

## ENJOYING THE AREA:

# CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

### CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM

1601 N. Clark  
(312) 642-4600  
[www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org)

Get lost in Chicago's past at this major museum and research center devoted to Chicago and American history. You will experience the past and gain new perspectives on the present through a wide variety of exhibits and programs. Founded in 1856, the Chicago History Museum cares for, showcases and interprets millions of authentic pieces of Chicago and U.S. History. Explore the museum's main collection areas, including: architecture; archives and manuscripts; books and other published materials; costumes; decorative and industrial arts; oral history; film and video; paintings and sculpture; and prints and photographs.

The Chicago History Museum features a complete Museum Store, the new North & Clark Café and galleries and exhibitions renovated in 2005 and 2006. Be sure to discover the city's vast history in Chicago: Crossroads of America which highlights the city's changing economy, challenging crises, diverse neighborhoods, groundbreaking innovations, lively cultural scene and more.

The Chicago History Museum is open Monday through Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Thursday from 9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.; and Sunday from 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Be sure to visit their website for details on pricing and more information.



### LINCOLN PARK CONSERVATORY

2391 N. Stockton  
(312) 742-7736  
[www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com)

Ranking among the finest in the horticultural world, the Lincoln Park Conservatory displays exotic palms, orchids and ferns in four glass buildings alongside three acres of magnificent outdoor gardens. Once little more than a greenhouse, the Lincoln Park Conservatory was built in phases between 1890 and 1895 and now features four display houses: the Palm House, the Fern Room, Orchid House and Show House. Built by nationally-renowned architect Joseph Lyman Silsbee in collaboration with M.E. Bell, the facility was constructed to showcase exotic plants and grow plants needed for Chicago's expansion parks system. No matter what the weather may be outside the Conservatory, inside it is always green and lush.

The Lincoln Park Conservatory is open 365 days a year from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and admission is free of charge.

### LINCOLN PARK CULTURAL CENTER

2045 N. Lincoln Park West  
(312) 742-7726  
[www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com)

The Lincoln Park Cultural Center offers Chicagoans of all ages a wide variety of cultural and recreational programming, as well as special events throughout the year. The Lincoln Park Cultural Center boasts a lapidary and stained glass shop, a ceramics studio, a game room, an auditorium, a dance studio, a full service woodshop and an early childhood center.

Please visit the Lincoln Park Cultural Center's website for information on classes, studio facilities and hours.

### LINCOLN PARK ZOO

2200 N. Cannon  
(312) 742-2000  
[www.lpzoo.org](http://www.lpzoo.org)

A treasured oasis in the heart of Chicago, Lincoln Park Zoo is home to more than 1,300 animals, many of them threatened or endangered. From animal encounters at the Pritzker Children's Zoo to daily programs at the new Farm-in-the-Zoo presented by John Deere, each visit provides a chance to learn about wildlife and have fun at the same time. Every year, millions of visitors come to

Lincoln Park Zoo to learn more about the natural world around them and across the globe. Zoo animals include penguins, giraffes, rhinos, polar bears, lions, tigers, seals, flamingos, bats, gorillas, zebras and more.

Cafés, souvenir shops, paddle boat rides, the LPZoo Children's Train, the AT&T Endangered Species Carousel and the African Safari round out the attractions at this famous Chicago landmark.

Lincoln Park Zoo is open 365 days a year, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and is free of charge.

### THE PEGGY NOTEBAERT NATURE MUSEUM

2430 N. Cannon  
(773) 755-5100  
[www.naturemuseum.org](http://www.naturemuseum.org)

Opened in 1999 by the Chicago Academy of the Sciences, The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum offers a unique venue for the public – especially urban dwellers – to find new ways to reconnect with the natural world. Stand spellbound as a just-emerged butterfly sees the world outside its chrysalis for the very first time. Squish through wetlands discovering why they are beautiful and important. Discover the power and mystery of rivers. And more! Grab your field journal and your sense of adventure — you are about to take a journey into the secret world of the amazing creatures that inhabit our planet.

The museum features the region's only year-round butterfly exhibit featuring 75 different species of butterflies. The facility is eco-friendly as well, featuring a green roof, solar panels, natural light sources and native landscaping. Starting in 2008-2009, The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum becomes the winter home for the city's famous Green City Market.

