

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Ashburn	Park District	Park District Day Camp at Dooley Park	Participating in the Park District Day Camp during the summer of 2003 left me with a strong sense of neighborhood and community. As a child I noticed how the parks serve a similar purpose as plazas in my native Mexico. I learned how the park system is intimately involved in neighborhood activities and how they serve as a central gathering place for locals. I felt strangely close to my memories in Mexico and felt a sense of nostalgia as I spent time understanding my place in the park and surrounding neighborhood.
Austin	Park District	BUILD Arts Academy	In BUILD's Arts Academy, youth ages 8-24 are encouraged to express themselves and exorcise trauma through art. They create art that gives them a voice about their experiences and the world around them.
Austin	Park District	BUILD Summer of Opportunity Street Festival	The Summer of Opportunity Street Festival demonstrates how celebration and collaboration can be powerful tools for building a community that cares for our youth. For more than 51 years, BUILD has helped thousands of youth that others have gave up on transform their lives and reach their potential. Yet we are far from alone – Summer of Opportunity draws on the leadership of literally dozens of partners.
Austin	Park District	Young person's writing and singing ability	There's nothing to know about me really, I'm just me. I sing. One day I was in my room listening to beats, started writing out of nowhere, started writing lyrics. I've song at churches, plays, and school. My cousin's high school did musical play, high school musical, wanted me to be girl from High school musical Gabriella. Proviso West. Sometimes I write personal things, how the world needs peace, or how black lives matter and things like that.

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Bridgeport	Park District	Archer Beach Haus/Ballroom/Rut-Corp venue	<p>Archer Beach Haus/Ballroom/Rut-Corp is a three story building located in Bridgeport near archer and ashland. I think the Archer complex is important to culture in Chicago; specifically underground culture and the local music scene. Each floor of the complex is it's own separate venue that has hosted various events in the past. The top floor, Archer Ballroom, primarily hosts punk/ noise shows. The middle floor, Archer Beach Haus, mainly hosts local contemporary art shows and small gallery openings. Lastly, the ground floor, Rut-Corp, is known for hosting and organizing electronic music shows, raves, and instillation art openings. Currently, with the pandemic happening, the Archer complex has been indefinitely shutdown. However, I think it is important to acknowledge the significance of these venues as they have provided a prominent and consistent space for underground art & music to exist in Chicago for the past several years.</p>
Bridgeport	Park District	Bridgeport Art Center	<p>I don't have much of a story in particular, but taking their ceramics classes and the experience there as a whole really inspired me. The studios and workspaces are so beautiful, and they have really interesting ceramic exhibits that are changing all the time. The space alone inspired me as well, with plants everywhere and beautiful pieces lining walls. I hadn't done ceramics since high school, and had always been really passionate about it so when I took the weekly class here I was able to realize I wanted to explore it even more.</p>
Bridgeport	Park District	Dfbrl8r (Defibrillator) Performance Art Gallery	<p>I feel that some of the most exciting art experiences that I've had in Chicago have taken place at Defibrillator Performance Art Gallery. Over the years I've become friends with Joseph Ravens. He is so committed to his work to run this performance art space, bringing in internationally renowned performance artists, showcasing experimental and radical work, and supporting emerging artists. He is so generous to the artists he works with and to the Chicago art community at large. He literally puts in everything he has into the space.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Bridgeport	Park District	Zhou B Art Center	<p>Zhou B Art Center 1029 W 35th St, Chicago, IL 60609</p> <p>This center was home to dfbrl8r, one of Chicago's oldest performance art spaces, and I went there for a performance that was part of the Art Center's first Friday events. I had mixed feelings about the Center itself, which appeared at first impression to exist mainly as a monument to its two creators, but when I visited on that Friday, I saw one of the busiest art events I'd ever been to, with the most diverse of audiences - there was live music on one floor, a performance in the basement, another exhibition upstairs, and numerous open studios. There were truly all kinds of art on display here - a far cry from the rarified selections we discussed in graduate school, and I continue to appreciate the way the Center supports a wide variety of art and offers affordable spaces to arts practitioners and gallerists.</p>
Brighton Park	Free Street	47th Corridor	<p>Identified in survey as an important landmark for the community. All the colors and murals are representative of the neighborhood's Mexican culture.</p>
Brighton Park	Free Street	Brighton Park Neighborhood Council	<p>"We offer direct community services like LIHEAP, financial assistance, we help families file for medical benefits, we provide resources to families struggling with housing, we have counselors at our partnered schools, we also run programming inside schools for parents and students, we have parent mentors program, safe passage.. On the organizing side we are focusing on immigration, defunding the police, mental health, violence prevention, political education and more."</p> <p> https://www.instagram.com/bpncchicago/ &
https://www.bpncchicago.org/</p>
Brighton Park	Free Street	Cafe El Meson	
Brighton Park	Free Street	Collaborative Institute of Cultural Arts	<p>CICA mission is to promote cultural awareness and art appreciation through the celebration of Mexican Folkloric Dance in our surrounding communities and the world. Teach Mexican Folklorico & dance, music classes for adults 1:1 , and youth in dance classes. Teach in 12 schools through Frida Kahlo Comm Organization. Organize community events & showcases (like Mexican art museum).</p> <p> https://www.facebook.com/CICAchicago/</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Brighton Park	Free Street	Crafts by Claudia	ONLY local arts and crafts store that closed down in 2019 due to lack of business and rise of Amazon. https://blockclubchicago.org/2019/08/28/crafts-by-claudia-to-close-saturday-after-4-decades-in-brighton-park/
Brighton Park	Free Street	De Colores Ice cream	
Brighton Park	Free Street	Federacion de Clubes Unidos Zacatecanos	This cultural center is part of a national club collective of Zacatecan, Mexican immigrants focusing on providing mutual aid amongst other types of support for their community in Chicago and across the nation. https://www.facebook.com/FederacionZacatecanaEnIllinois/
Brighton Park	Free Street	Frida Kahlo Community Organization	"Currently, our student programs are all offered through a multidisciplinary component under the name of RISE (Resources Invested in School Enrichment). RISE is a partnership with 7 elementary and 3 high schools, a five-year grant program from the Illinois State Board of Education and U.S. Department of Education. Through a variety of after school programming RISE Academy's objective is to support students, parents, and community members in their academic and personal growth. Creating an involved, informed, and empowered school community is our ultimate goal." https://fridacommunity.org/education/student-programs/
Brighton Park	Free Street	Gunsaulus Elementary School Mural	Location: Brighton Park - 4420 S Sacramento Ave, Chicago IL 60632 Year(s): 2014-2016, 2019, 2020 Participants: 40 [4th-8th grade students] Description: Over several years, Green Star Movement completed several projects at this elementary school in Brighton Park. GSM murals can be found on the main entrance, facing the playing field and playground, and on the theater entrance. https://greenstarmovement.org/blog/2016/7/18/gunsaulus-elementary

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Brighton Park	Free Street	Interconnected and Affected	<p>"This is a podcast where we will explore Chicago's southwest side through the stories of the residents who live here. We will dive deep into topics through anecdotes and question our opinions through political and sociological perspectives. I want to start off by focusing on the neighborhood I live in, Brighton Park and eventually branch out to other neighborhoods as time goes on. We all have a story to tell, I want to make yours heard. Connect with me on Instagram to send me your anecdotes at @itspa_hola... One of the things that is so powerful and beautiful about our communities is that we make a lot of these things for ourselves and we create our own resources and we are each others' resources a lot of the times and I think there is a lot of strength in that cause if people aren't going to give us stuff we are going to make for ourselves and I think it's really great that I see a lot of people are already doing that and I want to support them in any way that I can." - Paola Ponce https://anchor.fm/interconnectedandaffected</p>
Brighton Park	Free Street	Kelly Branch, Chicago Public Library	<p>The Kelly Branch of this Chicago Public Library offers a variety of programming for the surrounding neighborhood. Activities offered are arts and craft for children and adults, story time for childrens, and YOUmedia activities for teens. https://www.chipublib.org/</p>
Brighton Park	Free Street	Little Blue Bird Library	<p>"We have a stand in front of our house with books for people to take and or share/drop off. This little library stand was painting by me and other community members. My mother hosts monthly book club for children and adults. The children book club is called blue bird book club. The adult book club is called De Colores book club." https://www.instagram.com/little_blue_bird_library/</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Brighton Park	Free Street	Mujeres Latinas en Accion	<p>Since 1973, Mujeres Latinas en Acción is the longest standing Latina-led organization in the nation. Over the years we have honed our offerings including community services that empower Latinas and their families, and supports them as they heal, and thrive within our programs. "We are an organization that does not offer direct arts or cultural programming but we do group setting programming, including our Empresarias program that is women entrepreneurs coming together to share their ongoing business ideas and work. This ranges from food making to jewelry, etc. and these women rely on each other for support and look at their neighborhood and community for inspiration. We also do work in domestic violence and rape crisis prevention (one of three) and we are geared towards culturally relevant programming and healing opportunities. So we bring groups of survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence to heal together - for Latinas its a really successful way for helping survivors (this differs per community and culture) but for us it works. Group setting helps target a lot of that self hate and isolation that happens for victims of this type of trauma."</p> <p> https://mujereslatinasenaccion.org/contact/</p>
Brighton Park	Free Street	Ollin Papalotl	<p>Cultural shop and aztec danza venue, closed down due to lack of ownership of building (owner was selling building). Closed due to lack of property ownership. https://www.facebook.com/ollinpapalotlbytlanezochitl/?ref=page_internal</p>
Brighton Park	Free Street	Southwest Collective	<p>The Collective is a collection of groups dedicated to specific initiatives on the southwest side of Chicago.
Our groups meet monthly to tackle issues like development, crime and placemaking. Web: swcollective.org FB: @theswcollective IG/Twitter: @swcollectivechi

