

IMPACT REPORT 2023



Yemi Alade, Millennium Park Summer Music Series

HIGHLIGHTS

2023
SNAPSHOT

NEIGHBORHOOD
SPOTLIGHT

SUPPORTING

INVESTING

EXPANDING

OUR MISSION

The **City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE)** supports artists and cultural organizations, invests in the creative economy, and expands access and participation in the arts throughout Chicago's 77 neighborhoods. As a collaborative cultural presenter, arts funder, and advocate for creative workers, our programs and events serve Chicagoans and visitors of all ages and backgrounds, downtown and in diverse communities across our city—to strengthen and celebrate Chicago.



LETTERS FROM THE MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER

Dear Chicagoans,

It is with immense pride that I share with you the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) Impact Report. This report is a testament to the vibrant tapestry that is the Soul of Chicago.

In 2023, DCASE fostered partnerships with local artists, organizations, and cultural institutions that have contributed to the success outlined in this report. These partnerships are integral to shaping the identity of Chicago, adding life and color to our neighborhoods, and positioning our city on the global stage.

In 2023, DCASE's commitment to equitably supporting and strengthening the creative sector was demonstrated through public programming, public art installations, cultural festivals, and exhibitions that enriched Chicago's cultural landscape.

Additionally, DCASE continued its dedication to aiding the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic for the arts community through grants, collaborations, and select marketing campaigns. This support included championing local talent by prioritizing Chicagoans for performances and providing a platform to showcase the city's local artistry.

Additionally, a highlight of 2023 was the appointment of Avery R. Young as Chicago's first-ever poet laureate, a milestone that underscores our commitment to celebrating and promoting our city's literary talent through a partnership with the Poetry Foundation and the Chicago Public Library.

This report serves as a reflection of our achievements and a blueprint for the future. I would like to express my gratitude to the team at DCASE and the arts community for their unwavering dedication to advancing the arts and culture in our city. I am eager to see the continued impact of our collective work. Together, we will continue to nurture the cultural vitality that makes Chicago so great.

SINCERELY,



Brandon Johnson

Mayor
City of Chicago

📷 Walter S. Mitchell III, City of Chicago

Dear Friends,

DCASE has worked to increase support for Chicago's cultural community through new and expanded programs that support artists, organizations, and neighborhoods. In 2023, this included the award of more than \$23.5 million in grant dollars, a 25% increase over 2022. In total, 749 grants were awarded to Chicago artists and organizations—the most in DCASE's history.

Thanks to our expanded partnerships with other City agencies, our public art team is now managing close to \$10 million in investments across 24 wards including a \$3.5 million commission at O'Hare International Airport with the Department of Aviation. These new public art projects contribute to a growing public collection of over 500 works that enhance public buildings and spaces with quality works of art by professional artists.

We saw record attendance at the Chicago Jazz Festival with 170,000 visitors over four days, and increased attendance at the Gospel Music Festival. DCASE also supported the inaugural cohort of organizations in residence at Millennium Park, which showcased a diversity of artists and engaged new audiences. Across hundreds of free cultural programs, DCASE partnered with 100 organizations and provided \$2.3 million in direct support to over 1,600 artists.

DCASE also deepened its commitment to Chicago's creative workforce. The Chicago Band Roster, a public resource of nearly 200 singers, songwriters, DJs, solo artists, and ensemble musicians, doubled its impact with 20 organizations receiving support to hire more than 400 local musicians to perform at local events.

In 2023, funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allowed us to invest in

the ongoing recovery of the arts sector including Healing Arts Chicago, a paid job training program for artists interested in health and healing that was developed in partnership with City Colleges and the Department of Public Health. And along with the Poetry Foundation and Chicago Public Library, we welcomed the inaugural Chicago Poet Laureate: avery r. young.

The year was not without its challenges, but culture in Chicago is fundamentally strong. A recently commissioned report by SMU DataArts illuminates ongoing challenges for arts nonprofits and creative workers post pandemic, but Chicago's organizations continue to be at the forefront, producing work that engages and delights audiences. And the actor and writer's strikes notwithstanding, Chicago's film and television industry continued its rise during the start of 2023 and in the previous year, when film expenditures in Illinois set a record of \$691 million.

In 2024, DCASE will continue its commitment to supporting creatives and expanding access to the arts throughout Chicago. The Department is in good hands, thanks to the tireless dedication of its staff and advisory council.