The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum is open Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Be sure to visit their website for details on pricing and more information.

*For more information, contact these cultural institutions directly or visit their websites.*

*Sources: Cultural institution websites (listed above)*

## ENJOYING THE AREA:

# THEATERS

### APOLLO THEATER

2540 N. Lincoln  
Box office: (773) 935-6100  
[www.apollochicago.com](http://www.apollochicago.com)

Built in 1978 and twice renovated, the Apollo Theater is a lush venue with a prestigious reputation. Its repertoire includes a blend of plays, musicals, comedies and special events. Its three-quarter thrust stage has 440 plush seats configured in just eleven rows, allowing audiences a theatrical experience unparalleled in intimacy and accessibility. The Apollo also boasts a second stage, the 50-seat Apollo Studio. This well appointed venue has become a favorite space for emerging sketch troupes, improvisational comedy and one person shows, as well as up-and-coming "storefront" theater companies.

### EMERALD CITY THEATRE COMPANY

Most performances are held at the Apollo Theater, 2540 N. Lincoln  
Box office: (773) 935-6100 for individual tickets; (773) 529-2690 for subscriptions  
[www.emeraldcitytheatre.com](http://www.emeraldcitytheatre.com)

Founded in 1996, Emerald City Theatre Company's mission is to create innovative theater experiences that bring families closer together and inspire children everywhere. Described as "Chicago's most innovative theater for families" in the *Chicago Sun-Times*, Emerald City reaches more than 85,000 people annually during performances at the Apollo Theater, schools, libraries, festivals and other performance venues, and through its theater school, summer camp, residencies and after-school programs.

### THE GREENHOUSE THEATRE CENTER

2257 N. Lincoln  
(773) 404-7336  
[www.greenhousetheatre.org](http://www.greenhousetheatre.org)

The Greenhouse Theatre Center is the home of Chicago's hottest Off-Loop theater companies - a diverse mix of nationally acclaimed, award-winning ensembles. Notable directors have cut their teeth here and audiences have come to expect a high level of dedication and innovation.

Eclipse Theatre Company, MPAACT and Shattered Globe Theatre, working with Victory Gardens Theater and the generous support of the

[www.lincolnparkchamber.com](http://www.lincolnparkchamber.com)

Leo S. Guthman Fund, established the Greenhouse Theatre to be a home to Chicago's most captivating theatrical experiences.

### ROYAL GEORGE THEATRE

1641 N. Halsted  
(312) 988-9000  
[www.theroyalgeorgetheatre.com](http://www.theroyalgeorgetheatre.com)

The Royal George is one of the city's more important traditional medium-sized theatres with an international reputation. With its central Lincoln Park location near restaurants and transportation hubs, a wonderful layout and almost no bad seats in the house, the Royal George Theatre continues to be one of the area's most well-respected venues. The Royal George also houses a smaller studio theatre, which traditionally stages an open run comedy or musical.

### THE SECOND CITY

1616 N. Wells  
1608 N. Wells (The Second City e.t.c.)  
Box office: (312) 337-3992  
[www.secondcity.com](http://www.secondcity.com)

Since 1959, The Second City has established itself as a Chicago landmark and a national treasure. The theater that launched the careers of comic greats such as John Belushi, Mike Myers, Tina Fey, Bill Murray and Gilda Radner offers nightly comedy shows, as well as a variety of other programs and services. The theater has two resident stages: The Second City Mainstage, which seats 290 and The Second City e.t.c., which seats 180. Each theater has a resident troupe that writes and performs an original comedy revue. The Second City is committed to producing shows that are smart, funny and highly original. The Second City also features an engaging series of writing, acting and production classes.

### STEPPEWOLF THEATRE COMPANY

1650 N. Halsted (Downstairs Theatre and Upstairs Theatre)  
1624 N. Halsted (Garage Theatre)  
Box office: (312) 335-1650  
[www.steppenwolf.org](http://www.steppenwolf.org)

Steppenwolf Theatre Company is a Chicago-based international performing arts institution committed to ensemble collaboration and artistic risk through its work with its permanent ensemble



cast, guest artists, partner institutions and the community. Founded in 1976, Steppenwolf has received unprecedented national and international recognition from media, theater critics and audiences alike. Steppenwolf launches world premieres, introduces new works to Chicago audiences and revisits classic plays in its three performance spaces.

