

The Neighborhood Access Program (NAP) supports the cultural vitality of every neighborhood via grant programs and partnerships designed to be responsive to the complex needs of individual communities. It was created to support arts and culture activities in all neighborhoods with a focus on those that have traditionally not received significant funding through DCASE’s Cultural Grants Program, and to collaborate with other City departments to make a collective impact on neighborhoods identified through the INVEST South/West and Our City, Our Safety initiatives.

2023 NAP Grantees

Grantee	Project Title	Project Description
18th Street Casa de Cultura	Son Artistas: Family-Child Bilingual Multi-disciplinary Arts Studio Workshops and Celebrations	18th Street Casa de Cultura will provide culturally and linguistically relevant programming for children aged 0 – 12 years, including music and instrument-making, podcasting, and bilingual arts immersion.
4500 West Monroe Street Block Club	A Rose is still a Rose	Community block club organizer Jocelyn Woodards and artist Janel Young will collaborate with residents to create a mural and install a sculpture on the corner of Madison and Kenton streets.
51st Street Business Association	Brown Derby Jazz Series Part 2	This live music series will present local musicians to play monthly at the Bronzeville Winery.
A Knock At Midnight, NFP	Exposure to Photography	A Knock at Midnight will partner with Fresh Lens Chicago to provide introductory photography courses to 30 youth.
AnySquared Arts NFP	Home Not Home	AnySquared Arts will partner with Palenque LSNA, Renegades of Funk, Pilsen Art & Community House , and Casa Hernandez/Humboldt Park Solidarity Network in a series of public art and community engagement projects.
Bonni McKeown	Passing on the Blues	Elder Blues musicians will lead music history and lyric-writing workshops with Austin youth, culminating in public concerts.
Building Community Foundation, INC	Bronzeville Art District Art Tours	The "Palm Sundays" music jazz series will be presented during the summer against the backdrop of commissioned murals from local resident artists.
CircEsteem	CircEsteem Hosting Performing Arts Events in Gage Park	Based on community input, CircEsteem will present seven events in Gage Park, promoting the arts while fostering community engagement in neighborhood strategic planning.
Englewood Arts Collective	Activating the Arts Village at the Englewood Music Fest	Englewood Arts Collective will produce arts festival programming alongside the Englewood Music Festival in 2024.
Fresh Path Inc	Fresh Ofrenda	Chicago Hip-Hop artists will facilitate two multi-disciplinary workshops with neighborhood youth and returning citizens that will culminate in showcasing the work in public ofrendas.
Gary Comer Youth Center	Children Walk Here	This project will install public art highlighting the pathways children use to transverse school home and the community center.
Geraldine Leopoldo	KAPWA Theatre Project	The KAPWA Theatre Project will utilize teaching artists in community workshops to solicit personal stories and transform them into theatre and storytelling events.
Gloria Rivera	The Successors' Pop-Up Art Gallery	This six-week artistic workshop for Englewood youth will immerse 10 students in different disciplines culminating in two popup galleries where they can sell their artwork. Visiting artists will provide insight into their medium of expertise and professional practice.

Greater Chatham Initiative	Mahalia Jackson Court Concert Series	Greater Chatham Initiative will host a free multi-genre concert series at Mahalia Jackson Court on Saturdays during the summer months in 2024.
Humboldt Park Skate Meetup	HP Skate Meetup Operational Funding	The Meetup will host a monthly skating event at Humboldt and Garfield Parks, including free skate rentals and live music.
Jeff Daube	Conservation Education Through the Arts	The Dunning Read Natural Area will partner with Taft Freshman Academy and local artists Natalie Perkins, Yaritza Guillen, Leslie Baum, and Laura Miracle to raise awareness of conservation through the arts.
Lawndale Pop-Up Spot	Reimagining 16th Street	Local arts facilitators will lead community workshops exploring the neighborhood's past, present, and future, culminating in the residents' creation of public art.
Mika Tang	Chicago by Drone	Pilot Mika Tang will introduce the skills of drone piloting and photography alongside an appreciation of local history and architecture through workshops for local youth.
NeighborScapes	In Th3 Land - An Englewood Open Mic Series	In collaboration with Write It Down and Heavy Crownz, Neighborscapes will provide writing workshops in addition to their monthly open mic series in partnership with Imagine Englewood If... and the Abundant Chi Collective.
Public Media Institute	Community Portraits: Radio Collages of Southwest Neighborhoods	PMI will create a radio and livestream series of experimental audio collages and audio-portraits capturing the diverse and dynamic stories of residents in Little Village, Newcity, and Bronzeville, accompanied by live events.
Sally Nuamah	Common Archives: A Celebration of Black Neighborhood Life	Sally Nuamah will collect the history of the Neighborhood Commons Cooperative and the stories of its residents, to be archived on the community and History Makers' websites.
SkyART	SkyART Art Therapy Program Expansion	Project Impact offers free art therapy services in the SkyART Studio, schools, and community organizations in South Chicago.
Somos Arte	Somos Arte Sunday's	Somos Arte will hold four popup arts and culture mini-festivals in Humboldt Park on the first Sunday of every summer month in 2024, culminating in a Books and Backpacks event.
The Next Level Dance Foundation	Village In The City Dance Film Project	This project consists of dance/theater and videography classes culminating in a Community Fitness Festival and Showcase. Student filmmakers will create a short documentary for a public screening.
The South Side Jazz Coalition	The Tuesday Jazz Jam	The Second Tuesday Jazz Jam will be a free monthly music presentation featuring local Chicago professional musicians, dancers, poets and up-and-coming young artists.
Theatre Y	Moonset Sunrise	In partnership with Collaboraction, Theatre Y will present a weekend of self-care and healing with workshops, vendors, live music, poetry, food and performance of Moonset Sunrise, a two act piece of "healing theatre."
Uhuru Shule Cooperative, Inc.	Uhuru Shule Community Arts and Education Program	This project will offer free videography, podcasting, photography, and graphic design workshops to youth in the Bronzeville neighborhood.

Proposal Review Panelists: Karen Anderson, Jaime Arteaga, Meghan Beals, Sheree Blakemore, Rose Blouin, David Boykin, Cathleen Burrill, Teri Carson, Gabriel Chalfin-Piney, Ashwaty Chennat, Keshia Daniels-Rush, Ben Duncan, Nubia Henderson, Nyabweza Itaagi, Elizabeth Johanson, Sam Kirk, Amancay CT Kugler, Rika Lin, Dianna C. Long, Bettie P. McReynolds-Milligan, Sharon Morgan, Alexander Nunes, Shalom Parker, Maryrose Pavkovic, Bobby Price, Pablo Ramirez, James Sanders, Tara Zanzig, and Edith Zarco