THANK YOU,



Erin Harkey

Commissioner

Department of Cultural Affairs and Special
Events

© Patrick L. Pyszka, City of Chicago

2023 SNAP SHOT

\$23.5 million

in grant support to artists and organizations, a **25% increase over 2022**

749+

grants awarded across five programs

341%

increase in gen-op support to nonprofit arts organizations through CityArts Program from 2021 to 2023 (**\$7.5m**)

\$9.5 million

awarded to grantees on the South and West sides

10

Chicago Arts & Health Pilot apprentices, working in **5 mental health clinics**

1

inaugural Chicago Poet Laureate: **avery r. young**

\$6.8 million

grant from Mellon Foundation to create eight new Chicago monuments

\$3.5 million

public art commission of **20 artists** at O'Hare International Airport

60+

active public art projects and collaborations in neighborhoods across Chicago

≈ \$700

million

in record-breaking film production revenue in 2022 (reported this year)

49

wards hosted film productions, with **1,000+ film permits** issued

39

film screenings and industry events attended by over **50,000 people**

571

special event permits issued

11

Chicago Cultural Center exhibitions and **50+ related programs**, attracting **300,000 visitors**

25

residencies for artists and organizations

3X

increase in attendance at Chicago Gospel Music Festival (**9,500**)

10,500

attendees at Taste of Chicago neighborhood events in Humboldt Park, Pullman Park, and Marquette Park

70,000

combined audience for 110th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony in Millennium Park

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

FULFILLING OUR MISSION IN AUSTIN

We're proud to share the following stats illustrating our 2023 Cultural Grants and Resources, Public Art, TV & Film work, and Festivals & Events in just one community—**Austin, a West Side neighborhood with rich history, beautiful architecture, and a vibrant cultural scene.** Of course, this is just one example of how DCASE fulfills its mission throughout *all* of Chicago's 77 neighborhoods.

- > **9 cultural grants** awarded to artists and organizations—via the Chicago Arts Recovery Program, Chicago Presents, Individual Artists Program, and Neighborhood Access Program
- > **2 public art forums** (in-person and virtual), for Soul City Corridor gateway to be designed by Bernard Williams
- > **2 public art installations** at Joint Public Safety Training Campus by Bob Faust, and at Chicago & Mayfield by ALT_ Chicago
- > **2 film permits** issued
- > **5 special event permits** issued
- > **20 farmers markets** at Austin Town Hall Park and Cultural Center
- > **4 cultural events** including Chicago SummerDance



Bernard Williams at a community meeting for the Austin Soul City Gateways project

SUPPORTING ARTISTS AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS



Mayor Brandon Johnson and Praise Productions, Millennium Park Residency Program

CULTURAL GRANTS & RESOURCES

FUELING CHICAGO'S ARTS SECTOR

In 2023, DCASE committed over \$23.5 million in grant dollars through annual and recovery grant programs, a 25% increase over 2022. \$9.5 million went to artists and organizations on the South and West sides. In total, the Department awarded 749 grants across five programs: the Chicago Arts Recovery Program, Chicago Presents, the CityArts Program, the Individual Artists Program, and the Neighborhood Access Program. Additionally:



Neighborhood Access Program grantee: Gary Comer Youth Center 📷 Doug Kenney

- > We increased our general operating support to nonprofit arts organizations through the CityArts Program by **341%** over the past two years, to **\$7.5 million**.
- > Grantees are now more reflective of the city of Chicago: **60%** of Individual Artists Program grantees identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) as compared to 38% in 2016—and grants were awarded to artists and organizations in **all 50 wards**, an increase from 94% in 2021 and 66% in 2016.
- > There were **929 new applicants** to our grant programs this year, which was 53% of the total applicant pool.

Thanks to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, DCASE launched a new Chicago Arts & Health Pilot program in 2023 (now Healing Arts Chicago), in partnership with City Colleges, the Department of Public Health, and One Nation/One Project. Ten apprentices are now working in five mental health clinics citywide.



To learn more, visit ChicagoCulturalGrants.org.

IN THE NEWS



City invests in cultural programming with \$1 million in grants to Chicago organizations



Chicago launches job training program to merge arts, wellness for creative workers



At City's Mental Health Clinics, Artists Help With Healing Process



“

The Chicago Arts & Health Pilot for Creative Workers is an innovative approach to creating resilient, healthy communities and nurturing Chicago's support for the arts community. Thank you to CDPH, DCASE, and City Colleges for developing the unique approach to this first-of-its-kind program.

MAYOR BRANDON JOHNSON

”

PUBLIC ART

EMPOWERING CREATIVES TO CREATE—AND SHARING UNTOLD STORIES

Our public art team is now managing close to **\$10 million in investments** across 24 wards including a \$3.5 million commission at O’Hare International Airport in partnership with the Department of Aviation—the City’s largest single acquisition of works by Chicago artists in the last 30 years. Visitors arriving and departing from **O’Hare’s Terminal 5** will now see an extraordinary new public art collection of more than 20 Chicago artists including: jina valentine, Jonathan Michael Castillo, and an exhibition featuring 17 original works curated by Behar X Schachman.