The Downstairs Theatre is a 515-seat theater with a producing capacity that attracts theater's finest directors, playwrights, actors and designers. The Garage Theatre is the company's most intimate performance space, showcasing the work of the best new voices in American theater and rounding out a truly destination theater facility.

### TONY N' TINA'S WEDDING

230 W. North  
Box office: (312) 664-8844  
[www.tonytina.com](http://www.tonytina.com)

Running since 1993, Tony n' Tina's Wedding is an interactive comedy that takes a satirical look at an Italian-American wedding. After watching the ceremony in the Chapel of Love, audience members attend a reception that includes an Italian buffet, a champagne toast, wedding cake, music, dancing and more. The performance can accommodate up to 250 people.

### VICTORY GARDENS THEATER

2433 N. Lincoln (Biograph Theater)  
Box office: (773) 871-3000  
[www.victorygardens.org](http://www.victorygardens.org)

Since 1974, Victory Gardens Theater has developed and produced new plays, most of them world premieres, with an emphasis on Chicago writers and its own 14-member Playwrights Ensemble. Today, Victory Gardens holds the distinction of being home to more world premiere mainstage productions than any other Chicago theater. In 1996, Victory Gardens reconfirmed its commitment to the playwright by creating the Playwrights Ensemble, a company of twelve diverse playwrights who develop work for the stage.

*For more information on performances, contact these theaters directly or visit their websites. Additional entertainment and theater options can be found in the Business Listing section of this publication.*

Sources: Theatre websites (listed above) and [www.theatreinchicago.com](http://www.theatreinchicago.com)

## ENJOYING THE AREA:

# PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

### LINCOLN PARK

2045 N. Lincoln Park West

Lincoln Park, first commissioned by the City of Chicago in 1860 as Lake Park and renamed in 1865 after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, covers 1,208 acres on Chicago's lakefront. Throughout Lincoln Park's history, renowned artists, landscape designers and architects, including sculptor Augustus-Saint Gaudens, landscape designers Ossian Cole Simonds and Alfred Caldwell and architects Joseph Lyman Silsbee and Dwight H. Perkins contributed to its development. Ponds, rivers, cultural institutions, restaurants, open space, gardens, exercise facilities and walking paths make Lincoln Park one of Chicago's most valuable outdoor assets.

### NORTH AVENUE BEACH HOUSE

1603 N. Lake Shore

[www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com)

The North Avenue Beach House contains 22,000 square feet of space featuring amenities that include an outdoor eatery and concession stands, a lifeguard station, outdoor showers, bike, chair and volleyball equipment rental facilities, and restrooms. It also features one of the best views of the city.

### PARKS

#### Adams Playground Park

1919 N. Seminary

#### Bauler Playlot Park

501 W. Wisconsin

#### Clover Playlot Park

2210 N. Southport

#### Clybourn Playlot Park

1755 N. Clybourn

#### Jonquil Park

1023 W. Wrightwood

#### Mid North Park

401 W. Belden

#### Noethling (Grace) Playlot Park

2645 N. Sheffield

#### Oz Park

2021 N. Burling

#### Park West Playlot Park

745 W. Wrightwood

#### Privet Playlot Park

1844 N. Sheffield

#### Schaefer Playlot Park

2415 N. Marshfield

#### Supera Playlot Park

2528 N. Racine

#### Trebes Park

2250 N. Clifton

#### Wrightwood Park

2534 N. Greenview

For more information, contact the Chicago Park District directly at (312) 742-PLAY or visit its website at [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com).

The LPCC conducted research on Lincoln Park area parks, however, the above list may not be comprehensive, and there may be additional parks in the neighborhood.

### FARMERS MARKETS

#### Lincoln Park Farmers Market

Armitage and Burling  
(Lincoln Park High School parking lot)  
Saturdays, May through October  
[www.cityofchicago.org/specialevents](http://www.cityofchicago.org/specialevents)

#### Chicago's Green City Market

SUMMER:

At the south end of Lincoln Park,  
between 1750 N. Clark and Stockton

May through October: Wednesdays and Saturdays

WINTER:

The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum:  
2430 N. Cannon Drive

January through April: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday  
from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

[www.chicagogreencitymarket.org](http://www.chicagogreencitymarket.org)

Sources: Park and farmer's market websites (listed above)

