



**CHICAGO ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL**



## Treating All Dogs As Individuals Will Save More Lives!

Judging a book by its cover has never been a safe bet. Same goes for dogs! In fact, trying to identify the breed of a dog by his appearance is so unreliable that not even the experts can get it right most of the time. Many dogs stay at CACC for long periods of time just because of the way they look and, more importantly, unscientific assumptions about their behavior based on those looks! That's not fair.

A dog's genome consists of roughly 20,000 genes. Less than 1 percent of these genes determine physical appearance. The set of genes associated with physical appearance is different from the sets of thousands of genes responsible for brain development and function. In short, we cannot accurately predict behavior based on the appearance of a dog.

Once a dog is less than 100 percent of a single breed, they have genetic variations that make them distinct from that breed. So mixed breed dogs are not half of one breed and half of another – **they are no breed at all!**

Unfortunately, many people assume all medium to large-sized, square-headed, short-haired, muscular dogs with the great smiles are all "pit bulls" – not that there is anything wrong with the actual breed called the American Pit Bull Terrier. But the majority of the dogs that come into CACC are just lovable mutts, with no such royal uninterrupted lineage.

We are proud of the many wonderful mixed-breed dogs that arrive at our shelter – each as unique as the residents of our City. Please help us spread the word so that all of CACC's homeless adoptable dogs find the great homes they deserve

Sources: *Animal Farm Foundation.org*; Janis Bradley, "The Relevance of Breed in Selecting a Companion Dog", published by the National Canine Research Council.

**Adoptable Chicago Dogs and Cats  
– Adoption Fee \$65  
(Includes spay/neuter, vaccines, and microchip!)**



**AUTUMN** (A156391) is a very playful and energetic girl. Autumn participates in our dog playgroup where she likes to chase and dance around her playmates. Bring her home this Holiday in time for your festivities!

## EVENTS

### CACC Low Cost Vaccine/Microchip and Tag Clinic

December 14, 2016  
2741 S. Western  
9:00 a.m. to 11 a.m.

### Home for the Holidays! Adoption Event (In partnership with the Animal Care League)

(waived and reduced adoption fees)  
December 17, 2016  
1011 Garfield Street, Oak Park, IL  
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*CACC is always in need of paper towels, newspapers, and other items, as well as volunteers. Visit our Web site today and learn how you can help!*

**Construction Update:** Since November of 2014, CACC has been undergoing a major renovation of its dog pavilions, which has reduced kennel spaces for dogs. By late spring 2017, for the first time in 30 years, CACC will have new, more comfortable dog kennels in each of its seven dog pavilions. The facility upgrades also include a new roof, improved ventilation, plumbing, and improved lighting. As part of the construction timeline, CACC engaged in ongoing discussions to best accommodate animals throughout the shelter. CACC consulted with shelter expert Sandra Newbury and worked closely with our rescue partners to devise strategies to move the animals that enter the facility out more quickly when possible. Euthanasia at the City shelter has not increased during construction.