

CHICAGO



CITY CIVICS DAY



November 9, 2024

A Celebration of
Community Connection



Seeing local organizations, small business owners, and community members share their insights on improving city civics—ranging from voting and community violence organizing to small business support—was incredibly powerful.” — EVENT ATTENDEE

On November 9, 2024, the City of Chicago held the **2nd Annual City Civics Day**, a celebration of community connection and engagement that inspired everyday Chicagoans to take part in civic life.

The daylong celebration included:



Artist Performances



Panel Discussions



Unique Activations

City Civics Day was designed to facilitate conversation and connection among attendees and provide practical tools for engaging in one’s community.

Panel discussions showcased the work that people around Chicago are doing to partner with City government to effect change in their communities. Art activations, sound baths, and movement breaks fostered an environment of creativity and self-care.

VISION

City Civics Day is part of the City’s commitment to build more robust and effective civic infrastructure, anchored by the pillars of the Citywide Plan: arts and culture; food access; entrepreneurship; housing and neighborhoods; lifelong learning; public health and safety; and transportation and infrastructure.

City Civics Day was produced by the **Department of Planning and Development** and the **Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events**. The event was held at Malcolm X College, an accessible, centralized location on Chicago’s Near West Side.

Day at a Glance

OPENING CEREMONIES

- ★ Welcome
- ★ Poetry and dance performance by Chicago's Poet Laureate avery r. young, featuring Mekeba Malik
- ★ Emcee Melissa DuPrey, actor

CLOSING KEYNOTE

- ★ Stories for Civics, presented by 2nd Story

ART OFFERINGS

- ★ Art Activations, presented by Somos Artes
- ★ Reset ReCharge movement and meditation, presented by Lady Sol and Mecca Elevated

PANEL SESSIONS

Session #1	Session #2	Session #3
ChiBlockBuilder: Bringing New Activity to Vacant Land	Setting the Table: Improving Access to Healthy Food in Chicago	Meet the City Clerk: Livestreams, Agendas, and Ordinances, Oh My!
Disrupting the Cycle: Building Safer Neighborhoods through Violence Interruption	Creating Vibrant Communities Through Entrepreneurship	From Murals to Sculpture: How Public Art Gets There
Learning Together: How Chicago Public Library Designs Programming with the Community	Healing Arts Chicago: Artists as Community Health Workers	Equitable Transit-Oriented Development and the Red Line Extension



Listening to community members during the food access panel discuss the creative and innovative ways they're meeting community needs was inspiring." — EVENT ATTENDEE

By the Numbers

500+ 

Attendees

10% increase in attendance
from 2023

35 

Presenters

31 

Participating Artists

OVER

\$17,000 

In honoraria
distributed

12

Ad placements in
Chicago media, including



5

College
publications

3.3M

Chicagoans
reached through
media and outreach

POST-EVENT SURVEY RESPONSES



Quality of the
presentations

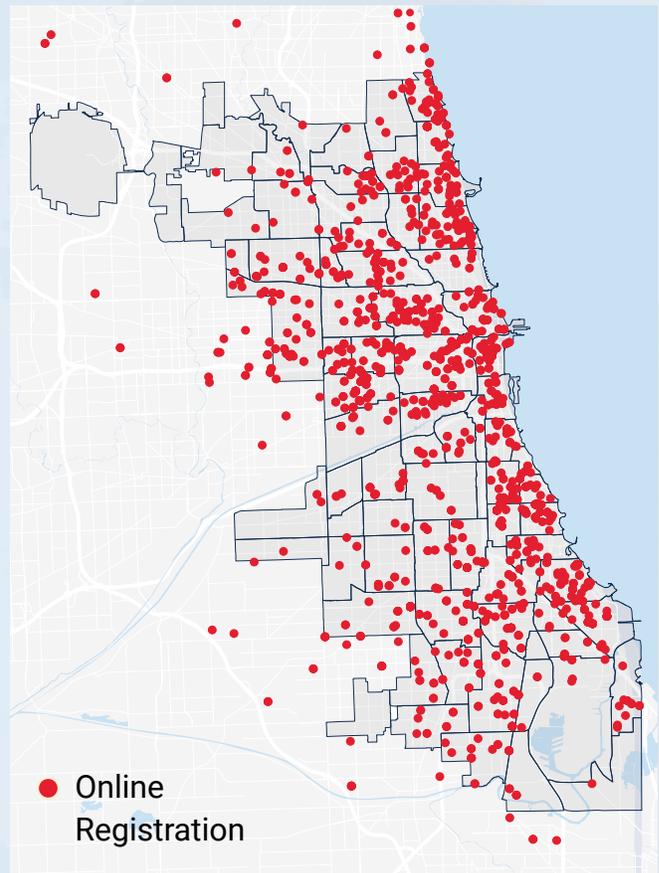


Overall satisfaction
with City Civics Day

96%

Respondents "very" or
"exceptionally" inspired to get
involved in their community

CITY CIVICS DAY REGISTRATIONS



Chicagoans from

72 OUT OF **77**

Community Areas signed
up to join the event

Get Involved

City Civics Day is an opportunity to inform Chicagoans about the City's work and engage with the public in a fun, collaborative setting.

By participating as presenters, representatives from City departments and community organizations can:



CREATE WORKSHOPS

to answer the most frequently-asked questions from the public.



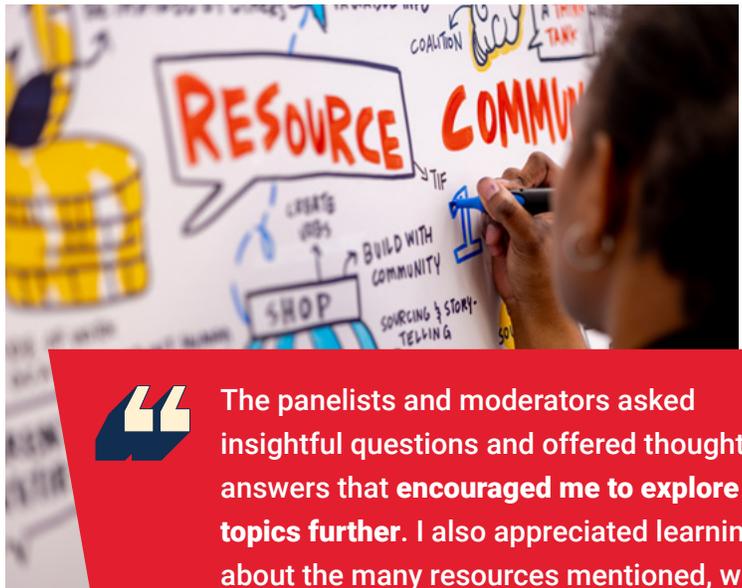
GIVE INSIGHT

into the role they play in City governance and provide opportunities for public input.



HELP CHICAGOANS

understand how to become partners in creating positive change.



The panelists and moderators asked insightful questions and offered thoughtful answers that **encouraged me to explore the topics further**. I also appreciated learning about the many resources mentioned, which were new and valuable.” — EVENT ATTENDEE

Learn More About City Civics Day



Chicago.gov/CityCivicsDay

This event was produced by the Department of Planning and Development and the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.



@ChicagoDPD
@ChicagoDCASE

#CityCivicsDay

