



## **NACUA 2006 Annual Conference Chicago, IL**

### **Chicago Work Group on Local Arrangements Local Attractions and Events Guide**

*The following attractions and local events have been recommended by members of NACUA's Chicago [Work Group on Local Arrangements](#). If you have additional suggestions for this list, please contact Miriam Miller at [msm@nacua.org](mailto:msm@nacua.org)*

### ***Special Events During Annual Conference Week***

#### ***Baseball Games***

##### **Chicago Cubs Games**

The Cubs play at [Wrigley Field](#), built in 1914 and the second-oldest Major League ballpark in the country, and will be at home June 26-29 for four games vs. the Milwaukee Brewers and on June 30-July 2 for an inter-league series with the Chicago White Sox.

[Cubs tickets may be purchased in advance on-line.](#)

**Work Group Tip!:** Single game tickets are close to being sold out, and many remaining seats are obstructed view. Daytime games may have increased availability. Season ticket holders sometimes turn in extra tickets to the Box Office on game day, and they may be made available for sale.



Box office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Group tickets may be obtained in advance via

Cubs group sales (773) 404-2827. There are also ticket broker offices surrounding the ballpark as well.

### **Chicago White Sox Games**

Chicago's team since 1900, the White Sox will be at home June 23-25 vs. the Houston Astros and July 3-6 versus the Baltimore Orioles. [White Sox tickets may be purchased in advance on-line.](#)

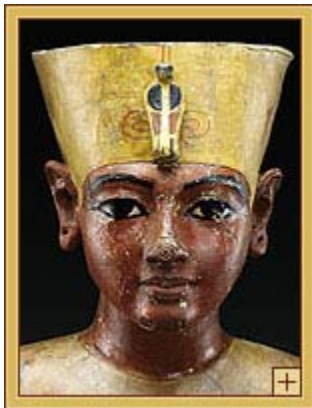
### ***Leonardo DaVinci Exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry***



Explore an interactive exhibit on the innovations and inventions of Leonardo DaVinci. Exhibit attendees will have the opportunity to test Leonardo's flying machines and a seven foot catapult, view more than 100 invention sketches in 3-D format, and see replicas of commissioned sculptures.

Additional exhibits at the museum include the only U-505 Submarine in the United States, a functioning chick hatchery, a miniature fairy castle, a walk through human heart, and more. Advance Admission Tickets may be purchased on-line via [the museum website.](#)

### ***King Tut Exhibit at The Field Museum***



Beginning May 26, The Field Museum will host [Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs!](#) Visitors to the new exhibition-twice the size of the original 1977 exhibition-will view stunning artifacts that portray the splendors of life and death in the 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty.

[Tickets are available now.](#) We expect this event to sell out quickly, and encourage interested attendees to purchase tickets as early as possible.

## ***Taste of Chicago***

**Taste of Chicago** is the world's largest food festival held annually in Chicago. It is put together by the **Mayor's Office of Special Events** from **June 30-July 9**. Every year millions of Chicagoans and tourists flock to **Grant Park** to enjoy the variety of food Chicago's most popular restaurants cook for festival attendees. Events also include live music and performances, mainly by famous local artists, but nationally known artists like headline every night. All events are free. July 3rd is by far the "Taste's" most attended day.



## ***Permanent Events and Attractions***

Chicago is home to a variety of spectacular attractions for visitors of all ages. We invite you to explore all that Chicago has to offer!

### ***Architecture***

Visitors from around the world come to Chicago, the birthplace of the modern building, to admire its architectural marvels. From historic landmark buildings to contemporary technological masterpieces, Chicago is built of the unique and innovative designs that have shaped American architecture. The city is a living museum of architecture thanks to the work of such greats as Daniel Burnham, Louis Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Helmut Jahn and hundreds of others.

### **Architectural Boat Cruises**

**Chicago Line Cruises** offers 90 minute riverboat cruises with complimentary Starbucks coffee, lemonade, fresh-baked muffins and cookies. Cruises depart hourly. Passage is \$28 per Adult.