Additionally, a monumental sculpture by Hank Willis Thomas and Coby Kennedy in **O’Hare’s Multi-Modal Facility** joined previously installed works by Nick Cave, James Carpenter Design Associates, and Rob Ley. The O’Hare commission is one of more than 60 active public art projects and collaborations in 2023, in neighborhoods across Chicago—from a light installation by Luftwerk and Gloria Talamantes inspired by residents of the **Back of the Yards** community; to a banned books project by Theaster Gates at the **Harold Washington Library Center**; to a series of sculptures, a mural, and other elements created by Bob Faust at the City’s new **Joint Public Safety Training Campus**. Faust worked with Community Policing officers and youth from the adjacent Boys & Girls Club, incorporating their images of Austin into the artwork’s



Commissioner Erin Harkey at Chicago Public Library: Theaster Gates, Altar for the Unbanned

IN THE NEWS



When art is not the destination, but on the way: O’Hare debuts \$3.5 million public art commission



The heart and soul of our city': Art display greets travelers at O’Hare’s Terminal 5



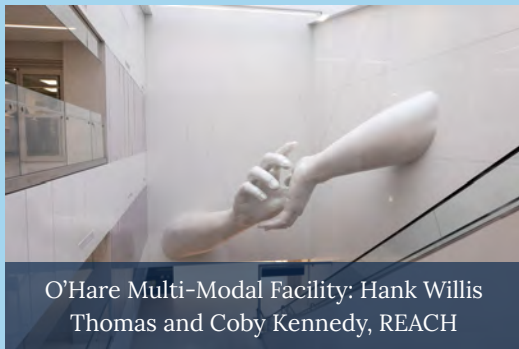
Mellon Foundation Grants \$6.8M for Eight New Chicago Monuments

design. In October, five large-scale art banners by Leonard Suryajaya were installed along the **Chicago River**, reflecting a vision of an immigrant's experience through a queer lens.

In June, the Mellon Foundation announced a **grant of \$6.8 million to DCASE to support the Chicago Monuments Project**—memorializing events, people, and groups that historically have been excluded or underrepresented. This catalytic support will fundamentally strengthen our city, as our public art collection becomes more honest and inclusive.



For more information, images, and videos, visit [Chicago.gov/PublicArt](https://www.chicago.gov/publicart), [ChicagoMonuments.org](https://www.ChicagoMonuments.org) and [FlyChicago.com/ArtORD](https://www.FlyChicago.com/ArtORD).



O'Hare Multi-Modal Facility: Hank Willis Thomas and Coby Kennedy, REACH



O'Hare T5: Mayumi Lake, Shinsekai Yori (新世界より) | From the New World



Leonard Suryajaya, Kin Link



Chicago Monuments Project: Mahalia Jackson monument maquette by Gerald Griffin



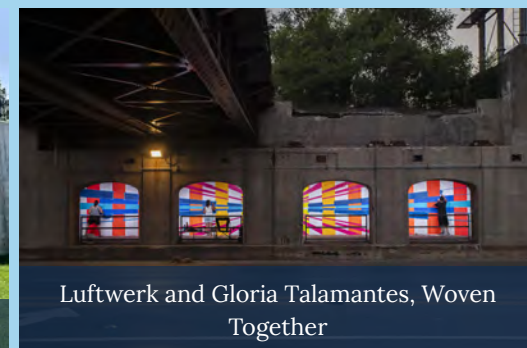
Christophe Gausparro and Jeff Zimmermann, Northeast Levy Senior Center



Chicago Monuments Project: Pilsen Latina Legacies, photo by Diana Soli



Bob Faust, Wayfindings



Luftwerk and Gloria Talamantes, Woven Together

“

For millions of passengers, Terminal 5 is their first impression of not only Chicago, but our entire country—and there is no better way to showcase the essence, the diversity, and the beauty of Chicago than through the arts. I thank Mayor Johnson, Commissioner Harkey, and the artists for their dedication to this commission, and I look forward to building upon this successful public art program as work begins on our core passenger facilities through O’Hare 21.

CDA COMMISSIONER, JAMIE L. RHEE

”

CAPACITY BUILDING

SHOWCASING CHICAGO'S TOP TALENT

DCASE also supports artists and organizations by hiring them to perform, co-present, curate, and engage with audiences. In 2023, across hundreds of free cultural programs, **we partnered with 100 organizations** and provided **\$2.3 million in direct support** to over **1,600 artists**. **71%** of these artists identified as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and **61%** of the organizations were BIPOC-centered.

The Department produced 25 residencies to provide space, time, and funding for artists and organizations to create new work and engage with the public—including the inaugural **Millennium Park Residency Program** made possible by the Millennium Park Foundation and Pritzker Foundation, which gave four grants of up to \$150,000 to the Chicago Human Rhythm Project; National Public Housing Museum; Praize Productions, Inc.; and Puerto Rican Arts Alliance. The **Chicago Cultural Center Dance Studio Residency** made possible by the Walder Foundation and National Endowment for the Arts, supported two cohorts of 15 artists total. Dozens of other creatives were “in-residence” throughout the Chicago Cultural Center in 2023. And along with the Poetry Foundation and Chicago Public Library, we welcomed the inaugural **Chicago Poet Laureate: avery r. young**, who will receive an honorarium and resources to create new works and public programming across the city.



Chicago Made Music Showcase

Also in 2023, the **Chicago Made Music Showcase** selected 14 finalists from 140 auditions to compete for \$10,000, paid performance opportunities at DCASE events, and one-on-one career consultations.