</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Brighton Park	Free Street	Thomas Kelly College Preparatory Fine Arts & Performing Arts Department	<p>"Everything we do is in service of the neighborhood and we are proud of that. The majority of students that come into Kelly do not have a background in music or the arts or have ever acted on a stage. Our choir program (beginner-advanced) perform out at churches in the area different competitions and concerts in our auditorium open to the community. The orchestra department is newer so we have concerts in the school and hoping to expand . The theater program is not just school based but also ASM based. We mostly attract students from Kelly but students from other schools are open to join (runs fall, spring, and summer). In summer we invite local elementary school students to participate under the leadership of the high school students that are part of that department. In the school year we not only do musical performances, but we also do a lot of smaller productions of just acting or singing- a lot of individual based competitions and performances across the city. The band has been around since the early 1900s, very long tradition of having band specifically and we live up to that. I think we are one of the top three schools in band including Lane Techs and Whitney Youngs. Our most known group is marching band doing 20-30 events a year (State St. parade, Mexican independence parade down archer, Memorial day festival) They travel every other year (done NeW Orleans parades, others in DC, in Orlando Florida at universal studios). All made up of students from the neighborhood who learned in our program and advanced to such high standards and traveling for their art. Also do college visits and perform in the field during halftimes. Musical Pit Band- Jazz group & New orleans brass band -- exists more outside the schools." https://sites.google.com/cps.edu/kellyband and https://sites.google.com/asmprograms.org/nola-brass-band-jazz-improv;</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Chatham	Park District	Cultural programs at Dixon Elementary School	<p>Every 3rd weekend in March, CULTURAL CONNECTION AFRICAN MARKETPLACE AND BAZAAR, has run for 23 years and have over 63 African American artist/vendors who come from across the country to share with our students and the Chatham community, in particular, to showcase African Americans products, manufacturer and creators. Established by our Black Studies teacher to show students we are not 'consumers' to remind them we are Queens/Kings of our own destiny.</p> <p>D.I.G. - A program begun to encourage students to learn to grow and produce their own produce. To develop strength of character, commitment and perseverance, by growing a farmers market. Future plans are to be able to have more community and partnership with parent/child involvement. Once the greenhouse has been restored, in addition planting will take place year-round. To teach students about ornamental gardening, through horticulture and maintaining the ecosystem. To include the sell of produce and flowers to the community</p>
Chatham	Park District	Historic Chatham Business District	<p>Activities that my brother and I enjoyed was bowling, went to Starlight Grove. Daddy O'Daily called his bowling leagues and Jacoby Dickens wanted to buy the Starlight Grove. Mortgaged his home went to the SBA. Black businesses in Chatham that were frustrated with discriminatory lending practices. Wanted to have their own black bank in the community. Door to door to sell shares for 1 million dollars. CEO of bank 1965, MLK made a deposit for SLCL at the end of Seeway, 422 million, 250 employees. 87th Street. Branched out to east and north of chatham area. Were a lot of notables in Chatham, JOhn Steele, Ernie Banks (baseball players) played for cubs, lived in Chatham, architect. Daughter Jeanie married Arthur Ashe. Mahalia Jackson. People lived right in the neighborhood. Chatham had a lot in the past 60 years, still businesses thriving in Chatham. They never give up.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Chatham	Park District	Tuley Park programming in the 50s and 60s	My parents were part of the Great Migration, started out in Atgeld Gardens, then moved to Princeton park and then Chatham in early 50s. As a kid I looked forward to a lot of the programs at Tuley. When school was out activities began, day camp, program called bar x with the counselors, swimming, tap, gymnastics, library events. In the winter, ice skating, would freeze the baseball diamonds. Had a hot house, could change your skates there. Wanted to play crack the whip and be at the crack the whip. Halloween talent show at the field house. Had the burring of the witch afterwards, bonfire. Watched the fire as it was going up. The spirit of the witch and the end of Halloween.
Chicago Lawn	Park District	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Memorial in Marquette Park	I carved with John Weber the first monument to MLK Jr in state of illinois at Marquette Park, done in carved brick, symbolized the fair housing marches. MLK lived in Lawndale and did fair housing marches further south. I was comissioned by Chicago Public Art, and IMAN. Carved for two years the vignettes that told the story of the marches, counter protestors that started throwing rocks and stone, MLK got hit, deemed Chicago the most violent city in American. Cool part was that we reached out to the community the entire time and workshops with the community in Marquette Park. Hand cut clay tiles and carved them with images of home. from 3 years old and 90 years old. Tiles line the benches that are around the circular plaza memorial in Marquette Park.

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Chicago Lawn	Park District	Experiences leading to Surveillance Photo Project	<p>January 1st, through December 31st 2013, Jazmin conducted a 365-day surveillance photo project where she devised a ritual of seeking out public surveillance cameras on a daily basis and photographing a different watchful eye every day for a year. The act of photographing the cameras is an act of addressing the voyeur, and temporarily removing its power. Some of the cameras are in plain sight and some are strategically hidden, but all of them are semi-spherical, sleek, menacing machines that seem to potentially violate as much as they protect.</p> <p>[Program at Marwen for art in 4th grade, lived in Marquette Park, introduced me at Columbia, got my associates degree in graphic design in high school, fine arts and design program in college. Grad in 2014. Would travel back and forth from South Side and North Side on a daily basis. Being able to see surveillance come up. 2006 blue light program came up. Started taking photos of different cameras. Used to do panel discussions about it. Recreated it in 2015 and 2017. Now doing a project on Goya (with Goya crossed out). Still working on language. Did a lot of teaching from 2014 and 2018, taught back at Marwen and CParkDistict. Huge influence on me, came from a working household, after school programs. Served in my art, traveling and using that was a big thing. 2015 started Hermosa Walls, living in Hermosa. Invited artists to do a mural in my backyard, would host exhibitions. Most artists fine artist had never done a mural. A do a lot large scale murals around Chicago, tryign to get more into. La Juntas, network for Latinas in Chicagos, to build community, specifically because of Park District and after school programs, this comes naturally to me. Working with La Juntas and murals and using my design to showcase what I do.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Chicago Lawn	Park District	Inner City Muslim Action Network - Beloved Community Ceramics Studio	<p>between Englewood and the Chicago Lawn. She uses clay as a form of healing to give participants a full body experience that connects the use of all four elements (Earth, Water, Wind, and Air). She has classes that are interdisciplinary with not only creating with clay, but also connecting it with how participants interact with natural environment and their mental health. [Audio story of Ariya Siddiqui herself explaining the healing process. Beloved Community Ceramics Studio. Learning about pottery and nature and talking walk. Behavioral health therapists on staff. Talk about ways to cope and then make a ceramic. Memory boxes of affirmations for ourselves. Pandora box of hope. Open studio hours. No lecture, give clay and fire it and come back to paint it. I also do oil painting and documentary film-making, storytelling. Ceramics is about learning to process your own narrative and confidence to tell your story yourself.]</p> <p>2-IMAN has had a lasting impact on my life and truly has bettered me as a person. I have found myself as an artist, civically-engaged community leader, and spiritual person at IMAN. IMAN's commitment to safe, creative, and thriving spaces that truly bring the hearts of people together, facilitates healing, and challenges us to reimagine the world is so special. We need to support more spaces in the city that radically support love, leadership, and legacy. IMAN is having a deep impact in the neighborhood. IMAN is bringing topics to the forefront of peoples' attentions in a creative and inviting way. We need to do this more throughout the city.</p> <p>3-The creation, collaboration and presentation of community-engaged art that unites disconnected communities, facilitates transformative healing, and fosters the ability to radically reimagine the world are intrinsic to IMAN's mission. IMAN continues to make a collective impact both as a cultural institution in the larger American Muslim community and in the inner-city that supports artists and art</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Chicago Lawn	Free Street	Inner City Muslim Action Network Beloved Community Ceramics Studio	<p>This studio is the first of its kind on Chicago’s South Side; an artisan workshop that convenes local artists and community members to craft unique ceramic works that inspire creativity, community, and entrepreneurship. The distinct curriculum taught within the Studio intersects aspects of ceramics, community organizing principles, and behavioral health techniques.

The Beloved Community Ceramics Studio offers a combination of free and affordable classes and workshops. Customized workshops can be facilitated for school field trips, group outings, or organization/corporate gatherings. Access to the Studio or our kiln is available to community members, art students, and local creatives.</p> <p> https://www.imacentral.org/arts-culture/beloved-community-ceramic-studio/</p>
Chicago Lawn	Free Street	Tonti Elementary School	<p>Enrico Tonti Elementary School was built in 1928 in the Chicago Lawn neighborhood on the southwest side of Chicago. About a decade ago, we added a twelve-room annex and last year we added a 4 room modular building for our full-day Kindergarten classes.

At Tonti, we have 40 classroom teachers, 5 special needs teachers, 15 bilingual Spanish speaking classroom teachers, and 13 classroom aides. As a community school, we offer Parent Training Classes in computers, literacy, nutrition, wellness, parenting, and GED classes as well as various other after school programs. Tonti's PTA, LSC, BAC, and PAC work together to fundraise to provide students with field trips and other incentives throughout the year.</p>
Chinatown	Park District	Ping Tom Memorial Park Advisory Council	<p>(Video submitted about Park) Ping Tom Memorial Park, restored park space to Chinatown that was destroyed by highway production in 1962, community organizing to get it made...Ping Tom bought land for it from the railway, drew on traditional Chinese and Japanese landscape design, raised money for three walls mural under 18th street bridge, symbolize that though we are from different places we could be one, designed easier access to the water’s edge (was 15 foot drop). Sense of safety, place for healthy activity, sense of community in planting native plants in the park. Impact on kids in having a safe space to play. Landscape design traditionally for the wealthy, but making it available to all. This park is making a difference in people’s lives.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Edgewater	Park District	Asian Improv aRts Midwest	<p>As one of the only Japanese arts non-profit organizations led by practicing and award-winning artists in Chicago, Asian Improv aRts Midwest’s mission is to build a vital, self-empowered Asian American Community in the Chicago area by advancing the understanding and profile of Asian American cultures through the traditional and contemporary cultural arts.</p> <p>AIRMW is dedicated to creating productive relationships with artists, community and institutions in order to produce high quality arts programs that accurately reflect the multicultural, multi-ethnic reality of Chicago and the nation.</p>
Edgewater	Park District	Berger Park Cultural Center Advisory Council	
Edgewater	Park District	FRUTAS (LGBTQ Spanish Language & Culture Group)	<p>Summer 2018, 6018 North, Emilio Rojas alerted me to apartment records pinned to a 2nd FL wall. Emilio & I began setting out tamales, salsa, & limes onto the porch table for FRUTAS, while he told me about m(Other)s, a video portrait series of documented & undocumented immigrant women holding their first-generation children, as part of the 2019 Live Arts Bard Biennial: Where No Wall Remains. Things were not yet set down, when a couple other FRUTAS showed up with wine. We talked about day drinking & the difference of a drink vs. many. Is it about who is impacted by what can’t be stomached? We all agreed we were standing on a plastered body. A mother & her daughter arrived; Emilio went into the house & took photos with them for m(Other)s. After, the daughter came outside with a drawing of a girl. “Is that your friend?” I asked. “Yes, it’s the girl who lives around the 2nd FL. She said she is lonely, all by herself, for all these decades, but I told her, you are not alone; I am here.”</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Englewood	Free Street	(RAGE) Residential Association of Greater Englewood	The Residential Association of Greater Englewood is a resident-driven association established to build relationships with fellow residents, Englewood’s public officials, business owners and organizations. R.A.G.E. is a grassroots organization that strategizes to address community problems, creates tangible solutions (holistic and block by block) and actively seeks ways to keep fellow residents informed about the latest news in Englewood, Chicago. https://raginglewood.org/
Englewood	Free Street	Boombox Englewood	Boombox is a prefabricated, climate controlled, pop-up storefront constructed from an upcycled shipping container available to rent for short term, retail, cultural, community, and marketing experiences. Offered for rent to businesses/organizations looking for physical space (weekly-monthly basis). #shopboombox https://www.boomboxchicago.com/rent
Englewood	Park District	Boulevard Art Center	(Video submission) One of the places that affected me the most growing up in Englewood was the Blvd, Art Center. I took art classes, I worked there, and threw my first parties for The Nacrobats crew there. The cultural impact the Art Center had on the neighborhood was amazing to say the least. I took painting classes there. They were operating out of a school first, then they had their own building that was an old church. List of artists and performers who were involved, teaching, donating art to fund it, showing in the gallery, summer program employing youth. Became blueprint for After School Matters. Had their own store, you could buy items from artists in the community on the main strip. I did first show there, taught there, was a docent in learning how to hang art. My mom was artistic director. They worked hard to bring things that were needed but also what the community needed. All that power in one space is amazing and for it to be in Englewood, testament to where the out really lies, definitely changed me, you can create what you see where you are at.
Englewood	Free Street	Cedillo's Fresh Produce	Cedillo's Fresh Produce is an immigrant run farm based in Englewood leading community training on healthy eating and food growing skills. They also run a community garden that is home to local run events and gatherings. https://cedillosfreshproduce.com/