### **Chicago Architecture Foundation**

Architects and preservationists founded the **Chicago Architecture Foundation** in 1966 to save H. H. Richardson's Glessner House, one of Chicago's oldest residences. The fight to save it increased awareness of Chicago's architecture.

The ArchiCenter offers changing exhibits, lectures, classes, and a museum shop. It also has permanent exhibits in CitySpace, including a scale model of the 16-square-mile downtown area; video interviews with



famous architects; and interactive virtual tours at three kiosks.

A variety of [tours](#) are offered, including boat, bus, and walking tours. Reservations are encouraged for boat and bus tours.

### **Frank Lloyd Wright Tours**



[The Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio](#), located in nearby Oak Park, served as Wright's private residence and workplace from 1889 to 1909 - the first 20 years of his career. The Home offers [a variety of tour options](#).

## ***Chicago Attractions***

### **American Girl Store**

Across the street from the historic Water Tower and overlooking Lake Michigan, you'll find [American Girl Place Chicago](#). The store offers [afternoon tea](#) for girls and their dolls at \$17 per person. This event is very popular, and we encourage interested attendees to make reservations early!

### **Buckingham Fountain at Grant Park**

The [Buckingham Fountain](#), one of the largest in the world, is located at Columbus Drive (301 East) and Congress Parkway (500 South) in Grant Park. Beginning at dusk, every hour on the hour for 20 minutes the fountain's major water display is accompanied by a major light and music display. The final display of the evening begins at 10:00 p.m.



### **The Hancock Observatory**



[The Hancock Observatory](#) is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. (last ticket sold at 10:45 p.m.) and is located at John Hancock Center, 875 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago. The newly renovated Hancock Observatory will meet your loftiest expectations! Experience spectacular views spanning up to 80 miles and 4 states.

Admission is \$9.95 for Adults, \$7.50 for Seniors, and \$6.00 for Children 5-12. Children 4 and Under are free. Admission does not include

local amusement tax. **Individual Sky Tours** are \$3 with admission and “Tours for Two,” shared audio tours (one Sky Tour - two headphones), are \$4 with admission. [Group admission](#) and Sky Tours rates are available for parties of 20 or more.

## **Navy Pier**

[Navy Pier](#) is the city’s lakefront playground. The Pier offers visitors a unique blend of family-oriented attractions from the quiet, serene setting of the Crystal Gardens to the magnificent beauty of [the Smith Museum of Stained Glass Windows](#). The Pier also boasts the [150-foot high Ferris wheel](#), [a musical carousel](#), the [Chicago Children’s Museum](#), a [variety of restaurants](#) and the Chicago Shakespeare Theater.



## **Sears Tower Skydeck**

[The Sears Tower Skydeck](#) is the highest observatory in Chicago. Visitors can see 40 – 50 miles (65 - 80 kilometers) on a clear day, including views of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.



Visitors will see interactive, museum-quality exhibits on the inside walls of the Skydeck paint Chicago’s past and present. Big or little, every kid gets the best view and overview of Chicago with this kid-level display that extends all the way around the Skydeck. Cool cut-out windows put kids eye-to-eye with Chicago history, sports and more.

In June, the Skydeck will be open from 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. daily. The best time to visit is after 4pm.

Tickets to the Skydeck are \$11.95 for Adults, \$9.95 for Seniors \$8.50 for Children 3-and free for Children Under 3.

## **Museums**

Chicago is world-renowned for its diverse collection of museums, which explore a variety of subjects including Chicago history, art, African-American culture, astronomy, natural history and much more.

### **Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum**

[The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum](#) is America’s first Planetarium. A [variety of ticket options](#) are available. There are [several shows daily](#) in the **StarRider Theater** and **Sky Theater**. The Adler is also home to more than 35,000 square feet of exhibits. From scale models of the Solar System, to ancient astronomical



instruments, to interactive adventures, our exhibit galleries provide a passageway for you to explore the universe.

