

CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION

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CAF Awarded Art Works Grant for Open House Chicago

National Endowment of the Arts recognizes event for excellence in public engagement

Chicago, IL (01.10.2017) — The Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) was recently named a recipient for an Arts Work grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for Open House Chicago 2017 (OHC). National Endowment of the Arts Chairman Jane Chu recently approved more than \$30 million in grants as part of NEA's first major funding announcement this year. The Art Works Category focuses on the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and the strengthening of communities through the arts.

“The arts are for all of us, and by supporting organizations such as the Chicago Architecture Foundation, the National endowment for the Arts is providing more opportunities for the public to engage with the arts,” said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. “Whether in a theater, a town square, a museum, or a hospital, the arts are everywhere and make our lives richer.”

Open House Chicago (OHC), CAF's signature event, is a free, city-wide festival that offers unprecedented public access to Chicago's well known architectural treasures and behind-the-scenes places and spaces. The event is in alignment with NEA's standards of ranking high in public engagement through diversifying and strengthening communities through the arts. In 2016 more than 100,000 locals and tourists made 380,000 site visits to 213 participating locations in 20 of Chicago's neighborhoods. CAF hosted the inaugural OHC in 2011. Since then it has grown to the most attended event of its kind in the world. OHC 2017 is scheduled for October 14-15. More details and the full list of participating locations will be announced at www.openhousechicago.org later this year.

“In 2016 we engaged more attendees, sites and neighborhoods than ever before and we're looking to continue this momentum in 2017”, said OHC Program Manager, Garrett Karp. “Thanks to support from NEA and our sponsors, OHC is completely free and accessible to all participants. CAF is excited to continue highlighting Chicago's architectural legacy for locals and visitors alike by inspiring them to explore the city's neighborhoods and engage in the built environment.”

About the Chicago Architecture Foundation

The Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring people to discover why design matters. As an education leader in design, architecture and

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), 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 shop support this educational mission.

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