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Englewood	Free Street	Chicago Food Policy Action Council: Urban Stewards Action Network	Chicago Food Policy Action Council is a 501-c3. The initiative, "Urban Stewards Action Network" is an action-based transformational network of community farmers and partner organizations in the food system. Their activities in particular were mentioned by community members as an active space of programming on the Southside. The network holds a safe space for Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) coalition building and redefining power in the Chicago region. USAN is co-facilitated by Nyabweza "Bweza" Itaagi from Grow Greater Englewood and Asia Mohammad Castañeda from the Chicago Food Policy Action Council (CFPAC). https://www.chicagofoodpolicy.com/urban-steward-action-network
Englewood	Free Street	City Open Workshop / Englewood Arts Space	In Spring 2019, City Open Workshop began collaborating with Chicago artist Tonika Lewis Johnson to develop the concept for an accessible art and event space in the Englewood Community. https://www.cityopenworkshop.org/englewood-arts-space
Englewood	Free Street	Earl's Garden Mae's Kitchen	Earl's Garden Mae's Kitchen is an educational community garden that provides a host of activities for their community. https://www.facebook.com/EarlsgardenMaeskitchenzuna/
Englewood	Free Street	Elevated Garden	Elevated Garden is a space maintained by Getting Grown Collective and owned by an elder who lived on the who passed away earlier in 2020 and his family couldn't afford to keep the lot so they sold it and the community space was lost which is unfortunate because it was a hub for community. https://www.gettinggrowncollective.com/
Englewood	Free Street	Englewood Chamber of Commerce	The Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce works by (a)dvising, (d)veloping and (s)howcasing its established businesses and acting as a comprehensive economic development partner while creating a favorable social environment for chamber members. The Chamber facilitates annual festivals for example that showcase local artists and businesses. According to their Facebook they offer monthly business seminars, virtual business academy and annual festivals to showcase local businesses. https://www.facebook.com/greaterenglewoodchamber/?ref=page_internal

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Englewood	Free Street	Englewood Community Cultural Planning Council	Englewood Community Cultural Planning Council (ECCPC or EC3) is a 501 (c) (3) ENTITY formed for the purpose of promoting/supporting the arts and cultural affairs in Greater Englewood. The Council uses arts-based projects to heighten awareness, address community issues and improve the quality of life in areas of health, jobs and job training, education, the environment, and neighborhood safety and peace. https://www.facebook.com/EnglewoodCulturalCouncil/
Englewood	Free Street	Englewood Portal / Teamwork Englewood	The Englewood Portal is a digital tool for residents and organizations to tell their own story, to share the latest events and news happening in Greater Englewood. Organizations, Schools, Associations, Government Agency, Clubs and Businesses are also encouraged to share information on the portal. Teamwork Englewoods mission is to improve the quality of life of the residents and stakeholders of Englewood by facilitating economic, educational and social opportunities. http://www.engagewoodportal.org/About-Us3.html
Englewood	Free Street	Getting Grown Collective	Getting Grown Collective is a community organization collective facilitates urban agriculture and food distribution. Pre-pandemic, Getting Grown Collective hosted health clinics and events to unite black and brown farmers in Chicago. https://www.gettinggrowncollective.com/
Englewood	Free Street	Hamilton Park Cultural Center/Fieldhouse	Park fieldhouse. https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks-facilities/hamilton-park-cultural-center-fieldhouse
Englewood	Free Street	I Grow Chicago	I Grow Chicago uses a grassroots Healing Justice model, individual healing and collective change to offer programs. They work to address the traumatic effects of violence and poverty. Programming focus areas listed on their site includes Mentorship and Support Services, Restorative Justice and Community Building, Yoga and Healing Arts, Urban Farming and Food Access and Creative Arts. https://www.igrowchicago.org/our-work/
Englewood	Free Street	Imagine Englewood If	Imagine Englewood If is an organization that uses teaching, environmental awareness and communication coaching to empower Greater Englewood. They offer youth art classes, summer camps, collect information on healthcare knowledge, and offer lead poisoning education. www.imagineenglewoodif.org
Englewood	Free Street	Jimmy Williams Gallery and Studio	Jimmy Williams is a visual artist who grew up in Cabrini Green but whose visual arts gallery is based in Englewood. http://www.jimmywilliamsonline.com/

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Englewood	Free Street	Johnson College Prep	Johnson College Prep is a school based in Englewood. Johnson offers general and advanced placement art course for our students. As well as numerous student clubs and enrichment opportunities for students to explore culture, self-expression, and different art forms. https://nobleschools.org/johnson/
Englewood	Free Street	Kusanya Cafe	Kusanya Cafe opened in November 2013 and serves coffee, breakfast-all-day, and lunch. We also host community and arts events and provide job training and apprenticeship. Kusanya is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and is sustained by cafe sales and individual donations and small grants. "We exist to provide the place where great people can come together over great food, and community-born events can take place. Sit and stay a while. During the day, Kusanya is a ""for-here-mug"" kind of place. We exist for the casual interactions among neighbors, the chance meetings, and the collaboration that happens organically when people are together." http://www.kusanyacafe.org/#community-events-1-section
Englewood	Free Street	Kuumba Lynx	Kuumba Lynx primarily facilitates storytelling, mutual aid, and performing arts programming in Uptown, Englewood, Little Village, and Austin, however program participants represent over 27 Chicago communities. From Auburn Gresham to Humboldt Park, and from South Shore to Rogers Park, KL's celebrates its participants global experiences and perspectives. Kumba Lynx current events include a Family Open Mic Night, Birth Education 101, Circle Keeping and Defund thePolice Training. https://www.kuumbalynx.com/
Englewood	Free Street	Made in Englewood	Co founded by artist/ educator/ designers Eric Hotchkiss and André Westhelle, Made in Englewood Inc. is an interdisciplinary design studio that creates objects that are culturally-relative and driven by the narratives of the community in which it resides. Their work ranges from functional art works made of wood, metal and alternative materials to design work including 3D modeling and consulting. http://madeinenglewood.com/projects/ , https://www.instagram.com/made_in_englewood/?hl=en , & https://www.facebook.com/madeinenglewoodchi/

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Englewood	Free Street	Open the Circle	<p>A non profit organization that funds projects, programs and exhibitions for dance education and social dance with an emphasis on the history and role of footworking on the south and west side of Chicago. Latest and largest project that was due to premier in 2020: In The Werkz, produced by The Era Footwork Crew with original music from Chicagos Teklife DJ's is "a touring dance project based on the lives and dreams of dancers on the South and West side of Chicago." https://otcprojects.org/otc-projects-20192020</p>
Englewood	Free Street	Red Clay Dance Youth Ensemble & Theater Ensemble	<p>Red Clay Dance is Chicago's premier Afro-contemporary dance company, voted Best Dance Organization by the Chicago Reader in 2019. It's mission is to awaken "glocal" change through creating, performing and teaching dances of the African Diaspora—change that transforms cultural and socio-economic inequities in our local and global community. https://redclaydance.com/</p>
Englewood	Free Street	Saint Benedict the African Parish	<p>Saint Benedict the African Parish is a religious organization and church that is active in the community. The Parish commissions works of visual, musical, and theatrical art that often lead to lessons and performances. www.benedictTheAfrican.org</p>
Englewood	Free Street	The Folded Map Project	<p>Tonika Lewis Johnson's Folded Map™ Project visually connects residents who live at corresponding addresses on the North and South Sides of Chicago. She investigates what urban segregation looks like and how it impacts Chicago residents. https://www.tonijphotography.com/projects/6836945 & https://www.foldedmapproject.com/about</p>
Englewood	Free Street	The Hammond's Promise Land	<p>Tina Hammond owns an outside event space/lot called The Promise Land. "You know we work hard for the things we have we just want our community to have the things that other communities have. That I shouldn't have to go out of my community to see a space where you can sit and just, you know, not even a park, but just a space just to sit. Or an art space or somewhere you can skateboard or ride your bike, we don't see spaces like that in west Englewood" -Tina Hammond https://q.sustainability.illinois.edu/no-vacancy/</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Englewood	Free Street	TIME 21:36	TIME - 21:36 is a public safety initiative that takes an innovative approach to activate and empower community members to develop solutions that will deter violence and revitalize the community. They use text alerts to activate and engage community members. They offer local information on Job Training, Job Placement (Background Friendly), Expungement Services, Free Legal Services, After School Programming & Sports, Mentoring Services, Food Support, Small Business Support and Women Empowerment. https://www.facebook.com/TIME-2136-543518332837582
Englewood	Park District	Wall of Respect 2.0 mural	This mural is located in Englewood, 58th and Morgan. Underneath the viaduct on both sides. Painted in 2019, painted by myself, another artist, and a youth program called Trace through the Chicago Park District. Grow Greater Englewood partial funding. Called Wall of REspect 2.0. Inspiration from original Wall of Respect that was in Chicago. The youth in the Trace program selected the images and the quotes in the mural. The Idea was to reflect what the original mural meant, but also to shine light on people in the past that they felt that were influential to the community, and those currently doing work in the community and needed to be highlighted.
Englewood	Free Street	West Englewood Library	West Englewood Library hosts a Monthly Teen Poetry Nite, along with a wide array of events and programming for the community. https://www.chipublib.org/about-west-englewood-branch/
Gage Park	Free Street	Artsomnia Studios	Outdoor gallery space https://m.facebook.com/pg/Artsomniac/about/?ref=page_internal&mt_nav=0
Gage Park	Free Street	Fire Museum of Greater Chicago	"The museum is only open on the fourth Saturday of each month from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm, except in December. Housed in a firehouse that was built in 1916 the Fire Museum of Greater Chicago is dedicated to preserving the History and Tradition of the fire service in and around Chicago."

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Gage Park	Free Street	Gage Park Latinx Council	<p>GPLXC is a grassroots, community based organization established in 2018 on the Southwest side of Chicago. "We are a Queer, Latinx, Fem, DACA & Artist led organization. In 2020 GPLXC opened the first Cultural Center in Gage Park, a neighborhood of 50,000 residents that is 92% Latinx. Over half of the population of Gage Park lives at or below the poverty level and our community of essential workers has been devastated by the global pandemic. Gage Park rates number one in covid positivity rates for the entire city. In response we have opened a free Community Mercado to support families with essential items like groceries, clothing, hygiene products and baby items weekly. We have raised and distributed over \$90,000 to Undocumented families and distributed thousands of pounds of food since March. We continue to offer free, culturally reflective youth programming, paid opportunities for local youth artists, and mutual aid initiatives to care for and support our Gage Park community." https://www.gplxc.org/</p>
Gage Park	Free Street	Landor's Quinceañeras	<p>Dance studio for Quiceaneras, a Mexican coming of age tradition where young women are celebrated for turning 15 - there usually is a choreographer hired to coordinate a ball type of dance between the young woman and her father and then the young woman and a young man. https://www.facebook.com/Landorsxv/?ref=page_internal</p>
Gage Park	Free Street	Mural	<p>"The Gage Park Latinx Council, founded in 2018, started the Gage Park Mural Project last August. Beside providing art, the idea was to "give the youth an opportunity to learn skills and create works of art in Gage Park," says Antonio Santos, 30, the group's co-founder and executive director" https://chicago.suntimes.com/murals-mosaics/2021/2/19/22288554/chicago-murals-gage-park-mural-project-mario-mena-josemanuel-hernandez-nancy-gutierrez</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Garfield Park	Park District	Anti-racism book group at Legler Regional Library	"Austin has so many community groups and people are super active here. The libraries are moderating an anti-racist book group. We have done it for two months but we have had really great participation. The last book, "How to be an Anti-Racist," it started a really great dialogue and conversation. We talked about the concepts, but even more, people were honest and vulnerable. People are still interested in contributing to the neighborhood"
Garfield Park	Park District	Value of land ownership	(Audio story) Developers want to fix it up, starting to things for their profit, not our established citizens benefit. Most beneficial thing you can do is get a piece of this rock, or they will push you off. They will want more money [for rent]
Grand Boulevard-Bronzeville	Park District	Black New Year celebration in Bronzeville	There R a growing number of us who recognize and reject the Eurocentric notion of "new year" happening in the dead of winter on an arbitrary day without respect 2 nature. In a simple act of self-determination and correction, we gather and bring in the start of a new year with a celebration of the Spring Equinox dubbed "Black New Year" A bunch of POC artists and cool people congregate at a home N Bronzeville 2 eat vegan food prepared by the host, play music provided by an assortment musicians, dance and love on 1 another through the wee hours of the night. It's an annual tradition, paused by the pandemic, that was a great recharge for the coming months. It's a freeing, joyful and intimate moment 2 C people we haven't seen all winter, make new friends, and love on the existing 1s 2 improvised music, strong drinks and good food. It feels like a proper nod 2 nature, a continuation of the spirit of Bronzeville's past and an observation of a time without the false Eurocentric paradigm.