## Art Institute of Chicago



The [Art Institute of Chicago](#) is The Art Institute of Chicago, founded in 1879 as both a museum and school, first stood on the southwest corner of State and Monroe Streets. It opened on its present site at Michigan Avenue and Adams Street in 1893. Built on rubble from the 1871 Chicago fire, the museum housed a collection of plaster casts and had a visionary purpose: to acquire and exhibit art of all kinds and to conduct programs of education. The collection now encompasses more than 5,000 years of human expression from cultures around the world, and the school's graduate program is continually ranked as

one of the best in the country. Within the next decade, a new complex will continue this process of growth.

[Several special exhibitions](#) are scheduled during Annual Conference Week.

[The Kraft Education Center](#) offers family-friendly spaces, complete with exhibitions, games, puzzles, and a children's library. See original illustrations from children's picture books, listen to stories, play an interactive computer game, or explore world cultures in an exhibition just for children, [Faces, Places, and Inner Spaces](#).

The museum is open every day except Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Security guards begin to close the galleries 15 minutes before the end of the day. **Suggested Admission Fees** are \$12 for Adults and \$7 for Children, Students, and Seniors. Children five and under are free.

## Chicago Cultural Center

[The Chicago Cultural Center](#) serves as the city's official reception venue where the Mayor has welcomed Presidents and royalty, diplomats and community leaders.

The nation's first free municipal cultural center, the Chicago Cultural Center is one of the city's ten most popular attractions and is considered one of the most comprehensive arts showcases in the United States. Each year, the Chicago Cultural Center features more than 1,000 programs and exhibitions

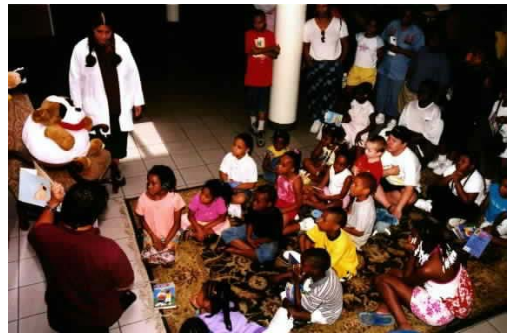
covering a wide range of the performing, visual and literary arts. Programming is aimed at increasing public awareness of the arts, and school tours and learning guides are provided to enhance the public's appreciation of the landmark building and enjoyment of its diverse programs and exhibitions.



## **DuSable Museum of African-American History**

[The DuSable Museum of African-American History](#) is the oldest museum of its type in the country and is the only major independent institution in Chicago established to preserve and interpret the historical experiences and achievements of African-Americans.

The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sundays from Noon - 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$3.00 for Adults, \$2.00 for Students and Seniors, and \$1.00 for Children 6-13. Children under 6 are free. Admission to the museum on Sundays is free.



## Field Museum of Natural History

The [Field Museum of Natural History](#) was founded to house the biological and anthropological collections assembled for the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. These objects form the core of the Museum's collections which have grown through world-wide expeditions, exchange, purchase, and gifts to more than twenty million specimens. The Museum is home to [Sue](#), the largest, most complete, and best preserved *Tyrannosaurus rex* fossil yet discovered.



A variety of [admission options](#) are available.

## Loyola Museum of Art

The [Loyola University Museum of Art \(LUMA\)](#) is dedicated to the exploration, promotion and understanding of art and artistic expression and attempts to illuminate the enduring spiritual questions and concerns of all cultures and societies.



The Museum interprets and displays the university's medieval, renaissance and baroque collection, known as the [Martin D'Arcy, SJ, Collection](#), other museum permanent collections and rotating exhibitions. As a museum with an interest in education and educational programming, the LUMA reflects the university's Jesuit mission and is dedicated to helping men and women of all creeds explore the roots of their own faith and spiritual quest. Several [special exhibitions](#) will be ongoing during Annual Conference week.

