

Chicago History Museum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Attention: Calendar Listing Editors and Reporters Chicago calendar listings for Jan., Feb., and March 2012

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CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM CALENDAR OF EVENTS December 2011, January and February 2012

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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 Noon – 5 p.m.

Special Holiday Hours:
Sunday, January 1: Closed

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

RESEARCH CENTER HOURS
(Through May 2012)
Tuesday – Friday 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY
CLOSED 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. Resident Discount Days at the Museum are on:

- January 16, 2012
- February 5-29, 2012

Exhibitions/Installations

Through January 2

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

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

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 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.

Through March 26

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.

Through April 16

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

Thurs., Jan. 19
Thurs., Feb. 9
Thurs., March 8

Out at CHM

Entering its 9th year, *Out at CHM* explores the long and storied history of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people in Chicago.

- **January 19: Chicago in Leather**

Home to America's first leather bar, the Windy City is rich with LGBT leather history. Join us to discuss the importance of leather motorcycle and backpatch clubs, bars, and women's groups and spaces. Panelists will also explore how gender and sexual orientation have co-existed through the past five decades. *This program is offered in collaboration with the Leather Archives & Museum.* 5:30 p.m. cocktails 6:30 p.m. program \$12, \$10 members and students.

- **February 9: Bayard Rustin at 100**

Bayard Rustin (1912–87) was instrumental in bringing Gandhi's protest techniques from India to America. Rustin was a mentor to Martin Luther King Jr., and an organizer of the seminal 1963 March on Washington. Despite his achievements, Rustin was expunged from history—largely because he dared to be an openly gay man during a fiercely homophobic era. Join filmmaker Bennett Singer and Rustin's life partner Walter Naegle for a conversation on Rustin's life and legacy. \$12, \$10 members and students.

- **March 8: Curators Bare All**

Join curators Jill Austin and Jennifer Brier as they share the thrills and chills of mounting an exhibition on Chicago's LGBT history and confess to their own trials and tribulations. See the exhibition before it closes and gain their unique perspectives on telling queer history in a public museum. Curators Bare All starts at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails and with the program starting at 6:30 p.m. \$12, \$10 members and students.

Commemorative Programs

Mon., Jan. 16
Mon., Feb. 20

Martin Luther King Jr. Day at CHM
Presidents' Day: Kids in the White House!

- **January 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

CHM will commemorate the life, legacy and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Using family activities, crafts and music that honors Dr. King, the program brings to life Dr. King's message of peace and justice. The Writers' Theatre will be on hand for a performance of The MLK Project. Weaving together poetry, hip-hop and history, The MLK Project: The Fight for Civil Rights is a touring one-woman show that

follows a young girl's search for truth and self-discovery through the American Civil Rights Movement.

- February 20: **Kids in the White House!**
What if your dad was Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, or President Barack Obama? Imagine living in a big white house with 132 rooms, an eighteen-acre yard, secret agents to play with, and dignitaries, celebrities, and kings to meet. Celebrate this Presidents' Day by discovering stories about "First Kids" in the White House, through dramatic performances, music, and craft activities for the entire family. Cost: Free and includes complimentary Museum admission

Public Programs

Sun., Feb. 12

Project Sunday

This documentary film series is FREE with museum admission. All films begin at 1:30 p.m.

- February 12: **Behind the Burly Q**
Burlesque was once one of America's most popular forms of live entertainment. Gaudy, bawdy, and spectacular, the shows entertained thousands every night. Behind the Burly Q reveals the true history of burlesque and the stories of those who lived it. Join filmmaker Leslie Zemeckis for a Q&A session immediately after the film. 98 minutes.

Sat., Jan. 7

LGBT Film Series

Sat., Jan. 14

Each day, we'll screen an assortment of films that focus on the LGBT community.

Sat., Jan. 21

Every Saturday in January. Films begin at 10 a.m. and run continuously

Sat., Jan. 28

until 4:30 p.m. FREE with Museum admission.