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Humboldt Park	Park District	Batey Urbano (former space)	<p>1-Batey Urbano was a really great space that has closed or no longer exists that way. Urban Theatre took it over do really great work. But Batey Urbano was great. Saw poetry there. Youth programming there that was really important at the time. It was a youth run space, different programming, after school programming, poetry, hip hop nights, writing. All youth led. That youth led can be messy sometimes, but that is a good space for learning. It was an important space. after a while just dwindled and didn't continue. Disappointing that that happened. That type of space needed. We don't have enough enough stuff that engages youth in that way in the arts outside of school.</p> <p>2-Batey Urbano started off as a youth led organization, mainly by Puerto Rican college students. Started in the 2000s. Purpose was to have a space for young people to express to learn and to be creative. Had workshops on Puerto Rican history. Not necessarily PR but grew up in Humboldt Park, learned a lot about Bomba and learned about my neighbors. It was a great space. I felt like I'm part of this community.</p>
Humboldt Park	Park District	BUILD youth programs at Humboldt Park	<p>At the time I was part of BUILD program, had an office at San Lucas Church, how I found out about it. Used to give out food every Sunday, mom went there, someone told her there was program for the shorties. All our activities in Humboldt Park, softball little league, soccer league. Everythign was there, we had our lunches there in the picnic tables</p>
Humboldt Park	Park District	Coco street vendor	<p>(Audio submission) Haven't seen any Coco man. When I grew up, we would call him the Coco man, was there until maybe until I was 18, everyone called him Coco man. He would be on his bike from April to November and would make coco just like we would in Puerto Rico. I haven't had coco like that in a long time, because he made it from scratch. Fresh. So fucking good. Had some piraguas, everythign was fresh. People are selling stuff. But he had sazón that he would put on the coco. You taste the coco. Now it's sugary.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Humboldt Park	Park District	El Quijote Bookstore	<p>Was a bookstore that is no longer here. Was pretty cool. Sold mainly Spanish books for children for school, curriculum based. But sold other children's books, cultural and poetry books. Having a bookstore on the block Important to have. Once they left, there was nothing replaced it. Us coming in and having books trying to having literature and literacy in our community in that way, because I feel like it is a missing component.</p>
Humboldt Park	Park District	Guerrense community in Humboldt Park	<p>(Audio submission) When my family, reason my family came to Humboldt Park was because there is a Guerrense community here, even have a grocery store, in Hermosa Park. They knew some people from the pueblo, my whole block is from Guerrero or from Iguala. I live on Lemoyne and . A little further west, but still part of the ocommunity. They developed their own network who would sell Guerrense items, women would sell clothes, everyone had their mobile business, would come to the house, would support each other until able to open their business. The store on Armitage been there for years, originally just selling stuff from the car and go to different household. We had a chorizo lady coming.</p>
Humboldt Park	Park District	Honeycomb Network	<p>1-This place is important, especially now that gentrification has become much more rampant, so hard to find a reasonable place to live here. Honeycomb network being here is a kind of resistance. Steady roots down. We are not going anywhere. You are going to see. us we have space where our medicines, magic, histories, centered here. When a place is doing its best to erase you, a place to come for you is important resistance. A lot of families who have shed blood on these streets, not something we should disrespect becasue we want a cute house in the hood. Even in the face of all the oppression and police brutality, we still manage to create a space that everyone wants to be in, that says something.</p> <p>2-Visit this co-working space community space, 1 block away from Humboldt Park. 3 blocks walking distance to the Humboldt Park Cultural Center Field House. Affordable. Tranquil. Curated to sooth the soul and allow our creative juices to flow. Created by Founders Denise Ruiz & Cristina Gutierrez.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Humboldt Park	Park District	Humboldt Park Beach	There used to be a beach, clearer water, higher water level. We would hit the beach, the shorties would play baseball. Beach has a lot of memories for me in high school... Dried up now?
Humboldt Park	Park District	Munoz Marin Drive in Humboldt Park	Important piece of road, history here. Riots and then festival. Seniors hanging out in the summer, playing music and dancing salsa, car homies a little further. Baseball folks meet up there when there are baseball games. Everybody is pulled up on Sundays, hanging out with cars, vibing the city, going to see baseball.
Humboldt Park	Park District	Puerto Rican Cultural Center	(Video submission) Puerto Rican Cultural Center has been servicing the needs of Puerto Rican community of Greater Humboldt Park area for past 48 years. Our principles that guide our work are the right of self-determination, self-actualization, and self-sufficiency of our community. Today out here celebrating 3 Kings day at Mercado El Pueblo, figures by artist behind me Rinaldo Rodriguez and another by Josue Pejol a montage of Puerto Rico modeled with Super Mercado Municipal. Celebrating 3 Kings day, giving out hundreds and hundreds of gifts, done for past 26 years with support of several orgs (Latin American Motorcycle Association, alderman's office, Toys for Tots and Westtown Bikes). Very happy with outcome in the midst of COVID become a beacon of hope and resilience.
Humboldt Park	Park District	The Superior Street Center for the Arts	I have over 500 musicians and performing artists as clients of my business, many of them also live & work in Humboldt Park- I'd be interested in putting together a panel/program showcasing their creativity and contributions to the fabric of the neighborhood. We could also host/ sponsor an event.
Humboldt Park	Park District	The WasteShed	The WasteShed is an affordable resource for gently-used and unusual art and school supplies. Their mission is to reduce barriers to access for creative activities for all Chicagoans, to help creative individuals and organizations maximize their budgets and expand their practices, to promote sustainability, and to be a welcoming community space for the neighborhood.

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Humboldt Park	Park District	Urban Pilón	<p>Roberto Pérez is a chef, musician, and researcher of Afro-Caribbean traditions. He is one of the founding members of acclaimed Afro-Puerto Rican music group, Bomba con Buyá, and the co-founder of educational culinary initiative, Urban Pilón. Urban Pilón is a culinary movement with a mission: to honor and preserve cooking traditions from Puerto Rico, the Caribbean, and Latin America, while using completely natural, healthy ingredients. With this mission in mind, Roberto serves not only as chef, but as storyteller, sharing the stories of our ancestors through his cooking, classes, and demonstrations. His popular Caribbean cooking courses showcase these stories by teaching both classic and original recipes along with the history behind them.</p>
Humboldt Park	Park District	Urban Theater Chicago	<p>(Video submission from the staff from Urban Theatre) We de-colonize, raises awareness of social issues Humboldt Park's BIPOC community, lead by Chicago natives, archiving Chicago stories, uplifting Chicago artists, constantly Euro-centric ideologies. Be a part of our familia.</p>
Hyde Park	Park District	Sculptures made from fallen trees	<p>All over the city they are creating art out of fallen and dead trees. My kids and I love the Japanese Garden in Jackson park and stumbled upon this beauty on one of our walks. It prompted us to look up more and adventure around the city to see the others. This is by far my daughter and I's favorite one. It's breathtaking and now every time we go to Jackson Park we park by it and stop to see it again. It's located along Stoney Island and 58th in the parkway by Jackson Park."</p>
Irving Park	Park District	Grass dance for Fololokha:cin Cinto in Horner Park	<p>There were hundreds of people, from all walks of life, gathered by the river bank to process in silence towards the site of Fololokha:cin Cinto, The Coiled Serpent. The youth led the way in ancestral song and dance, as new ceremonies entwined with those of our ancestors. We walked behind, each of us one in the spine, serpentine, and silent. The grass bent below each stomp of the grass dancer, as the site of our new earthwork began to awaken to greet us. Weaving the water, the earth, and the sky together in this one moment, praying for the future to come.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Irving Park	Park District	Hana Center Korean drumming programs	I learned traditional Korean drumming when I was a young adult living in the Bay Area in California. When I moved back to Chicago, I was happy to see that there were a number of places in the Korean American community that gathered people to learn and play drumming. I've most appreciated the youth drumming that happens through the Korean American Resource and Cultural Center, now called Hana Center. They have taught this Korean cultural art to several generations of multi-racial youth. I love seeing youth of all different backgrounds get into it. In particular, I love that the youth and adults of Hana Center regularly add their drumming and banners to protests all over the city. I feel proud to come from a heritage that values fighting for justice, and getting to be visible as a Korean American.
Kenwood	Park District	Hyde Park Art Center	Hyde Park Art Center is a gallery space located in Hyde Park (S Cornell x E 50th) featuring a host of different artists. Lots of unique showing spaces in the building, great light, and truly a sample of tons of different folks' work. They have specifically dedicated space for the variety of programs they host - including studio spaces for artist in residency programs and exhibition space for their BRIDGE program which curates an artist cohort to develop/display further works. They are open all week during the day and are pretty regularly showing new artists/ new work.
Lake View	Park District	Out of the Closet thrift store	Out of the Closet is a thrift store in Boystown, which is very supportive of the local LGBT community. They offer free HIV testing, as well as donating 96 cents to every dollar that they earn. Prices are low, and accessible. I used an article of clothing in a project that I was working on for a UIC art class.

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
LO	Free Street	Teatro Tariakuri dance and theatre performing arts	<p>Performance, dance, classical ballet, jazz, tap dancing (its dying and its one of the most beautiful dances to see), ballet folklorico, Danza-trina - mixture of catrinas (ballet folklorico) with ballet; Prehispanic danza on a larger scale to learn who our ancestors were. Our youth need to learn where we come from, its beautiful to watch dancers but sometimes the youngsters see those dancers and don't know anything about the history behind those dances or behind indigenous communities. Acting classes, on camera, and many other performance/ theater based classes for adults and young people. Adult acting class support in general with life and talking not just stage or in front of camera performing.

