671,743 ANNUAL ATTENDANCE

288,869 SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

27,864 KIDS AND FAMILIES SERVED

75 STAFF

70 SPEAKERS AT PUBLIC PROGRAMS

495,519 STORE VISITORS

450 DOCENTS

100 VISITOR EXPERIENCE VOLUNTEERS

1,600 MEMBERS

11,600 TOURN TAKERS

320,000 VISITS TO 213 SITES

328,869 SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

2016 BY THE NUMBERS
Chicago’s architecture is known around the world. Yet for many people, architecture and design remain obscure and distant languages. For 50 years, our docents and educators have worked to change this. We have shared the stories behind the buildings. We have shown that the story of Chicago architecture holds both challenges and triumphs. We have strived, for half a century, to inspire people to discover why design matters in their communities, cities and lives.

In 2016, CAF turned 50. Here’s a summary of this milestone year as we look toward a bright future.
What a year. While celebrating our 50th anniversary in 2016, we had the opportunity to reunite with volunteers, donors and members from CAF’s past. Through a variety of special events—including our 50th anniversary gala and a member loyalty reception for members who’ve been with us for more than 10 years—we spoke with hundreds of people who love CAF. At the core of these conversations was the idea that, over the last 50 years, a dedicated group of people have created not only the organization we call CAF, but also an entire culture of engagement around Chicago’s architecture and design.

Sometimes we forget that most cities do not have an “architecture foundation” or similar organization. We are so fortunate that the founders of CAF had the vision and the will to make something new. Today, Chicago is “a city of three million architecture critics,” as architect Jack Hartray has said. When a new skyscraper or park is proposed, the city’s residents are there to observe, to give feedback and to debate. We saw this in 2016 with major projects like the Obama Presidential Center and the Chicago Riverwalk. For many years, we have engaged with adults about these issues through our public programs and tours. In recent years, we have also begun to reach young people with opportunities like summer camps, workshops, online tools and field trips that teach the foundations of civic engagement.
After 50 years, CAF now faces a pivotal moment in our history. After decades of growth, it’s time to transition to a new location in downtown Chicago. As we prepare to move, we will always keep in mind the vision that our founders had. In a letter from 1972, CAF co-founder Marian Despres wrote, “The goal I would like to see us work toward is to make every child who goes to the Chicago Public Schools aware of [the built] environment so that he [or she] is prepared to know to ask for a livable city.” We’re on our way to that goal with the projects completed in 2016. In the next year and into the future, we have every expectation that CAF and our partners will reach and surpass that ideal.

Thank you for supporting CAF and for being a part of our first 50 years. Onward to the next 50!

JOHN PINTOZZI
CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

LYNN OSMOND, HON. AIA
PRESIDENT AND CEO
In 2016, CAF staff and volunteers served more than 671,000 people. Highlights from our tours, exhibitions, programs and education activities are presented in the following pages. This work would not be possible without the support and generosity of foundation, government, corporate and individual funders.

2016 was CAF’s 50th anniversary year. In celebration of that milestone, CAF presented a variety of special projects, including:

- 50th “Birthday Bash” on April 16, including visits to architecture firms, talks, film screenings (and birthday cake!)
- Seeing the City: Celebrating 50 Years of the Chicago Architecture Foundation, a 128-page book and accompanying exhibition in the CAF Lecture Hall Gallery
- 50th anniversary Gala and special member events throughout the year
- Special 50th anniversary edition of CAF’s Scavenger Hunt featuring 50 clues on 50 bus shelters all over the city
- A line of commemorative products for the CAF Store, including a periodic table of Chicago architecture with building icons designed by local architects
In 2016, we served nearly 28,000 youth, teens and educators with low and no-cost programs. Throughout the year, CAF continued work on a three-year strategy to expand and increase the impact of our education programs. Here’s a look at the highlights of that work.

**OUR WORK INCLUDES THREE CORE AREAS**

**Kids and Families**
Activities for children ages 3–13, including summer camps, family festivals and programs in the ArcelorMittal Design Studio. In 2016, we hosted 11 LEGO® Build events, five different summer camps and dozens of other programs.

**Teen Academy**
Programs for ages 13–18, including studio workshops, competitions and our multi-year Teen Fellows program. The Teen Academy also includes the Newhouse Architecture and Design Competition (now in its 34th year) and DiscoverDesign.org (see page 8).

**Educator Institute**
The Institute for educators and mentors includes class field trips, professional training for teachers and volunteer opportunities for architects, designers and other professionals.

PHOTOS (left to right) OHC attendee photographs the Yale Building, photo by Brett Hayes; Engineering Fest 2016 in the ArcelorMittal Design Studio.
Teen Fellows is a two-year immersive program. Fellows meet on weekends, school holidays and throughout the summer to explore architecture, design and urban planning. The program supports career pathway development for Chicago Public Schools students from populations historically underrepresented in architecture, construction, engineering and design professions. Students apply to the program as they enter 10th grade and finish as they enter 12th grade.