And the **Chicago Band Roster** doubled its impact, with 20 organizations receiving support to hire more than 400 local musicians to participate in neighborhood events.



For details, visit [Chicago.gov/DCASE](https://chicago.gov/DCASE).



Chicago Cultural Center Performance Art Residency



Chicago Cultural Center Dance Residency



Chicago Poet Laureate avery r. young



Ariella Granados, Mayor's Office of People with Disabilities Residency

“

We are thrilled about the appointment of avery r. young as the first-ever Chicago Poet Laureate and cannot wait to collaborate with him on a range of exciting new programs and works that will enrich our neighborhood library branches. As we welcome avery in his new role, we are excited to witness the transformative power of poetry in our library branches and beyond.

CPL COMMISSIONER CHRIS BROWN

”

INVESTING IN THE CREATIVE ECONOMY



Nacirema Society, Goodman Theatre

THEATER RECOVERY

UPLIFTING OUR THEATERS

Chicago is one of the greatest cities in the world for arts and culture—and our working artists generate millions in economic revenue for the city. But the performing arts community in Chicago, like countless others worldwide, endured immense challenges during the pandemic.

For the past three years, DCASE has held convenings with the arts community that have helped shape the City's ongoing support of the sector through financial grants, new collaborations with philanthropy, marketing campaigns, and wrap-around supports for theater and other creative workers.



In 2023, the Department in partnership with SMU DataArts released **“Navigating Recovery: Arts and Culture Financial and Operating Trends in Chicago”**—a comprehensive report on the health of the local art sector before, during, and emerging from the pandemic. The report reveals that as Chicago’s economy has broadly seen steady progress toward a post-pandemic recovery, the nonprofit theater sector still faces many challenges.

In the summer, Mayor Johnson hosted a listening session with industry stakeholders, which led to a theater advisory committee—and then, in collaboration with Choose Chicago, the League of Chicago Theatres, and others, DCASE launched a marketing campaign claiming Fall as **“Theater Season”** in Chicago. Utilizing digital, radio, and out of home advertising, #TheaterSeason is a powerful call-to-action for locals and visitors, and part of the City’s multifaceted efforts to uplift the sector. We also produced a series of six videos spotlighting real audience members sharing their theater experiences.



For details, visit [Chicago.gov/DCASE](https://www.chicago.gov/DCASE) and [TheaterSeason.com](https://www.TheaterSeason.com).

IN THE NEWS



READER

In the wake of a new study, the city declares Theater Season



CRAIN'S
CHICAGO
BUSINESS

Struggling Chicago theaters make 'unprecedented' request for more city funding



CHICAGO
SUN-TIMES

Chicago's theater community reacts to cultural arts 'crisis' report

A person wearing a white lab coat is crouching in a dark room. The scene is illuminated by a strong green light, likely from a stage light, which casts a long shadow of the person onto the floor. The person's face is partially visible, looking downwards. The background is dark with some faint lights, including a small cluster of lights in the upper center.

“

In this challenging time recovering from the pandemic, all these artists that bring the vibrancy of our stories to life and give us real shared experiences in community need our support. **This initiative from Choose Chicago, Mayor Brandon Johnson, DCASE, and the League will help people remember the joy in coming together.**

MARISSA LYNN JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LEAGUE OF CHICAGO THEATRES

”

TV & FILM

BOLSTERING THE INDUSTRY, TOGETHER—AND MAKING OUR CITY THE STAR

In 2023, the State of Illinois announced record-breaking economic impact of nearly **\$700 million in film expenditures**, over 90% of which was driven by the City of Chicago and supported by the Chicago Film Office through permits, city services, and production support. Highly rated and award-winning episodic television series such as NBC's One Chicago shows (*Chicago Fire*, *Chicago PD*, *Chicago Med*), *The Bear*, and others represented the largest portion these projects.

The Film Office, together with its partners the Illinois Film Office, World Business Chicago, Illinois Production Alliance, and others championed the industry through marketing campaigns such as [a special features package](#) in the "Oscars" edition of *Variety* and convened industry stakeholders to further bolster the industry. Projects like **The Fields Studios**, set to open in spring 2024, were announced with the support of City and State.

In May, the WGA announced a general strike with SAG-AFTRA following suit in July. Most scripted production was paused during a challenging 7-month stoppage which created economic hardship for thousands of creative workers while their unions pressed for more equitable contracts. During this time the Film Office and DCASE assembled [Creative Workers Resources](#), helped launch the **Chicago Alliance of Film Festivals** along with **FACETS** to support Chicago's vibrant and

1.6M SQUARE FEET OF STUDIO SPACE WITH 60+ STAGES AND GROWING

HOME TO THESE HIT PRODUCTIONS

100% GROWTH IN UNION WORKFORCE OVER THE LAST DECADE AND RISING

THE BEAR SEASON 7

THE CHI POWER BOOK TO

CHICAGO FIRE CHICAGO P.D. CHICAGO MED

CHICAGO.

BIG SHOULDERS. BIG SCENES. BIG STORIES.