Our goal is to give our young people the opportunity to audition for ANY theater they want not just to be limited to opportunities on the south or west side but anywhere they want.</p>
Logan Square	Park District	Empower Youth!	<p>(Image submission titled Empower Youth at RightLynd at Victory Garden Theatre) https://chiul.org/empoweryouth/ EmpowerYouth!: Igniting Creativity through the Arts is a groundbreaking partnership with Lyric Opera of Chicago. It engages 30 African American High School students in a non-academic performing arts program. The goals of the program are to provide opportunities for exploration of and exposure to the arts while offering a safe, fun, collaborative space for participants to create original work. Throughout the program participants work with our team of professional artist in a collaborative process. The program culminates in a one-night original performance reflecting the creativity, thoughts, opinions, and personalities of the participants. For information about the program, contact Jimi Orange, Director of Student and Youth Development, at jorange@chiul.org.]</p>
Loop	Park District	After School Matters drawing and painting class	<p>I was in an after school program called ASM [After School Matters] at Gallery 37. The instructor of the drawing and painting class was Miriam Socoloff and Alex Goldin. The program was during my junior year of high school 2019. We made individual as well as collaborative art pieces. I made some of my favorite artworks in that class. It was also a safe haven, a place to bond and cultivate.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Loop	Free Street	Community Renewal Society	<p>Community Renewal Society informs and brings people of faith and congregations together, in partnership with communities, coalitions, interfaith organizations, and civic leaders, to intentionally and decisively transform society toward greater social justice at the intersection of racism and poverty. The Community Renewal Society is the host of annual assemblies of several faith based organizations, and host community education events and celebrations like the Libations of the Ancestors, mentioned in Taryns survey answers about Englewood.</p> <p> https://www.communityrenewalsociety.org/</p>
Loop	Park District	Graffiti near 13th and State	<p>For one of my art classes at UIC I decided to explore the city searching for graffiti and placing homemade "certificates of authenticity" next to the works. Doing so I hoped to bring legitimacy to the art form and community behind creating graffiti; while also generating more awareness on where to find great works. In my search I found my self behind a cluster of buildings on 13th and State St, discovering multiple works of graffiti hidden. Finding this place where people decided to share there talent and make the environment their own truly inspires me, however it saddens me to see how hidden the works become. I wish to dispel misconceptions connected to creating art in way and create more support for the art of graffiti.</p>
Lower West Side	Park District	Art exhibition including Chicago Art Department	<p>This was a really cool exhibition we were invited to participate in. This show brought so many creatives spaces from across the city to work together and create collectively.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Lower West Side	Park District	La Casa del Fandango	<p>La Casa del Fandango is a space that was born out of the home of a family of musicians, educators, and cultural workers based out of Pilsen, Chicago. Dedicated to the practice and preservation of traditional son jarocho music from Veracruz, Mexico, in 2008 they began giving free youth son jarocho workshops out of their home on 18th street, from which the collective “Jarochicanos” emerged. Throughout the years, Jarochicanos became the entity to continue to carry out this labor through organizing various free and multigenerational son jarocho learning opportunities for their communities, such as Talleres en la 18. The other complementing part of their labor is organizing “fandangos” or “huapangos” which are the traditional community celebrations of son jarocho. The fandango is the manifestation of son jarocho as a community practice. In this space, everyone works collectively to house, feed, host, entertain and share with an entire community.</p>
Lower West Side	Park District	Maria Gaspar's work at Cook County Jail	<p>When I teach ART 190 Introduction to Socially Engaged Art I always try to take my students to visit Maria Gaspar's studio to learn about her work with 96 Acres and her site responsive work at Cook County Jail and how artists can create social change in their communities.</p>
Lower West Side	Park District	Murals and public art on South and West Sides	<p>I remember one of the first times I visited the cities west/south side, specifically the Woodlawn, Pilsen, and Garfield Park areas and surrounding spaces, I was in awe at the amount of murals and public art that was depicted all around. Being from the suburbs, it is rare to see public art in any place other than a museum. For me it was a breath of fresh air being able to see peoples artistic expression so publicly displayed for all to see. I find it heartwarming knowing that the community expresses themselves in this way. Outsiders who drive by these places get to experience a personal expression by complete strangers whom most of the time go unnamed. The vast amount of art all around gives you the in depth look of culture in these areas and the fact that they stay there for so long gives you the feeling of deep meaning to each piece.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Lower West Side	Park District	National Museum of Mexican Art	<p>1-My story takes place in the National Museum of Mexican Art, I was there for the first time on a school field trip. The field trip was for us to learn more and appreciate the artistic values that came from our culture. The variety of Mexican art work allows you to understand who we are. at the time I was in the 6th grade so I had not really been to an art museum despite always crossing paths with it. At first I didn't understand the purpose but after walking around for a while I started understand what I was seeing, I was seeing bits of own life in the works. I could see other peoples life, the way they felt and the way they saw the world, and suddenly for me they world was not so simple. I would say it inspired me to want to capture the world I see through my eyes. (Second story) The National Museum of Mexican Art provides an active and engaging space. It is located in 1852 W 19th St, Chicago, IL 60608. I have visited multiple times and I can identify with this cultural space. I was glad to see a painting that portrays my family's Mexican culture from Puebla, Mexico. The piece is of Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl, is a tragic romance of the Aztec legends. The lovers turned into the volcano we see today in Puebla.</p> <p>2-The National Museum of Mexican Art provides an active and engaging space. It is located in 1852 W 19th St, Chicago, IL 60608. I have visited multiple times and I can identify with this cultural space. I was glad to see a painting that portrays my family's Mexican culture from Puebla, Mexico. The piece is of Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl, is a tragic romance of the Aztec legends. The lovers turned into the volcano we see today in Puebla.</p>
McKinley Park	Free Street	Hoofprint Studio	<p>https://www.instagram.com/hoofprintchicago/</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
McKinley Park	Park District	Hoofprint Studio	In the Summer of 2020, McKinley Park Mutual Aid designed a Black Lives Matter poster, as an act of solidarity with the national uprisings. Hoofprint is a print studio in McKinley Park that features political work by artists like Nicole Marroquin. After I spotted an ABOLISH sign at a protest against police violence, I asked the sign carrier and they told me they got it from Hoofprint. We reached out shortly after that and Liz Born at Hoofprint generously agreed to print hundreds of signs at cost. These signs were distributed for free in the park that summer, and created opportunities for us to have conversations about racial justice with our neighbors. If you walk around McKinley Park, you can find them in the windows of homes and businesses and organizations.
McKinley Park	Free Street	Kristoffer's Cakes	https://kristofferscakes.com/
McKinley Park	Free Street	Marimacha Monarca Press	QTPOC creative space for queer familia based on southside Chicago 🦋🌈🔪 pop ups, events, prints, zines & sexy calendars https://www.instagram.com/marimachamonarcapress/
McKinley Park	Free Street	Marz Community Brewing Company	Founded on the premise that the art, culture, food, and liquid we were drinking and enjoying would also be enjoyed by others, we created Marz as a platform for ongoing experimental collaboration—in the beers we were brewing and with the culture of the city as well. https://marz.beer/
McKinley Park	Free Street	McKinley Community Play Garden	
McKinley Park	Free Street	McKinley Park Community Garden	https://www.facebook.com/mkpgarden
McKinley Park	Free Street	McKinley Park Library	Community public library https://www.chipublib.org/locations/50/
McKinley Park	Free Street	Mural Building	These murals were created in 2020 as part of a community and artist led initiative to support an icecream vendor that was robbed earlier in the year in the neighborhood. They were able to raise over \$2000 to support the vendor https://mckinleypark.news/news/876-street-artists-businesses-unite-to-support-paleta-vendor-create-new-public-artwork
McKinley Park	Free Street	Murals	https://mckinleypark.news/neighborhood/galleries/2020/may-62/mckinley-park-street-art-in-viaducts?i=McKinley-Park-street-art-rawz-reder-33rd-Ave-Viaduct-20200603

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
McKinley Park	Free Street	One City Tap	Bar located at the intersection of Archer Ave and Ashland Ave. This bar is home to Otro Ritmo: Southside Punk Nights and also hosts community fundraisers and events https://www.instagram.com/onecitytap/ http://onecitytap.com/
McKinley Park	Free Street	Otro Ritmo: Southside Punk Night	Community run, bringing local (and some not local) punk bands and artists to Chicago's southwest side. https://www.instagram.com/otro.ritmo/
McKinley Park	Free Street	Pochos	Pochos is a restaurant and caterer located in Chicago's McKinley park neighborhood. Partners Irene Acosta and Miguel Hernandez started Pochos to share their love for food and hospitality. Alongside, chef-partner, Xavier Hernandez they bring local and seasonal ingredients to an eclectic menu that showcases their Mexican and American roots. https://www.instagram.com/pochos_chicago/ https://www.pochoschicago.com/
McKinley Park	Free Street	The Video Strip	A store that proves big things do come in small packages. There over 20,000 Movies/Games titles for rental that will satisfy all your entertainment needs. http://www.thevideostrip.com/ ; https://www.facebook.com/thevideostrip
McKinley Park	Free Street	Topsoil Home	Na Suen, the owner of Topsoil Home, makes ceramics and with a kiln in Suen's garage. It might be possible to offer art workshops or ceramic painting parties in the future. https://www.instagram.com/topsoilhome/
Near West Side	Park District	Blues musicians and clubs like The Water Hole	I was in the second generation of Chicago blues performers whose parents brought the music here during the Great Migration from the South. We learned music from our elders, from school music classes, and R&B hits on the radio and club jukeboxes. We competed to get gigs in tiny Black-owned West and South Side clubs, also played on North Side in tourist clubs. Blues is the root of all American popular music--jazz, pop, soul, R&B, country, hiphop--because it tells ordinary people's real life stories. It grew out of our parents' hardships from slavery, Jim Crow and the cotton fields, and took on the rhythms of the city. I want to recognize my fellow musicians and the places we played, before we leave this world.

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	47th Street & Damen	Empty green space used by community for the yearly Christmas tree lighting and gathering + food distribution, marches, and other significant events. Shopping center that was once the original site for the Fiesta Back of the Yards. Now it is a hangout spot for many youth and youth based organizing.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Amor al Arte	Amor al Arte is a collective of neighborhood women that came together to create art opportunities for the neighborhood. https://www.facebook.com/BOTYamorALarte
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Annual Blessing of the Rides	Local annual lowrider car and bike gathering, featuring a blessing, raffles, live music, and drink specials. https://www.facebook.com/events/592923871183697/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Art on 51st	Art on 51st is a public space in our community where anyone can come to create and show their art, part of Precious Blood Ministries. https://www.pbmr.org/events#Arton51st
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Artistic Representation	A collective of young artists and performers based out of Back of the Yards. Collective was born out of Back of the Yards College Prep. www.instagram.com/artisticrepresentacion
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Ayodele Drum & Dance	Ayodele, a Yoruba word meaning joy in the home, is a sisterhood of women who recognize the guidance of the Creator in our mission to study, heal and express ourselves through African Drum and Dance from a woman's perspective. https://www.ayodeledrumanddance.com/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Back of the Yards Branch, Chicago Public Library	Library is connected to Back of the Yards College Prep and offers youth classes, adult classes, cultural programming, take home kits, homework help, food pick up, story telling, community building, workforce development, cooking programs, arts and crafts. https://www.chipublib.org/locations/9/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Back of the Yards Coffeehouse	Local coffeeshop run by two Back of the Yards residents, Jesse Iniguez & Mayra Hernandez. Focused on local, ethical and environmentally conscious practices and hiring local community members. https://backoftheyardscoffee.com

