

# Chicago**History**Museum

## Chicago History Museum Fact Sheet

### **ADDRESS:**

1601 North Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60614-6038  
312-642-4600  
[www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org)

### **MUSEUM HOURS:**

Monday - Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday, 12 noon – 5:00 p.m.

### **RESEARCH CENTER HOURS:**

Tuesday – Friday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday - Monday, closed

### **GENERAL ADMISSION:**

\$16 adults, \$14 seniors (65+)/students (13-22)  
Free for children 12 and under.  
*Prices subject to change*

### **HISTORY**

The Chicago Historical Society was founded in April 1856 by the city's leading entrepreneurs to document Chicago's transformation from a frontier town into a major urban center. The Society's original collection was destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. It rebuilt its collection, and in the 1920s, purchased thousands of artifacts and manuscripts from the estate of Charles F. Gunther. This purchase augmented the extensive research library and archival collection and formed the basis of its highly regarded collection of decorative and industrial arts, paintings, sculpture, and costumes. In 1932, the Chicago Historical Society built a red-brick Georgian style facility at North Avenue and Clark Street in Lincoln Park, its current location.

In 2006, the Chicago Historical Society announced its new name: Chicago History Museum. The Museum features the Costume and Textile Gallery, dedicated to displaying changing exhibitions from the Museum's renowned costume and textile collections; the Konen Family Children's Gallery, where children learn about Chicago using their senses; and the KPMG and Paul and Katherine Snyder Community Gallery which explores Chicago's diverse people and places. The Exelon Wing houses the long-term exhibition, *Chicago: Crossroads of America*, which showcases Chicago's past in five themed sections; the Tawani Foundation Diorama Hall; and the Chicago Room, an event space connected to the Uihlein Plaza and overlooking Lincoln Park.

### **COLLECTION**

The collection includes 22 million artifacts and documents organized into seven main holdings: Archives and Manuscripts; Architecture; Costumes; Decorative and Industrial Arts; Prints and Photographs; Painting and Sculpture; and Library materials. The collection is kept and maintained at several locations including the Museum.

## **EDUCATION**

The Chicago History Museum offers informative and interactive exhibitions and programming that serve Illinois State education guidelines and requirements. The Museum sponsors special teacher conferences and workshops in conjunction with new exhibitions and produces a range of print and multimedia materials for use in the classroom. The Museum also offers wide-ranging public programs, including panel discussions, lectures, walking tours, bus and L tours, book signings, and performance events.

## **WEBSITE**

The Chicago History Museum's website, [www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org), serves not only as an introduction to the Museum, but also features special online exhibitions, access to the research collection, blogs, and interactive ways to stay involved in Museum activities. The website also links to the electronic *Encyclopedia of Chicago*.

## **FUNDING**

The Chicago History Museum is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization and is affiliated with the Chicago Historical Society. The Museum provides exhibitions, programming, and operations that are member supported and privately funded through contributions to the Chicago Historical Society from individuals, corporations, foundations, and government agencies. The Chicago Park District also provides support for all of the Museum's activities in a unique public-private partnership.

## **RESEARCH CENTER**

Members of the public have access to photographs, architecture drawings, documents, periodicals, maps, books, newspapers, and directories that are found in the Research Center holdings. Other collections holdings are available by appointment only.

## **MUSEUM STORE**

The Museum Store offers a wide selection of items on the history and culture of Chicago and the United States, including a large selection of books, posters, photos, jewelry, and toys. In addition to the Clark Street location, the Store is also accessible online at [www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org).

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## **ABOUT THE CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM**

The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 22, 36, 72, 73, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission includes our audio tours: \$16 adults, \$14 seniors/students, free for children 12 years and younger. Prices are subject to change. Please call 312-642-4600 or visit us at [chicagohistory.org](http://chicagohistory.org). To learn more follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). The Chicago History Museum gratefully acknowledges the support of the Chicago Park District on behalf of the people of Chicago.