CHICAGO MADE

CHICAGO MARKING LIGHTS

DCASE CHICAGO FILM OFFICE

CHICAGOFILMOFFICE.US
FILMOFFICE@CITYOFCHICAGO.ORG | 312.744.6415

DCASE Variety Ad

diverse ecosystem of 50+ film festivals, and launched advertising and sponsored content in AdAge with its partners to help lure more commercial production to the City and State. Commercial production is a major sector of film and TV that was not affected by the strikes.

With the return of production in December and the renewal of most all of Chicago's long-running series as well as several new ones, Chicago is well-positioned to continue its rise as a major hub of production and original content. The Film Office convened subsectors of the industry and community to lay groundwork for new initiatives to support youth, independent filmmakers, and the film festival ecosystem as we enter 2024.

The Chicago Film Office additionally partnered with dozens of local festivals and arts organizations to present **39 film screenings and industry events attended by 50,000 people.**



To learn more, visit ChicagoFilmOffice.us.

IN THE NEWS



FACETS has launched the Chicago Alliance of Film Festivals



The Windy City has had a new lease of life thanks to smash foodie series The Bear



Film Studio With 9 Sound Stages To Open Next Year At The Fields Campus On Logan Square-Avondale Border



Clueless, Top Gun Maverick and more: 2023 Millennium Park Summer Film Series begins

“

In the last decade we've had so much success and growth. Together with the Chicago Film Office, Illinois Film Office, and other partners, we're building on the legacy that's created a lot of tremendous television.

CHRISTINE DUDLEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ILLINOIS PRODUCTION ALLIANCE (IPA)

”

EXPANDING ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS



Chicago House Music Festival

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

CELEBRATING CHICAGO

Our programs serve Chicagoans and visitors of all ages and backgrounds, downtown and in diverse communities across our city—to strengthen and celebrate Chicago.

In 2023, we saw record attendance at the Chicago Jazz Festival with **170,000 visitors over four days**, and increased attendance at the Gospel Music Festival. (In fact, attendance tripled to 9,500 guests due in part to enhanced community outreach efforts.) Alongside favorites such as **SummerDance** and the **World Music Festival, Taste of Chicago** continued its expansion into neighborhoods with **10,500 attendees** total at Taste events in Humboldt Park, Pullman Park, and

Marquette Park. At the downtown Taste, we collaborated with the Chicago Independent Venue League to support local music. And the **110th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony** presented by Powering Chicago in Millennium Park drew a combined audience of **70,000 people** watching in-person, on CBS 2, or via livestreams.

Additionally, DCASE issued **571 special event permits** and, produced dozens of Chicago City Markets presented by Humana. A special USDA-funded advertising campaign urged Chicagoans to **“Refresh How You Shop Fresh”** at neighborhood City Markets—and a tourism marketing campaign supported by the State of Illinois encouraged visitors to **“Stay Awhile”** to enjoy hundreds of free DCASE events.



To learn more, visit [Chicago.gov/DCASE](https://www.chicago.gov/DCASE) and [MillenniumPark.org](https://www.millenniumpark.org).



World Music Festival Chicago: Global Peace Picnic



Chicago Blues Festival



Chicago City Markets



Chicago House Music Festival



Chicago Gospel Music Festival



Chicago Jazz Festival



Maxwell Street Market



110th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony



CHICAGO
Gospel
MUSIC FESTIVAL

The independent venue scene in Chicago is known to be the best in the world, so we are proud to collaborate with DCASE to bring CIVL's legacy of amazing performances to the Taste of Chicago's Goose Island Stage this year.

CHICAGO INDEPENDENT VENUE LEAGUE (CIVL) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NICK HEINEMAN

”

EXHIBITIONS

REFRAMING ART AND ARCHITECTURE AT THE CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER

2023 was a rebuilding year coming out of the pandemic, with increasingly more public programming throughout the year across the Chicago Cultural Center. Exhibitions showcased the best of our city's vibrant arts and culture scene, as well as artistry from around the world. All told, DCASE attracted **300,000 visitors** to **11 Chicago Cultural Center exhibitions** and related programs. *Highlights* included:

- > **Luftwerk:** Exact Dutch Yellow (*through January 29, 2023*)
- > **Giving Back:** The Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited (*February 1–April 30, 2023*)
- > **Surviving the Long Wars:** Reckon and Reimagine (*March 12–July 2, 2023*)
- > **First Look:** Artworks by the Inaugural Cohort of the CPS RE:ALIZE Early College Arts Program (*April 24–May 12, 2023*)
- > **Exquisite Canvas:** Mural Takeover by Cecilia Beaven, Miguel A. Del Real, and Anna Murphy (*June 10–September 3, 2023*)
- > **Great Ideas of Humanity:** One of a Series (*September 5–December 31, 2023*), presented with the Design Museum of Chicago
- > **CAB 5:** This is a Rehearsal (*November 1, 2023–February 11, 2024*), presented with the Chicago Architecture Biennial
- > **Freedom Square:** The Black Girlhood Altar (*November 1, 2023–March 10, 2024*), presented with A Long Walk Home



Freedom Square: The Black Girlhood Altar

IN THE NEWS



Chicago Architecture Biennial returns with 'This is a Rehearsal' and the Cultural Center shines



A Long Walk Home brings solace to the Chicago Cultural Center



New Chicago Cultural Center Exhibit Showcases Philanthropic African Americans

A new series of Open Houses and “**Under the Dome**” concerts at the Cultural Center welcomed even more Chicagoans and visitors alike—as did free film screenings, tours, talks, and dance programming.