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Back of the Yards College Preparatory High School	<p>Choir Program: The Choral program at BOYCP began in 2015 under the direction of Mr. Terry Morrow. The Choirs engage in 2 yearly concerts, in addition to numerous performing events within the building and out in the Back of the Yards community. Each December, a Winter Concert takes place, and each Spring, the annual "Taste of Broadway," which is comprised of Choir students and non-choir members of the student body who audition for roles. Fine Arts Program: "I am the Director of Bands at BOYCP and am in charge of leading all of the instrumental ensembles such as the Beginning Band, Intermediate band, and Advanced Band. Although these are curricular classes the advanced band has performed for other schools, competitions, 5k's etc. I also teach extra curricular ensembles: Drumline, Jazz Ensemble. Although they are still in the beginning stages, we are looking forward to perform as soon as we can. Our school also has a partnership with NEIU where they bring in a Mariachi teacher who is helping establish a Traditional Mexican Music Ensemble at our school. We just started in the winter of 2019 so we are still getting our feet wet in the music but we are a good group!"</p> <p> https://www.boycp.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1768087&type=d&pREC_ID=1948150
www.facebook.com/boycpfinearts
www.instagram.com/boycp_finearts</p>
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Back of the Yards Community Led Dia de los Muertos Procession	<p>Community led yearly event, started in 2011. Free art sessions/ project building/ support community groups with projects for event/promote art and culture.</p> <p> https://www.facebook.com/BOTYdiadelosmuertos/</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council	<p>The Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council (BYNC) was founded in 1939 by Joseph Meegan, Saul Alinsky, supporting clergy, business owners, union officials, and residents. BYNC, located at 1751 W. 47th Street in Chicago, is among the oldest not-for-profit community organization in the United States, serving a large area of Chicago's Southwest Side, which includes the communities of Brighton Park, McKinley Park, and New City. As chronicled in Upton Sinclair's now famous book, <i>The Jungle</i>, the Back of the Yards area suffered from social disorganization, unemployment, poor housing, and juvenile delinquency. BYNC was created in response to these growing social issues and continues today to organize residents and bring social services and economic resources to the community. www.bync.org</p>
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Bishop Plaza	<p>Shopping center that was once the original site for the Fiesta Back of the Yards. Now it is a hangout spot for many youth and youth based organizing.</p>
New City-Back of the Yards	Park District	Black Abolitionist Network	<p>The Black Abolitionist Network based in Chicago created a very special, informational learning space last summer. In the midst of the uprisings led by Black and Indigenous folx in the city, they took advantage of the necessary education our communities on the South & West sides needed about abolition & defunding CPD. Community organizers from the Let Us Breathe Collective joined prominent abolitionist voices like Charlene Carruthers & Asha Ransby-Sporn. They organized everyone into groups named after notable Black liberation figures of our past (i.e. James Baldwin, Frederick Douglass, Fannie Lou Hamer.) Each group exchanged methods, tactics, and goals to educate the uneducated and convince the unconvinced. These methods & tactics would then lead to change in our communities. Not once were our conversations de-centering Black voices or Black radical thought. They provided hydration and sustenance for everyone & set up a Free Store for clothes and groceries to take home. It was all love.</p>
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Christmas Posadas	<p>Mexican Catholic tradition that happens before christmas day. Every night between Dec 16th and the 24th community walks from church to different community homes asking for "shelter" for the birth of Jesus and a celebration ensues every night in different neighborhood homes.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Cornell Square Park Fieldhouse	Neighborhood park offering space for cultural programming and events. Mentioned by Alma Silva + other community members as important space for community cultural events. https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks-facilities/cornell-square-fieldhouse
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Davis Square Park	Neighborhood park offering space for cultural programming and events. https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks-facilities/davis-dr-nathan-square-park
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Dunkin'	Mentioned during a workshop as one of the few community spaces where youth and elders are able to hang out safely. "The people who visit these safe spaces are the ones sharing history and story." - Pedro Leon
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	El Grito de la Independencia	Mexican celebration of independence on September 16th. Community joins together on the streets to yell for independence.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Fiesta Back of the Yards	In 1940, the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council introduced an annual community festival that was known as the Free Fair; this month-long event served as both an opportunity to bring entertainment and activities to the Back of the Yards neighborhood and as a fundraiser for the BYNC's various programs. The event features a wide array of music and dance performances including aztec dancing, ballet folklórico, mariachi, banda, etc. Additionally, the event hosts live painting by local artists and many art vendors sell their art. https://bync.org/events/about-fiesta
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Fiesta de la Vida	In 2016, Fiesta de la Vida became a week long celebration of life organized by Alderman Raymond Lopez + many other community organizations. It was planned on the same weekend as the Dia de los Muertos Procession and many community members believed it was an attack from the Alderman in response to their refusal to let him hang his banners and have main stage at this community focused event. This festival did not continue after this year.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Food Vendors	Street where vendors sell a variety of Mexican dishes and drinks. Identifies in community narratives workshop as an important space for storytelling, history and culture.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Free Street Theater Storyfront	

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Park District	Garden Clean Up in Back of the Yards	This took place in a garden in Back of the Yards, but I am not too sure where exactly. This happened around the summer of 2017. The program was a garden club enrichment that was apart of my high school. What I remember from this experience is getting along with different people from different grades and helping one another create a clean and beautiful space. The majority of the enrichment took place at my high school, Chicago Bulls College Prep, but I believe it was one time that we met up in Back of the Yards. We would grow vegetables at my school, but it was a different experience cleaning up a garden. I very much enjoyed it, despite the heat on that sunny day. I felt that that one day had brought us closer together because we worked together and had fun doing it.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Holy Cross IHM Marimba Ensemble	This intergenerational marimba ensemble is over 30 years old and started out of the Holy Cross Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. In 2016 they began their summer pop-up ensembles, playing on street corners with heightened levels of violence in Back of the Yards. This pop ups were intended to bring community together and create a sense of peace in moments of violence. https://marimba.hcihm.org
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Holy Cross Immaculate Heart of Mary	Catholic Church that offers its space for different workshops and community events around arts, music, and woodshop. http://www.hcihm.org/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Homer's Bar	Local bar that hosts community fundraisers and events. https://www.facebook.com/HomersBOTY/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Hood Momz	Storytelling circles for neighborhood moms. www.facebook.com/BOTYHoodmoms
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Just Ice, Inc.	Local craft ice business. Hosts local music events and fundraisers at it's location in The Plant. https://www.icecoldjustice.com
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Love, Faith & Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	Led by the passionate Pastor Felicia, with a background of 48 years in radio and television. The Church facilitates events year round for people of all ages in the neighborhood; Dance, Art Classes, Theatre, Stand Up Comedy, Plays. Currently the churches main events are related to the choir, voter turnout or food distribution. https://www.lovefaithhopechurch.org/

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	McDonald's	Mentioned during a workshop as one of the few community spaces where youth and elders are able to hang out safely. "Safe space is where people feel safe in the community, whether that's home, Dunkin' Donuts on 43rd , McDonald's by Swap-O-Rama, the church, the grocery stores, where you buy tortillas at Atoltonico, the food vendor on 47th and Paulina. That's what i mean by safe spaces- the people who visit these safe spaces are the ones sharing our stories, our histories. Which shows the lack of spaces in our community- safe spaces." - Pedro Leon
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Murals	Murals identified as a community asset in community feedback survey.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Murals 47th between Ashland & Damen	Murals identified as a community asset in community feedback survey.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Murals 48th between Ashland and Damen	Murals identified as a community asset in community feedback survey.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Murals 49th viaduct between Damen & Racine	Murals identified as a community asset in community feedback survey.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Murals Railroad underpass on 55th	Murals identified as a community asset in community feedback survey.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	NEIU Upward Bound Program (Bobcat Folklórico)	Mexican Folkloric Dance. Learn about traditional Mexican Folkloric through dance and history! https://www.neiu.edu/academics/center-college-access-success/trio-upward-bound-math-and-science
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Packingtown Museum	The Packingtown Museum provides a unique opportunity to connect Chicago's industrial past to its future and inform contemporary conversations about labor, immigration, food production, community development and the economy. https://www.insidetheplant.com/packingtown
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Plant Chicago	

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Plant Chicago	Plant Chicago is a non profit based in BOTY that began in 2011 based in the old firehouse. It's mission is to cultivate local circular economies with no waste. They teach workshops on growing food indoor and outdoor, composting and more. They host programs for small business in the neighborhood, cooking classes, volunteer/ internships and a local farmers market. https://www.plantchicago.org/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Richards Career Academy	http://richards.cps.edu/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	San Miguel School Community Center	Community space offering a variety of activities and events, hosts art workshops and events. https://sanmiguelchicago.org/san-miguel-community-center/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Sherman Park	Programming for all age groups including crafts, storytime, book discussions. Inter generational community parties - especially for the holidays. Summer parties at the park. Movie nights. Workshops on painting, vision boards, also open to community members to lead workshops at the library. www.chicagoparkdistrict.com
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Sherman Park Branch, Chicago Public Library	Chicago Public Library located within Sherman Park. Programming for all age groups including crafts, storytime, book discussions. Inter generational community parties - especially for the holidays. Summer parties at the park. Movie nights. Workshops on painting, vision boards, also open to community members to lead workshops at the library. https://www.chipublib.org/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Son Chiquitos	"We offer cultural arts programming to strengthen the development of Spanish language and children's cultural identity through music, art and literature." https://www.sonchic.com/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Sonika Studios	Photography studio and venue for local bands and live painting events + fundraisers. This space closed down in 2019 due to lack of funding.
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Sputnik Coffee Company	Coffee roaster identified in feedback survey as venue for arts programming. https://www.sputnikcoffeecompany.com/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	St. Joseph Catholic Church	Local church that hosts concerts, events, and workshops for the neighborhood. https://stjosephparishchicago.org/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Star Farm Chicago	Star Farm is a NFP with a farm made accessible to community organizers, artists, and educators. They host arts workshops and storytelling events and support community building and healing practices. https://www.starfarmchicago.net

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Star Farm Fresh Market and Community Kitchen	Farm Stand 2021 hours: Wednesdays 3pm-7pm, May 12th-October 27th
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Star Farm Love Fridge & Bookhouse	
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Star Farm Stockyards Garden	
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Star Farm Women of Color Incubator	
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Su Casa Catholic Worker	This place has been a home and refuge for many. There are murals on the brick walls surrounding the property that change over time, while murals within the 130-year old former franciscan friary reflect the stories, experiences, and hopes of hundreds of past residents, immigrants, citizens, homeless and hopeful alike. Frieda's Place Soup Kitchen, a 28 year-old-ministry, is a place of community storytelling and storykeeping, and also is blessed with a growing collection of murals in its dining room. The apartment above the soup kitchen has been a community called Pete's Place, and is currently a place where volunteers coming to learn about this neighborhood stay for up to a week. The Breathing Room, curated by #LetUsBreathe, a BLM-affiliated artist and activist group, is the third building on campus, which actively curates political education via the arts. Finally, nearly a half acre of open space is farmed and gardened collectively by Su Casa and #LetUsBreathe in conjunction with neighbors and the broader urban agricultural community, hosting events, photoshoots, workshops, meals, conversations, and much cultural exchange. https://sucasacw.org/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Swap-O-Rama Flea Markets	Around since 1992, this flea market is a space for gathering for many community in the neighborhood. It was identified during one of our workshops as an important space for culture-making. https://swap-o-rama.com/ashland-avenue/
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	The Breathing Room	The #LetUsBreathe Collective is an alliance of artists and activists organizing through a creative lens to imagine a world without prisons and police. https://www.letusbreathecollective.com

