Chicago Architecture Foundation Announces
2017 Open House Chicago Neighborhoods and Sites

Logan Square/Avondale neighborhood joins one of world’s largest architecture festivals

CHICAGO (Sept. 11, 2017) — Chicago Architecture Foundation today announced the neighborhoods and sites for this year’s Open House Chicago (OHC) – one of the largest architecture festivals in the world. For the first time Logan Square/Avondale is among the 20 neighborhoods and 2 suburbs hosting more than 250 sites, many rarely open to the public. This free two-day public event on October 14 and 15 offers behind-the-scenes access to repurposed mansions, stunning skyscrapers, opulent theaters, exclusive private clubs, industrial facilities, private offices and breathtaking sacred spaces.

“Open House Chicago is a celebration of Chicago – the city of neighborhoods – that gives everyone the opportunity to discover hidden gems and learn about the hundreds places and spaces that define our City,” said Lynn Osmond, President and CEO of CAF. “Chicago is known around the world as the birthplace of the skyscraper and the home of architects who still innovate and build higher and smarter. With OHC we show Chicagoans and visitors that our rich architectural legacy extends to every neighborhood.”

For the first time, Logan Square/Avondale is among the 22 communities hosting sites this year. Logan Square/Avondale has a rich history of welcoming new Chicagoans from Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, Mexico and Puerto Rico to its stately greystones and modest bungalows. The residents of the neighborhood have created and renewed a wide variety of cultural buildings. The area’s warehouse and manufacturing districts are being repurposed by a new generation of entrepreneurs.

Logan Square/Avondale will invite all of Chicago to explore twelve sites: Congress Theater and Logan Square Auditorium; Stan Mansion and Aloft Circus Arts; Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church and Armitage Baptist Church; Revolution Production Brewery, Chicago Distilling Company, and Metropolis Coffee Company; L-Logan Square, Pumping Station: One, and Northeastern Illinois University’s El Centro.

These new sites in Logan Square/Avondale will join an enormous variety of sites throughout Chicago, Oak Park and Evanston, including over 100 sites that are new to the event in 2017.

New sites include:

- First Church of Deliverance
- Bahá’í House of Worship
- St. Helen Roman Catholic Church
- Wintrust Arena
- 2650 North Lakeview
- Powhatan
Returning highlights include:

- Aon Center
- Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio
- Chicago Board of Trade Building
- The Yale Building
- Elks National Memorial
- Nichols Tower at Homan

Using a printed event guide printed and distributed by the Chicago Tribune, or openhousechicago.org, OHC guests can create their own self-guided experiences in 22 neighborhoods:

- Downtown
- Bridgeport / Back of the Yards
- Bronzeville
- Edgewater
- Englewood
- Evanston
- Garfield Park / North Lawndale
- Gold Coast/Near North Side
- Hyde Park / Woodlawn
- Lakeview
- Lincoln Park
- Lincoln Square / Ravenswood
- Logan Square / Avondale
- Near West Side
- Oak Park
- Pilsen
- Portage Park
- South Loop / Prairie Avenue
- South Shore
- Ukrainian Village
- Uptown
- West Town

For a complete list of participating sites, visit openhousechicago.org. Get the latest news and fun facts about OHC by following Chicago Architecture Foundation on Facebook (facebook.com/chiarchitecture) and Twitter (@chiarchitecture).

Access to OHC sites is free and does not require a reservation, but participants are encouraged to sign up to receive event newsletters and last-minute announcements. Sites will accept visitors on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition to free access, OHC offers activities in various sites all weekend long, including cultural performances, lectures and more.

Become a CAF member at architecture.org to receive a “Priority Access Pass” which grants you preferred access to OHC sites, as well as to a small number of Members-Only Sites.

Northwestern University, Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation, Park West Community Association, Partners for Sacred Places, Pleasant Home Foundation, Preservation Chicago, Public Media Institute, Quad Communities Development Corporation, Ravenswood Community Council, Six Corners Association, South East Chicago Commission, South Shore Chamber, Inc., Theater Historical Society of America, Ukrainian Village Neighborhood Association, Uptown United, Urban Juncture, Visit Oak Park, West Loop Community Organization, West Town Chamber of Commerce, and Wicker Park Bucktown Chamber of Commerce.

OHC is presented by the James S. Kemper Foundation. Additional support is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, ComEd and Tawani Foundation. OHC partners include Choose Chicago, the Chicago Transit Authority, Divvy and Open House Worldwide. Media sponsors include the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Magazine, the Wall Street Journal and WBEZ.

Open House Chicago is part of the worldwide Open House movement and modeled after popular programs in 32 cities, including New York, London, Vienna, Oslo and Tel Aviv.


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About CAF
The Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring people to discover why design matters. As an education leader in architecture and design, CAF offers tours, programs, exhibitions, field trips, curricula and online tools that are part of a dynamic learning journey for all ages. Proceeds from CAF’s tours and gift store, as well as grants, sponsorships and donations, support this educational mission. For more information, visit www.architecture.org.