To learn more, visit [Chicago.gov/DCASE](https://www.chicago.gov/DCASE) and [ChicagoCulturalCenter.org](https://www.ChicagoCulturalCenter.org).



Chicago Cultural Center Open House



Chicago Architecture Biennial, Chicago Cultural Center



Luftwerk: Exact Dutch Yellow



Anna Murphy, Exquisite Canvas



Mayor Brandon Johnson with Walgreens

2023 SOURCES OF SUPPORT

DCASE is grateful for the steadfast support of our partners. Our work is made possible by corporate, foundation, and government grants—as well as corporate sponsorships. In 2023, we received a transformational \$6.8 million grant from the Mellon Foundation for the creation of eight new Chicago monuments; for details, visit ChicagoMonuments.org. **All told, DCASE raised a total of \$10.3 million in 2023, including City matching funds.**

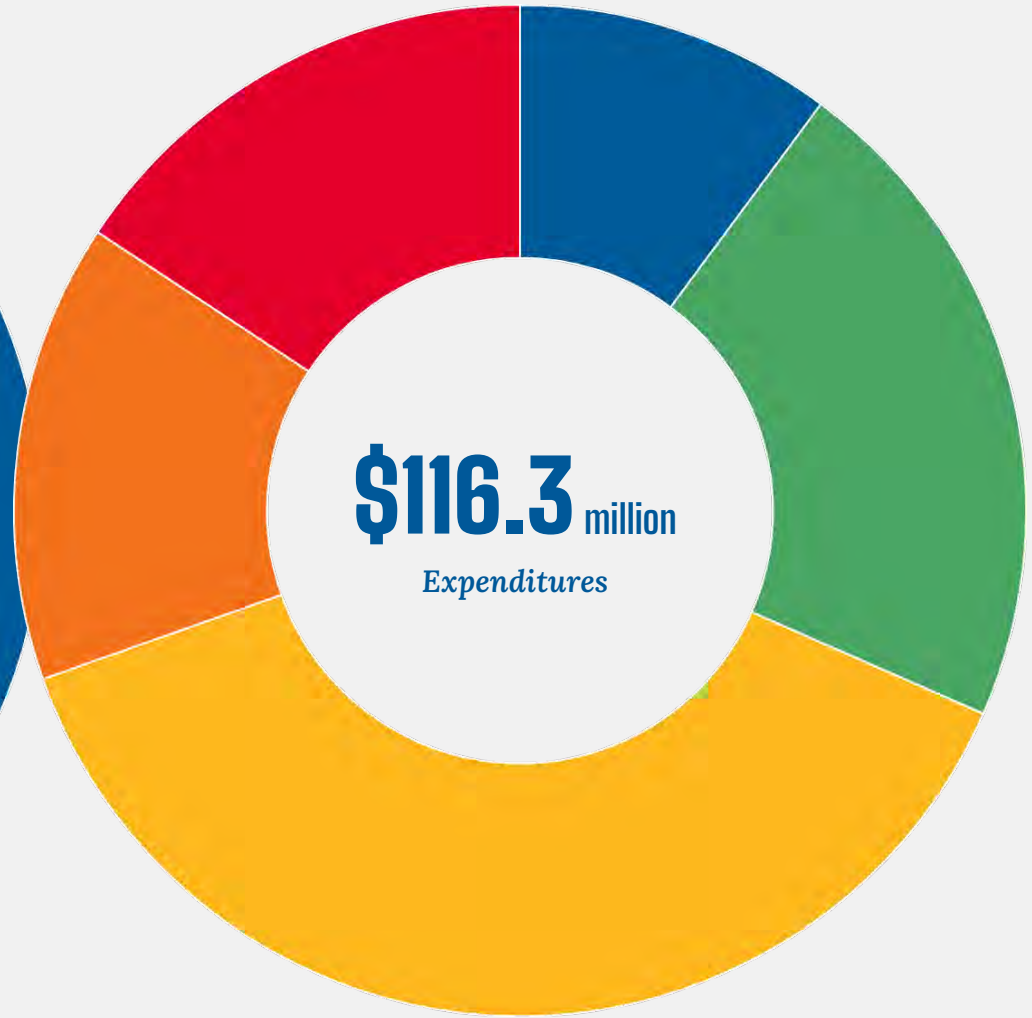
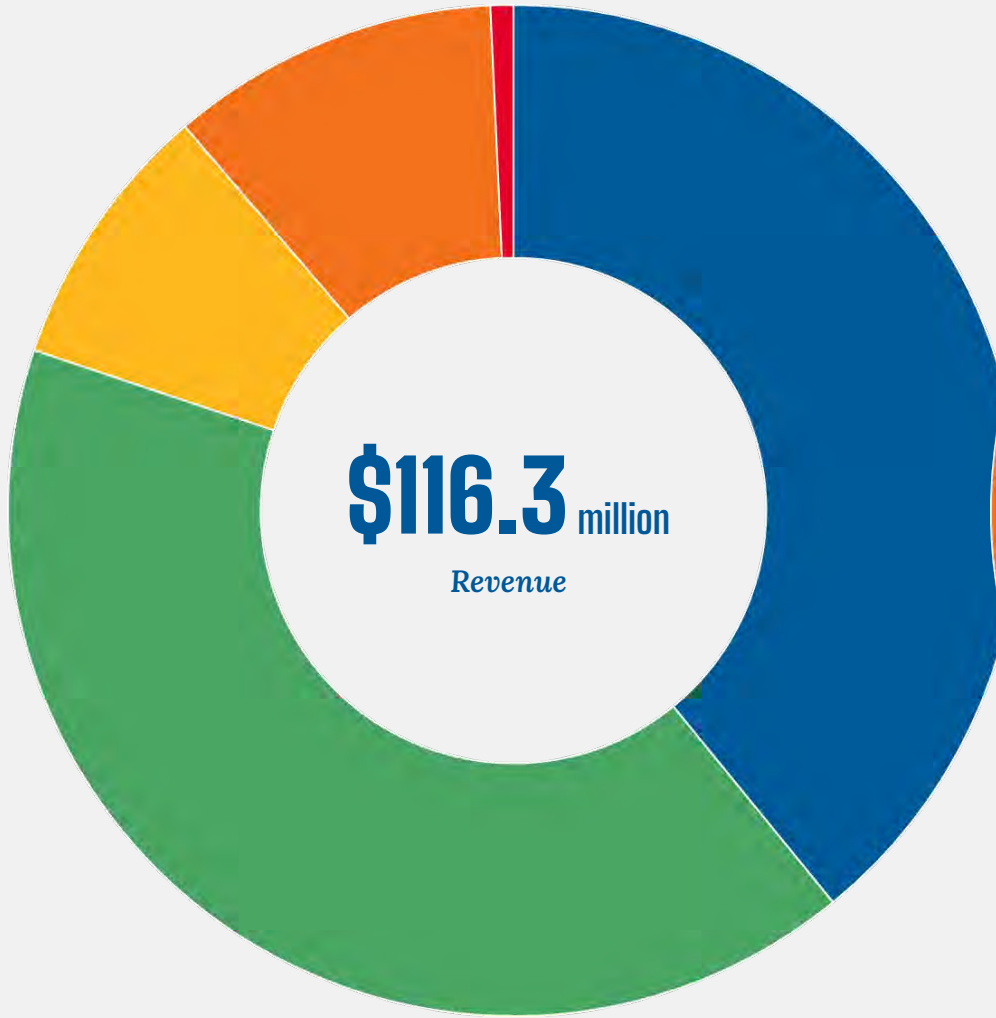
CORPORATE, FOUNDATION, AND GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Amazon	Millennium Park Foundation	State of Illinois (Tourism Attractions & Festivals; Travel and Tourism Marketing EDA)
BMO Harris Bank	National Endowment for the Arts	Terra Foundation for American Art
Builders Initiative	National League of Cities / One Nation One Project	United Airlines
Chicago Park District	National Museum of Mexican Art	U.S. Bank
ComEd, An Exelon Company	Northern Trust	USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program
Gift of Hope	Peoples Gas	Walder Foundation
Globetrotters Engineering Corporation	Poetry Foundation	Walgreens Company
Illinois Arts Council Agency	Pritzker Foundation	Walmart, Inc.