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Park District	The Breathing Room and the Let Us Breathe Collective	<p>1-The person that I would like to mention is Kwemenna Jackson. We are tribe within the LetUsBreathe collective at The Breathing Room together and I have witnessed their dreams, inspirations become a reality through the “everybody eats” program at the breathing room and the expansion of the breathing room garden. Kwamena is someone who is true to themselves, kind, intune, and overall an absolute joy to create radical transformation with. They are currently developing the breathing room gardens and I know that the Back of the Yards and the Chicago activism scene will be reaping the harvest of their efforts for generations and generations.</p> <p>The program “Everybody Eats” operates under the idea that everybody has the right to eat and we offer made food and harvest through this program. The Breathing Room garden is creating space to learn, harvest, and to liberate through being with the land.</p> <p>2-The breadth of the Breathing Room's programs and activities since its launch in 2018 is too expansive to list here. The recent expansion into Breathing Room gardens, where we grow food to distribute to the community, is the most exciting innovation, using land stewardship as a path toward healing, sovereignty, and liberation. My personal favorite event is the Full Moon Jam, which brings together musicians and artists of all disciplines for an all-night jam session quarterly on the Full Moon (pre-pandemic obsvs). I'm also proud of our Free Store program, where we collect gently used clothes, shoes, and outwear to redistribute to the community. We also have a recording studio and are developing an apothecary.</p> <p>3-(full story in report) The #LetUsBreathe Collective and the #BreathingRoom space have long been a place where I've been able to merge activism and artistry. I began organizing with them in 2015, coordinating #BlackBrunchChi in 2016 wherein we</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	The Plant // Bubbly Dynamics	<p>Bubbly Dynamics is the developer entity and overseer of The Plant. This sustainable urban development is on a 3 acre site formerly a meatpacking warehouse in BOTY, and is home to several Chicago based food vendors. They have three spaces inside that are commonly used for hosting events; "The Taproom (owned and operated by Whiner Brewery)," "The Common Area" and the "Museum Space." The outdoor spaced is used for workforce trainings in partnership with Amplify Chicago. Front facing their work is to provide community space and business opportunities to BOTY, however only ten percent of their employees are based in Back of the Yards, and a total of 15 percent from the surrounding neighborhoods.</p> <p> https://www.bubblydynamics.com/</p>
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	The Port Ministries	<p>Inspired by St. Francis and the Franciscan Charism, the Port Ministries mission is to provide the fundamental needs of the mind, body, and spirit. The organization addresses these needs through a series of programs and services that holistically work together to serve the under-resourced and under-served residents of the local communities (Back of the Yards, Englewood, Gage Park).</p> <p> https://www.theportministries.org</p>
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	UIC Center for Literacy (FAST - Family Start Program)	<p>"We provide free adult education and family literacy engagement to Chicago Early Learning families and community members (ESL and Spanish GED - our sister sites on the South and West side provide English GED services). We are working towards an arts integrated curriculum. Currently offering a monthly community craft hour inspired by our mentors/ trainers in MECA (Movimiento para la Educación Cultural y Autonomía)." https://www.movimientomeca.com/</p>
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Union Stockyards Gate	<p>Built in the late 1800s, this remnant of the Chicago Stockyards still serves as an important community landmark and hosted the Día de los Muertos Procession in 2020.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
New City-Back of the Yards	Free Street	Xochitl-Quetzal Danza Azteca	Xochitl-Quetzal Aztec Dance Experience a journey into Mexico's ancient Aztec culture of music, song and dance. Xochitl-Quetzal invites you to a dynamic and vibrant performance honoring the heritage of the tradition of La Danza De Los Concheros. Join us and explore the Aztec world of indigenous ceremony and ritual. We offer free dance practice lessons and cultural healing ceremonies in Back of the Yard and Little Village. https://www.facebook.com/DanceAztec
No location	Park District	Lolita's Bodega	Lolita Productions LLC is a minority, women owned organization that strives to continuously provide platforms, physically and digitally, for BIPOC owned small businesses. Empowering small businesses and placing them at the forefront of everything they do – they also provide education to create a more conscious consumer. Ultimately, their goal is to create + contain the economic flow to communities of color so that they can flourish in ways that they deserve. FOR US, BY US.
North Center	Park District	Chicago Moving Company at Hamlin Park Fieldhouse	The Hamlin Park Fieldhouse Theater, home of the Chicago Moving Company (CMC), has been nurturing my dance path in many ways. I could understand how the Chicago dance community is like through the Other Dance Festival curated by CMC, watching others' dance pieces as well as performing. Later, I was invited to be an artist in residence there, and I have been able to offer workshops and community dance concerts in addition to rehearsing there since 2010. The place has been truly a shelter for dance as one of the annual concerts run by the company is called as "Dance Shelter." Please watch the video to see how the space is like: https://vimeo.com/535697778 . The theater is operated as a community dance space by the Chicago Moving Company/CMC as an Arts-Partner-in-Residence with the Chicago Park District. CMC has activated the space for the dance arts since 1995--by Artistic Director Nana Shineflug (til 2015) and by Manager/Producer Kay LaSota (through present).

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
North Center	Park District	Queer Art Festival at Links Hall	Ann Martine Whitehead who co-curated Queer Art Festival had given me the opportunity to perform as a footwork soloist for the first time. I performed at Links Hall 3111 N. Western Avenue . Performing was an amazing feeling, it gave me the opportunity to showcase a production and learn more about the theatre and gain further dance opportunities such as speaking on the panel of CDHP Chicago Dance History Project.
North Lawndale	Park District	Being responsible when working in community	If you take on a project in the community you have to be responsible for all the parts to make it work, you can't say that wasn't my job, that's important in a community
North Lawndale	Park District	Courage and commitment to fight for your community	Tamara Becerra Valdez, C.A.M.P. – reflects on participating in the C.A.M.P. project and how this engagement impacted her understanding of inequity and injustice on a local level within North Lawndale. Over the past few months had opportunity too work with Sojourner Zenobia at Douglass with CAMP with CPD. We have hosted workshops filled with storytelling, movement, music, and envisioning and more equitable future for North Lawndale. This kind of envisioning takes time and care to do these kinds of workshops. Reminds of the courage and commitment necessary to fight for your community. For some of our participants, its been a long fight, since before the riots in 68. The expressions and words from the participants had an effect on me, faith and hope people have for their community. Long disinvestment Impressive movement rise now, students of Village Leadership Academy who celebrated their effort to change name of the park to Douglass park to honor Frederick Douglass. Efforts on greening the area through community gardens and greening efforts.

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
North Lawndale	Park District	Dance teacher at Douglass Park	<p>(Audio submission) I didn't grow in Lawndale, but when I started I noticed Elaine teaches dance to little kids at Douglass Park, exercise for seniors too. Compassion for the small children, kids after school need calming down, you don't know what their day has been like, come there and feel safe, love, and respect. Watch her train them. That might be the only positive thing that happened that day. A lot of people I've come across at Douglass Park who are doing fabulous work.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
North Lawndale	Park District	Douglass Park	<p>1-(Audio submission) A memory of Douglass Park, grandchildren came in town to spend the summer, used to take them to miniature golf. I remember the fountain was working then. And a fountain across at Sacramento and Ogden. Gone now but I remember how they looked.</p> <p>2-(Audio submission) We used to swim across and get on the island. The other one we called the Muddy Island, can't walk in there, you had to dive and swim to get there. One over here you could walk over to the island. This used to be connected to that. All this was water. Did you know they turned this into a golf course. That's where we had all our fun at. We would hide our clothes in bushes, if there were no lockers available. One time somebody stole our clothes, and it started pouring down raining and we had to walk home with no shoes and clothes.</p> <p>3-(Audio submission) I grew up in Oak Park. Didn't have have a car until well after school. So public transit to get me to vast green space, Columbus, Douglass Park was instrumental in career path in environmental conservation work. Growing up didn't go camping go on trips. And in Douglass Park. See these large civic monuments, learning the history of the name was pretty devastating for me at a young age, now name change, now working with Chicago West Side Christian School on Pulaski and North Roosevelt in North Lawndale, inspired by healthy living and art and trees. Excited to be back connected as an adult.</p> <p>4-I'm a member of Team USA for running, and want to spread the message that we, Black and Brown folks, can do it. A couple of days ago, during my morning run around Douglass Park, I approached the football field/track and saw at least 25 Black & Brown folks exercising. They were safely and distantly walking, running, stretching, and working out. The narrative that's been out there about Black &</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
North Lawndale	Park District	FEAST Festival at Douglass Park	<p>FEAST Festival was a three-part festival presented by AM/FM that took place in 2018 as a part of Night Out in the Parks. The particular event that impacted me was called the FEAST, and that happened as an outdoor festival in September of 2018 at Douglas Park. As with all NOITP events, FEAST was free and open to the public, and it specifically featured performers, vendors, free food in order to highlight local musicians and raise awareness about food deserts in Chicago. The festival was impactful to me because I was invited to perform as a DJ in the event, and it was the first public event I participated in that took place in Douglas Park. Because the event was produced by local artists, the energy was fresh, inviting, and created an open and nourishing space that cultivated connections. I felt the event brought positive energy to the neighborhood.</p>
North Lawndale	Park District	Movie theater (former) and Dave's Dogs	<p>(Audio submission) Across from the grocery store there was a movie theatre there. We used to go there 2 or 3 times a week. It was only .25 to get in there. We used to hustle up money and go there all the time. They didn't have a lot of movies and stuff like they have now. Mostly it was singers and chubby checker, movies of them. We could watch some superman, but mostly artists performing and stuff like that. That was one of the main things. After we swim, one of our favorite places to go was Dave's Dog. Hot dog was .25 and a lot of fries. It was on Roosevelt and St. Louis. Dave's Dog is still here. Still go there, on Roosevelt and Homan now.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
North Lawndale	Park District	North Lawndale Peace Park	<p>During the year, youth groups come to the Peace Park to learn about black history and contribute to park maintenance. An example of an activity here is the annual Youth Art Fest on the last Saturday of August. Contest for teen artists to paint portraits of black heroes, OPEN MIC stage performances, drumming, dancing, kids watercolor table, face painting, free art supplies for all children, refreshments, & more. This year we are adding a FOOD DRIVE. Sometimes youth earn their service learning hours here. Adults perform their community service hours here. University groups visit here to add art, or get involved in gardening. The general population comes to enjoy the great outdoors and help with weeding and landscaping. Sometimes there are art workshops in the Peace Park. Everyone learns about black history. The Peace Park offers an opportunity to discuss social justice issues. The Peace Park is open to the public. Individuals, families, groups can utilize the park when they like.</p>
North Lawndale	Park District	Stone Temple Outdoor Stage and Gathering Space	<p>Community members, friends, & families, were gathering in the garden for the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new stage and improved community garden. People were smiling, greeting each other, and conversing. During the event, we saw that people wanted to come together and celebrate as a community. This event impacted me because I was part of a group effort that realized a goal to make positive change. While as a nation we are going through a dreadful time; where we are facing conflicts of racism and a pandemic. I was able to see the smiles of people, and I witness the warmth they shared with one another. This event demonstrated that people do want positive change, people want peace and unity. There needs to be more accessible spaces designed where people can congregate as a community. I realized that it does take a village to raise a child. In this case the child is our city and we as a community are the village who wants to make the change.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Portage Park	Park District	Ballet Folklorico de Chicago	<p>Ballet Folklorico de Chicago was founded in October 2018 by three professional college graduates who saw a need in the community. They wanted a place to celebrate and help retain the Mexican culture: language, traditions and regional folk dances. Historically these types of organizations were located on Chicago's south side but this would be a local place for their kids and the community. What started out as a kids only organization has now grown into a full blown organization which includes kids and adults of all ages (even grandmothers). Our aim is to keep as many people in the organization involved in the arts by providing free and low programming fees. We do not get paid a salary. Over the course of the previous year we obtained grants that allowed us to afford free membership most of the year. Our operating margins are razor thin but our satisfaction is being the largest ballet folklorico organization in Chicago and helping as many members of the community as possible.</p>
Pullman	Park District	Former historical enactor at Pullman Historic Site	<p>(Audio submission) I have someone in mind, but she's not out there anymore. Miss Sherry, it was a house she had a history...out there on 103rd? A historical house. She was president and founder of Bronzeville Historical Society. She had a place out in Roseland that would take the kids to all the time. She used to dress in oldtime clothes. It was Pullman State Historic Site. She had so much history in this house, like a mansion. She had a lot of history in the house, things about slavery, things about ancestors, and she used to dress the park, kids on the fieldtrip, old time slave clothes. Introduced them to chitlin circuit, musicians travelled to scenes. She was so passionate about what she was doing and the kids was really mistified by it and hearing she was so knowledgable on history. Kids young and old enjoyed. I think something happened because she had to leave. Construction tape around it, but it's been like that for a while. She's still alive, I should call her.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Rogers Park	Park District	Midsummer Night's Dream in Loyola Park	<p>https://www.chicagoshakes.com/plays_and_events/explore_season/parks2018</p> <p>The play was A Midsummer Night’s Dream and the setting was really dreamy, it was in the middle of summer, and the sun was going down... It took place on the lawn in Loyola Park. I went to that play maybe the second week after my arrival in Chicago / the United States. I don’t know Shakespeare very well and I didn’t know Chicago at all. This play was adapted for a local audience, so there were references to the Cubs, there was hip hop dancing and music. Despite all of this unfamiliarity, it was a really special experience. I felt like I was somewhere really local and it was nice that I didn’t understand everything, because I wasn’t just seeing a generic adaptation. Having arrived here, not knowing anyone, not knowing the city, that was my first introduction to that kind of use of public space in Chicago. It stuck with me and made the city really special to me.</p>
Rogers Park	Park District	Thomas Kong's Art Practice at Kim's Corner Food	<p>1-Thomas Kong's art practice of using advertising, packaging and other surplus material from his convenience store, Kim's Corner Food, has inspired me to make art out of everyday materials. In his work, nothing separates life and art as he spends every minute cutting and pasting while waiting for the next customer to show up. Stepping into his store is like entering a portal back to my hometown of Manila, Philippines, a reminder of the chaotic and distracted feel of the city.</p> <p>2-One of the most interesting things in Rogers Park is Kim’s Corner Food. It’s a really small corner store. But the person who runs it is an artist and he makes all of these collages out of the packaging material from all of the goods at the store. And the store is just totally saturated with his art pieces. But because everything is made of all the packaging materials, when you walk in it really blurs the boundaries between art and basic commodities, in a spatial way. Not just in the way that he’s referencing consumer goods, but in a way that you walk in and there’s a piece of art next to a bag of chips or a chocolate bar. It’s one of the most amazing places I’ve ever seen and one of the most special things I’ve seen in Chicago. Ever since I first went there, every time someone comes to visit I take them there. You can go and buy an art piece, or you can go and buy some candy.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Roseland	Park District	Baseball programs in the parks	<p>While playing and volunteering at the local parks helping the young men was exciting for me because you get to see who is has the love of the game and care about there neighborhood and surroundings. Baseball in the Parks has been the one safe haven all young kids could come to enjoy themselves and not worry about any other issue they were having. Years ago we started out with about 16 teams. Today the participation is dwindling and we need to restore this program as an outlet for the youth and show them how they can use this and apply it to the high school level to gain scholarship for the next level that is college.I have played with a couple of guys who made it to the professional level where they have in the past gave back to the community by holding baseball camps and giving away equipment like gloves and bats and hats and cleats. If the participation decline so will the ones making it big and giving back. We need the parks.</p>
Roseland	Park District	Chess players in Palmer Park	<p>Playin ball one day i stopped to see a few older men playing chess. I never thought about it because it looked boring. But as I kept seeing them play and people gather it became interesting. I started going to watch them play after practice. One day one of the older gentlemen ask me do I want to learn the game of life. Everyday I would learn more about the game but lose to this gentleman (Isaiah). This when on for a few months. He looked at me one day and said the day you beat me is the day I will give you the chess set we playing with. I was focused on every piece and the moves they made. Then one day when I thought I had him he still beat me. Exactly a week later the game got really serious and every move I made was very precise ,he looked at the board and conceded check mate. He then pushed the board very gently , grabbed his hat to put it on said congratulations then got up and walked away and I never saw him ever again. But I learned chess at the park and the game life and war.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Roseland	Park District	Memories of family and care in Roseland	<p>1-(Audio submission) I remember my three sisters all living in the same neighborhood and the building where my sister lived in particular, being able to spend time together and see my nieces and nephews.</p> <p>2-(Audio submission) Roseland is pretty much family oriented. Block I stayed at was 109th and Wabash, everybody knew everybody, families tight and closeknit. Everybody looked out for one another. Couldn't do nothing without someone knowing about it. If there is an elderly person we would mow their grass, shovel their snow, rake leaves for them. Roseland is like that, the blocks are family oriented.</p>
Roseland	Park District	Musical Arts Institute	(Audio submission) Hidden treasure, beautiful space, husband and wife, Lana and Michael Mason musicians and educators. Bought a little house and opened up the Musical Arts Institute. Artists to come and do teaching there. Amazing amount of students. Teachers are working musicians. Need more teachers available for them, because so many students