In 2016, the first 15 Teen Fellows presented their year-one final presentations. They will graduate from the program at the end of next year as the class of 2017, supported by a gift in memory of Robert D. Rodgers by Beverly J. Rodgers. In the fall, we also recruited the Teen Fellows class of 2018, supported by the CAF Auxiliary Board. All Teen Fellows have opportunities for local, regional and national field trips, as well as paid internships at local architecture and design firms.

In 2016, CAF began working on Meet Your City, our three-year citywide civic education initiative. Using the city as a canvas, we’re working with students and teachers to explore urban planning and to address the civic education gap. At the center of this initiative is a new graphic novel, No Small Plans, which will be used in classrooms and in Chicago Public Libraries. Meet Your City also includes teacher professional development trainings, curriculum resources and workshops that explore the question, “What makes a good neighborhood?”

In July and August 2016, we hosted our first Design Your Neighborhood workshops for teens. These workshops served 600 high school students in partnership with the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS). Through their time with CAF, students learned about how Chicago was built and shared their ideas about what all neighborhoods need. For many students, the workshop at CAF was their first time visiting downtown Chicago. They also went on a neighborhood bus tour to explore Greektown, Little Italy, Pilsen, Chinatown and Bronzeville.

PHOTOS (top to bottom) Design Your Neighborhood workshop, photo by Gabrielle Lyon; a student sketching during a CAF studio workshop; Teen Fellows in New York City. Photos by Jesse Banwart.
THE NEW DISCOVER DESIGN.ORG

Launched in 2012, DiscoverDesign.org is an online platform where students, teachers and mentors come together to design solutions for real-world challenges. Individuals and classrooms of students can use the website. Users tackle projects like brainstorming affordable housing prototypes, sketching school lockers of the future and redesigning the blocks they live on. The website is free and accessible to everyone.

In September 2016, CAF unveiled a fully redesigned DiscoverDesign. The website is now easier to navigate and works just as well on a smartphone as it does on a computer. Since the launch of the new version, students are flooding in from more states and countries than ever before. More than 1,000 design challenges have already been completed.

Students can now upload photos, articles, drawings, social media posts, videos and other artifacts to support their designs. “It gets them to not just use media, but to think critically about it and justify why a piece of media makes sense for their final product,” said Edgar Quintanilla, manager of DiscoverDesign. Students also earn digital badges for the skills they gained while working on design challenges.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, just 25 percent of architects are women. And in 2014, women represented 18 percent of undergraduate students graduating with degrees in engineering according to the National Center for Education Statistics. To provide more access to the fields of architecture, construction, engineering and design, CAF has established a new initiative called Girls Build.

Girls Build enables girls ages 11 to 14 to explore architecture and design alongside women professionals. With support from ArcelorMittal, Girls Build classes served 33 girls in 2016. In 2017, CAF will continue to grow the program and roll it out to more students across Chicago.
CAF is known around the world for our tours of Chicago and beyond. In 2016, more than 433,000 people participated in tours, an increase of 18,000 guests over 2015. All of our 85 different tours—whether by boat, bus, L train, bike, trolley or walking—are led by volunteer docents. This year alone, CAF’s 450 docents, along with 100 visitor experience volunteers and more than 2,000 other volunteers, contributed 40,520 hours to our organization’s mission. The very first class of docents graduated back in 1971. In the 45 years since that date, docents have led millions of people on more than 180,000 tours!

CAF offers more than 35 neighborhood tours in dozens of neighborhoods and in Chicago suburbs. Our most popular neighborhood tours include Wicker Park, Hyde Park, Graceland Cemetery and Frank Lloyd Wright in Oak Park. In 2016, we partnered with Big Bus Chicago to add an open-top bus tour led by CAF docents to their regular schedule. The Discover Chicago’s Historic Neighborhoods tour ran from March to October with daily departures. On the tour, patrons see several neighborhoods, including Greektown, Little Italy, Pilsen, Chinatown and Bronzeville. By the end of the season, more than 3,800 guests had participated, making it our most attended bus tour of 2016.
The CAF River Cruise continues to be our most popular tour. There are now more than 100 docents who are certified to lead this 90-minute tour. Through a strong partnership with Chicago’s First Lady Cruises, attendance continues to climb. At the end of 2015, the travel website TripAdvisor announced that the CAF River Cruise was the top tour in Chicago and “one of the top 10 tours in the U.S.” based upon TripAdvisor reviews. In 2017, docents will be keeping a close eye on the river as numerous new buildings spring up along its banks.
CAF offered 41 public programs in 2016 that were attended by 4,000 people, as well as our annual Open House Chicago festival that broke new attendance records with a staggering 100,000 participants. Speakers and presenters at programs totaled more than 70 experts in architecture, design, history and related fields. Throughout the year, CAF also rearranged program formats and began introducing new series. We now have six permanent program series that we will grow in 2017 and beyond.