Lloyd A. Fry Foundation	The Revel Group (in kind)	Wyn-Win Communications
McDonald's	Sotheby's, Inc. (in kind)	
Mellon Foundation		

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS

90.9fm WDCB	Humana	Royal Canin
93XRT	Illinois Lottery	The Boeing Company
BUBBL'R	Inspiration 1390	UChicago Medicine
Capital One Commercial Bank	Lifeway Foods	United States Army
Capital Vacations	Millennium Garages	United States Marine Corps
Chicago Jazz Publishing and Entertainment	Mississippi Development Authority	WBBM Newsradio 780AM and 105.9FM
Chicago Transit Authority	Nature's Bakery	WBEZ Chicago
DownBeat	NBC Chicago	WGN-TV
Eli's Cheesecake Company	Pepsi	WLS-TV
Goose Island Beer Company	Powering Chicago	Zespri Kiwi
Hawaiian Silky	Reser's Fine Foods	
Hilton Hotels & Resorts	Rosa's Lounge	

FINANCIALS



2023 REVENUE
\$116,300,422

- DCASE Operating Fund
- Grants*
- Fund 100 (General Fund)
- General Obligation Bonds
- Other

2023 BUDGET
\$116,300,422

- Salary & Benefits
- Programming / Public Art
- Cultural Grants*
- Tourism Support*
- Operations

**Includes carryover from 2022 ARP recovery funds*

LEADERSHIP & STAFF

CULTURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our Cultural Advisory Council met quarterly, and advised the Commissioner and senior team in their efforts to support creatives and drive meaningful impact. Advisory Council members were embedded in specific projects throughout the year and played a critically important role as ambassadors to raise awareness of DCASE resources and opportunities for the cultural community.