For museum hours, suggested ticket prices, and directions, visit [the LUMA website](#).

## Museum of Contemporary Art

One of the nation's largest facilities devoted to the art of our time, the [Museum of Contemporary Art \(MCA\)](#) offers exhibitions of the most thought-provoking art created since 1945. The MCA documents contemporary visual culture through painting, sculpture, photography, video and film, and performance. Located in the heart of downtown Chicago, the MCA boasts a gift store, bookstore, restaurant, 300-seat theater, and a terraced sculpture garden with a great view of Lake Michigan.



## Shedd Aquarium/Oceanarium

[The Shedd Aquarium](#) offers the world's largest array of more than 8,000 aquatic mammals, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates and fish. The Shedd's magnificent Oceanarium is the world's largest marine mammal pavilion and is home to Beluga whales, dolphins, Alaskan sea otters, seals and penguins. The Aquarium's [Kid's Quest Program](#) includes exhibits and activities for all ages. The museum is open daily in June from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., and [a variety of ticket options are available.](#)

## Shopping



A visit to Chicago would be incomplete without a shopping spree! Shopping in Chicago began on [State Street](#) (that great street!) with the opening of the original Marshall Field's Department store in 1852. State Street is also home to another famous Chicago department store, [Carson Pirie Scott](#), where customers are drawn into the entrance of the store by the ornate ironwork designed by Chicago architect Louis Sullivan in 1899.

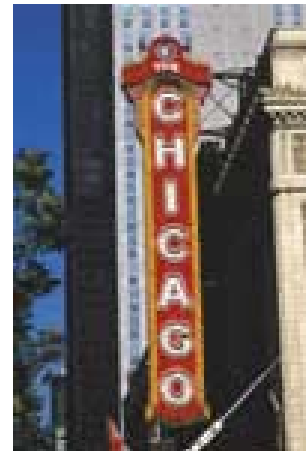
A shopping spree must include a visit to the famed "[Magnificent Mile.](#)" location of NACUA's Conference Hotel, which runs along Michigan Avenue from Oak Street to the Chicago River. Amidst department store giants, Marshall Field's, Neiman Marcus, Lord & Taylor, Saks Fifth Avenue and Bloomingdale's, are hundreds of specialty shops and boutiques offering goods from around the world.

## Performing Arts

### Theater

Chicago is home to a vital, vast and varied community of theatrical companies, as well as several large independent theaters, where you'll find everything from traveling Broadway mega-hits to experimental theater, to Chicago's famous improvisational groups that display the wit and humor of the Second City.

Thursday night is fast becoming *the* night to check out Chicago's lively theater scene. [Theater Thursdays](#) is a new promotion offering special events and ticket discounts for Thursday evening performances at league-member theaters all over Chicago. Check out the [League of Chicago's website](#) for listings of theater performances around town.



Longstanding favorites in Chicago include [The Second City](#) and [Comedy Sportz](#) for comedy, and [Blue Man Group](#) for their quirky and unforgettable performances.

Half price theater tickets can be obtained at the [Chicago Visitors Center HotTix](#) booth. Booth hours are:

Tuesday-Friday: 10am-6pm

Saturday: 10am-6pm

Sunday: 12 Noon-5pm



***Wicked***, the untold story of the witches of Oz, based on the best-selling novel by Gregory Maguire, will be onstage at the **Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Oriental Theatre** at 24 West Randolph during annual conference week.

The theater is dark on Sunday nights and Monday. No children under 5 admitted. NACUA member **Jerry Mackey's** daughter is a member of the cast, and she has offered to give NACUA members attending the show a behind the scenes tour. If you are attending a performance of *Wicked* while you are in Chicago and are interested in a tour, please contact **Miriam Miller** at [msm@nacula.org](mailto:msm@nacula.org).

### **Live Music**

Chicago is a landmark city in the rich history of the Blues. Explore [The Chicago Blues Clubs Music Clubs & Venues directory from Centerstage Chicago](#).