CAF’s lecture series are Design Dialogues, Current Projects, Architect Talks, Architecture Is Art and Daytime Talks. Topics covered in 2016 lectures and talks include: reviews of the new projects along the Chicago River, advances in workplace design, the revitalization of Navy Pier and large project completions on area university campuses.

In partnership with the Museum of Contemporary Art, CAF offers the Architecture Is Art series that brings in designers of global distinction. In 2016, CAF hosted a conversation with Tod Williams and Billie Tsien, the architects who are leading the design of the Obama Presidential Center to be built in Chicago. As part of our Architect Talks series, we also hosted Gregg Pasquarelli of SHoP Architects and Francine Houben of Mecanoo Architects.

In 2016, CAF began hosting year-round adult education classes, including everything from small book clubs to multi-part lecture courses to hands-on studios. In total, 167 attendees took part in 11 class offerings.
Open House Chicago (OHC) is a free public festival that offers behind-the-scenes access to 200 buildings across Chicago. The sixth-annual OHC took place during the weekend of October 15–16, 2016. In two days, more than 100,000 attendees made 380,000 site visits to 213 sites in 18 Chicago neighborhoods plus the adjacent suburbs of Evanston and Oak Park. This is a four-fold increase over the inaugural event in 2011 and an 18 percent increase over OHC 2015 attendance. Participants came from all 50 states and more than 90 countries around the globe.

In a press conference on September 8, Mayor Rahm Emanuel and CAF President and CEO Lynn Osmond announced the OHC 2016 lineup of sites at the Yale Building in Englewood. This announcement included the new neighborhoods for OHC 2016: Englewood, Oak Park, West Town and Jefferson Park / Portage Park. Since 2011, OHC has attracted more than 1.4 million visits to 520 unique sites of architectural interest across Chicago. In just six years, attendees have contributed more than $33 million to the Chicago economy. Most importantly, the festival encourages people to discover their city. More than 289,000 people have improved perceptions of Chicago neighborhoods as a result of OHC.

PHOTO (left to right, top to bottom) Design Dialogues event, photo by Milosh Kosanovich; Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Cathedral in Ukrainian Village, photo by Jonathan Loïc Rogers; The Rookery, photo by Glenn Kaupert; OHC attendees take a selfie at 1611 West Division, photo by Jonathan Loïc Rogers.
In 2016, CAF hosted two new exhibitions, as well as our permanent exhibition, the Chicago Model, that were visited by 100,000 people. As part of our 50th anniversary, we debuted 50 Designers, 50 Ideas, 50 Wards in the Atrium Gallery and Seeing the City: Celebrating 50 Years of the Chicago Architecture Foundation in the Lecture Hall Gallery. Seeing the City ran from April 2016 to March 2017 and included photos and timelines chronicling the major events, programs and people who helped shaped CAF during our first five decades.

50 Designers, 50 Ideas, 50 Wards ran from May 2016 to February 2017. The exhibition was installed around the Chicago Model. It presented 50 designs for improving life and economic opportunity for people throughout Chicago. The exhibition was curated by local designers Martin Felsen and Sarah Dunn of UrbanLab.

Chicago has a long, productive tradition of envisioning its future through architectural proposals. This exhibition aimed to extend that tradition. Where historic plans often put forth visions of the city as a whole, 50 Designers, 50 Ideas, 50 Wards looks at the city as an expression of the opportunities and challenges facing the citizens in each ward. “Our goal is to inventory a new breed of architectural and infrastructural interventions that will foster social, creative and entrepreneurial interactions among Chicagoans,” said Martin Felsen, exhibition curator and co-founder of UrbanLab.

All 50 proposals in the exhibition were created by architects and designers who practice in Chicago. The design firms represent a range of ages and experience levels, including many younger or emerging practitioners who will likely shape the city over the next few decades. Individually, each of these proposals is smaller than something as grand as Daniel Burnham’s 1909 Plan of Chicago. An innovative playground, a seasonal outdoor theater or a streetscaping improvement is not a 26-mile plan for the waterfront. But taken together, these ideas could bind the city into an even more intelligently planned whole.
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2016

EXPENSES
- Tours: $10,801,964
- Public Programs: $2,669,524
- Retail Activities: $1,918,766
- Administration and Planning: $1,926,132
- Marketing and Promotion: $2,109,194
- Development: $863,690
- Membership: $424,766

REVENUES
- Tours: $15,616,207
- Development: $2,897,710
- Retail Activities: $1,995,792
- Membership: $943,780
- Public Programs: $275,097
- Administration and Planning: $24,667

71% 4% 13%
13% 71%
### Assets

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### Total Liabilities and Net Assets

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<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
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PHOTO Kemper Building, photographed by drone during OHC, photo by Razvan Sera and Anthony LaRosa.
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