- January 7
 - *Free To Be You and Me* (48 minutes)
 - *Hell Divin' Women* (30 minutes)
 - *Two Spirits* (65 minutes)
 - *The Strange History of Don't Ask, Don't Tell* (79 minutes)
 - *Milk* (128 minutes)
- January 14
 - *It's Still Elementary* (51 minutes)
 - *Hannah Free* (86 minutes)
 - *Small Town Gay Bar* (76 minutes)
 - *Go Fish* (83 minutes)
 - *Imagine Me & You* (94 minutes)
- January 21
 - *Daddy & Papa* (57 minutes)
 - *Becoming Chaz* (88 minutes)
 - *Out & Proud in Chicago* (96 minutes)
 - *Philadelphia* (125 minutes)
- January 28
 - *Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin* (84 minutes)
 - *I Am the Queen* (78 minutes)
 - *If These Walls Could Talk 2* (97 minutes)
 - *The Kids Are Alright* (106 minutes)

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., Feb. 14

Ben Reitman’s Hobohemia

Join us for a recreation of the “picturesque strolls” through West Madison Street, Clark Street, and Towertown led by the “king of the hobos” Dr. Ben Lewis Reitman (presented by Paul Durica). Explore a handful of transient sites made famous by Reitman’s tours in the early twentieth century and learn the Hobo Code on this interactive excursion.

Pub Crawls

These monthly walking or trolley tours allow you the chance to get a taste of Chicago in a unique way by visiting four or five historic watering holes. Inside each location, you’ll have time for a drink as your guide recounts the history of the establishment and its surrounding neighborhood. **Reservations required.**

Thurs., Jan. 19

Magical Whiskey Tour

Get frisky on this multi-sensory journey of whiskey. Mixologist Angie Jackson educates us about the history and distillation of this exciting elixir as we sip our way through four bars dedicated to the wonderful world of whiskey. The tour includes four whiskey tastings, one at each tavern. The tour runs 7–10 p.m. \$45, \$40 Members.

Fri., Jan. 20

Chicago’s Greatest Dives

Feeling a bit in 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 historic homemade drinks. The tour runs 1–4 p.m. \$30, \$25 members.

Sun., Feb. 12

Sunday Bloody Sunday

Visit some of the city’s best Bloody Mary bars. Whether the subject is Valentine’s Day or the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre, we’ll discuss a potpourri of history and gain insight into the storied past of each tavern we visit. The tour runs 1–4 p.m. \$30, \$25 members.

Thurs., Feb.23

Out in Chicago Pub Crawl

Join us on a colorful adventure as we visit historic LGBT bars throughout the city. Learn about the history of LGBT Chicago and other fun facts in conjunction with our exhibition Out in Chicago. The tour runs 7–10 p.m. \$30, \$25 Members.

Sun., Feb. 26

Booze, Bars, and Bootlegging

Find out what makes Chicago untouchable. Get a taste of infamous speakeasies frequented by some of Chicago’s infamous gangsters like Capone, Moran, and Dillinger. On this trolley tour, learn how prohibition came to be, some fascinating facts about the era, and how it ultimately shaped the city and its image. The tour runs 1–4 p.m. \$35, \$30 members.

Sat., March 10

Devil in the White City

Experience the excitement of life in 1893 Chicago on this unique 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 as you learn about the 1893 World’s Fair. The tour runs 1–5 p.m. \$45, \$40 members.

Sat., March 24

Sweet Soul Music: Chicago Soul of the 60s and 70s

Although Chicago doesn't get as much credit as Memphis or Detroit for being a major outpost of soul music during the Civil Rights era, the talent and hits that emanated from this area were indispensable and quite influential. Writer, musician, and DJ, James Porter will be your host on this journey that explains why the Windy City was an important center of soul.

Sat., March 31

Chicago's Music Scene: The 1970s

Join music writer, **Stu Shea**, for a ride down memory lane to learn who played rock and roll, jazz, and blues in Chicago during the 1970s and where they played it. In addition to learning about bands like **Chicago**, the **Ides of March**, and **Cheap Trick**, you'll visit the Lincoln Avenue corridor, the triad of theaters at Lawrence & Broadway, and find out where Chicago's manager fed thousands of DePaul students.

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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 for with audio tour, \$12 for Seniors, Students with audio tour and free for Children 12 years and younger.