Chicago History Museum! We’ll visit drinking establishments full of over the top seasonal décor whilst learning about how these traditions came to be. We’ll explore the history behind some of your favorite holiday stories and cocktails as we learn about the great tinselled-out taverns we visit.
- Kayak Tours**
All tours paddle approximately six miles and last about three hours. No experience required. Single kayak and tandems are available for all tours. Tickets are \$60, \$55 members.
- Sat. & Sun. in October
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Paddle into the Past**
Paddle into the past as you kayak along the architectural canyons of the Chicago River and learn about the city’s history. This guided tour is a workout for the brain and the body.

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The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission to the Museum is \$14 Adults with audio tour, \$12 Seniors, Students with audio tour, free for Children 12 years and younger.