Coya Paz (Chair) | *Artistic Director, Free Street Theater*

Blake-Anthony Johnson (Vice Chair) | *Chief Executive Officer, Chicago Sinfonietta*

Alison Cuddy | *Writer and Curator*

Amina J. Dickerson | *President, Dickerson Global Advisors*

Juan Díes | *Co-Founder and Executive Director, Sonos de México Ensemble*

Bob Faust | *Owner, Faust and Special Projects Director, Nick Cave Studio*

E. Brooke Flanagan | *Executive Director, Steppenwolf Theatre Company*

Robert Gomez | *Owner, Subterranean/Beat Kitchen/Underbar and Co-Founder, Chicago Independent Venue League (CIVL)*

Esther Grisham Grimm | *Executive Director, 3Arts*

Tracie D. Hall | *Former Executive Director, American Library Association*

Akilah S. Halley | *Executive Director, Marwen*

Kevin Iega Jeff | *Creative Director, Deeply Rooted Productions*

Josephine Lee | *President, Uniting Voices Chicago*

Tonika Lewis Johnson | *Artist, Folded Map Project*

Bill Michel | *Associate Vice President and Executive Director of UChicago Arts and the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, University of Chicago*

Cesáreo J. Moreno | *Chief Curator and Visual Arts Director, National Museum of Mexican Art*

Margaret C. Murphy-Webb | *Executive Director and Co-Founder, South Side Jazz Coalition*

Claire C. Rice | *Executive Director, Arts Alliance Illinois*

Silvia Rivera | *Business Strategist and Creative Industry Consultant*

Paul J. Szniewajs | *Former CEO, Parliament*

Vivian Teng | *Managing Director, Cinema/Chicago and the Chicago International Film Festival*

Omar Torres-Kortright | *Executive Director, Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center*

Kaoru Watanabe | *Associate Director, National Cambodian Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial*

Tanner Woodford | *Founder and Executive Director, Design Museum of Chicago*

Debra Yepa-Pappan | *Co-Founder and Director of Exhibitions and Programs, Center for Native Futures*



DCASE STAFF

This hard-working and talented team of 82 creative workers (as of 12/31/2023) fulfills the mission of DCASE on a daily basis.



Erin Harkey | *Commissioner*

Jennifer Johnson Washington | *First Deputy Commissioner*

Tahira Baig | *Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Administration*

Kalena Chevalier | *Deputy Commissioner, Cultural Grants and Resources*

Ann Hickey | *Deputy Commissioner, Operations*

Lisa Lorick | *Assistant Commissioner, Human Resources*

Jamey Lundblad | *Deputy Commissioner, Marketing and Development*

Nancy Villafranca-Guzman | *Deputy Commissioner, Programming*

Jonah Zeiger | *Deputy Commissioner, Chicago Film Office*

David Adams
Hibo Aden
Meghan Beals
Benjamin Branda*
Jennifer Brown
Nikki Butler
Elise Butterfield
Amanda Carlson
Sandra Carrera
James Castillo
Rogelio Cerritos
David Chavez
Deidre Edwards
Sonya Eldridge
Joseph Fonzino
Susan Friel
Vivian Garcia
Gabriel Godwin
Joanna Goebel

Betsey Grais
J.Mark Hackman
Zhenesse Heinemann
Neal Heitz
Nancy Herman
Christopher Hodges
Brea Howard*
Alicia Hughes
John Hundrieser
Rey Irizarry
Camille Jackson
Christine Jacob
Cheryl Johnson
Ebony Johnson
Henry Johnson
Thavary Krouch
Frayne Lewis
Katrina Linzy
Madeline Long

Maria Lopez
Greg Lunceford
Nathan Mason
Meida McNeal
Nina Melendez
Lionel Melgar
Justin Meng*
Michael Mikuta
Khayri Moss*
Yescenia Mota
Joshua Ojeda
Timothy Olson
Anita Owens
Julie Partynski
Maria Rosario Maryrose Pavkovic
Laura Reyes Brown
John Rich
Lydia Ross
Natalia Salazar

Daniel Schulman
Joshua Schwimer
Jessica Sigur
Maja Stachnik*
Janeth Stines
Brett Swinney
Mariam Thiam
Melissa Thomfohrda
Carlos Tortolero
Laura Trejo Lozano
Jose Vazquez
Tara Vock
Melanie Wang
Monica Wilczak
Tenisha Wilkins
Nora Zboril

**Student interns*





78 East Washington Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

STAY CONNECTED:      