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Roseland	Park District	Palmer Park	<p>1-(Audio submission) I remember taking my daughter, my sisters and my nephews to Palmer Park – we used to go in different times and seasons. I remember flying kites. Also trying to teach my daughter how to roller blade taking her inside the tennis courts – just trying to be active. Walking through the park to get to school. Nice place to take the kids for exercise. They had sprinklers. Didn't make it to the pool. The Y was there and they had a pool too. Good place and good memories for the children and myself, I was a young mom. I wasn't afraid to walk to the park or through the park.</p> <p>2-We ate 'chokey' sandwiches with bare hands and sang five-line lyrics as we double-ditched with telephone wires and charted our history with sidewalk-chalk. The horizon and capacity for art were both high and rising. The industrial murals: echoing revolution, capturing the laborers. The architecture: the defunct, but exceptional, Hotel Florence and it's nearby relics, including the wrap-around porches and the iconic Pullman green perpetually sprawling, pushing against contemporary spray-paint-adorned viaducts that brought me just mere blocks from Palmer Park. We sat in the heart of Palmer Park. Us: A stockpile of Black siblings and an auxiliary of nieces and cousins, raised by the murals of ancestors and sisters. Still, we were roller skating, sing-song hopscotching, and lanyard box-stitching. Our art was more audacity than creativity: dancing, swimming, and swinging — and falling. And it was mobile, even before we the value of taking our things with us. Our art was ours.</p> <p>3-Huge part of childhood memories, eating different foods, watching Karate movies, babysitting. Summer camp in the park, swam in the pool, art program...</p>
Roseland	Park District	Pullman Branch Library	<p>Huge part of childhood memories, eating different foods, watching Karate movies, babysitting. Summer camp in the park, swam in the pool, art program. and Summer program at Library for reading books with prizes, remember the librarian there like magic schoolbus, always had so much knowledge about the neighborhood.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Roseland	Park District	Second grandmother took kids to museums and concerts	<p>(Audio submission) So I was thinking, talking about art in stuff, were you guys ever privileged enough to interact with Ms. Fletcher, she introduced me to all different kinds of art, first time I went to the Nutcracker, Chicago Museum, Museum as Science and Industry. taking me to art all around the city , things I wouldn't have seen or appreciated as an inner city youth, why I appreciate art so much now. She was a retired teacher, she was grandparents age when we were 10-12, she was influential to all of us. None of us were her children, she would take 8-10 of us. Evangeline Fletcher was her name. My mother always worked. I would let myself in. Older sister. Ms. Fletcher was a help to all of us, second grandmother to all of the kids on the street.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
South Chicago	Park District	Grandmother and her bakery	<p>(Audio submission) My maternal grandmother, first artist I ever knew, she and grandfather owned a bakery in Southeast Chicago. I remember the smell of dough and sugar and flour, particular smell of all those things being cooked. My grandfather was the baker, grandmother was the decorator, cake decorator, cookie decorator. Closed the bakery around the time I was 7, spent time there when I was 3-5. Gave me things to play with I would try to copy. I remember dropping things on the floor and making things on the floor and trying to put them in the oven and have them baked. Were two young black people who owned and operated and sustained a business in the city of Chicago. Ecosystem wasn't set up for them to set up for them to be able to do that. It was revolutionary. She could have made anything, built sets and loved holidays, would completely change the house for holidays, put on programs with friends in the parks, she make the costumes. Design her own swim cloths and caps, clothes for me and baby dolls, curtains, upholstery. She taught me that you can make anything. The bakery was an incubator for her and for me. I learned a lot. We can learn from this example. Stability, she was an artist who had a secure job that support her family and fed her practice. She had another practice at home. Asked her if she would make things for money and she said it wouldn't feel the same. A lot of artists are trying to figure out how to make a living and make art, not necessarily the same thing. She did that successfully. Another example we can add to the record, what happens when an artist is supported and thriving. A lot more people thrive. A lot of people are touched or affected by it. A number of people affected by the bakery and number of people affected by my grandmother's practice. Family was touched by both the bakery and her artwork. I think that means something.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
South Deering	Park District	Chicago Dancemakers Forum "CYCLE" performance	<p>In 2019, Chicago Dancemakers Forum teamed up with the Park District to produce a performance experience focused on the engagement of the surrounding landscape, Big Marsh on the Southeast Side. Directed by Erin Kilmurray, CYCLE was performed by seven dancers, a seven-piece band, and pulled from New Orleans-style rituals of mourning and celebration that featured elements of a procession, family, and jazz music. Influenced by the park's history, the piece was reflective of the destruction and restoration of the park and was designed with winding pathways and different cycles in mind. Partners for this event included The Nature Conservancy and Friends of Big Marsh. As described in the article "Death and Rebirth at Big Marsh," by Amelia Diehl, the tone of both the dance and music ranged from "celebratory to mournful, telling the story of the land's pollution and rehabilitation."</p>
South Lawndale-Little Village	Park District	Adela Golberg's ritual performance at La Villita Park	<p>During the first weekend of October, La Villita Park on Albany and 30th, hosted an artist, Adela Goldberg. She created several life size réplicas of neighborhood landmarks. The pieces were made of paper mache and represented spaces that were involved in local controversy (real estate development posed under a veil of progress and brought forth without a neighborhood engagement). These pieces were incinerated with fireworks. A ritual representing a way to cope with power and loss.</p>
South Lawndale-Little Village	Park District	Dia de los Muertos in Piotrowski Park	<p>(Video submission) Patsy Diaz was speaking with physical instructor Ninta Serrano (iconic legend in the community) at Piotrowski Park and she was reminiscing about a time when the park was full of community events, whether it was for Easter or a Thanksgiving drive, or Posadas. She was aching for that sense of community and celebration. I said let's do this. Put our heads together and we said let's start with a Dia de los Muertos event, started planning it in early 2019. She (Ninta) was able to secure sponsors, a lot of arts partners participated, and community, moms, kids, abuelitas. We had altares that people had prepared for their loved ones, food, face painting, dancing, all around joyous event. It was great to see an event that had meant so much to this community revived.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
South Lawndale- Little Village	Park District	Mural produced with youth at La Villita Park	<p>(Audio submission) My name is Epifanio Monarrez and I was born and raised in Little Village. One of the most memorable cultural experiences I had was in Little Village Park. Worked with Post Brand cereal to create a competition with neighborhood kids to paint a mural in 24 hours, if able to accomplish would donate 10K to Boys and Girls Club and 5K to Little Village Environmental Justice org. Money would be dedicated for summer art programs. AT the moment, I was doing a lot of murals in the neighborhood going over gang graffiti and getting a lot of press (Tribune, Huffington Post, Redeye). Post Cereal reached out. Decided to create competition. Originally just for the Boyz and Girls Club. But I was able to explain how important the Little Village Environmental Justice Organization was to the neighborhood. Got another 5K for Environmental Justice. Able to finish the project and the money was awarded. Mural still up in Little Village today and I'm reminded of this every time I visit the park.</p>
South Lawndale- Little Village	Park District	WCYC radio station in Little Village	<p>As a kid in the late 80s/early 90s in Little Village, you probably listened to WCYC 90.5, pretty popular radio station in Little Village. I remember listening to it, I was in grammar school, I didn't know it was so local, that the frequency didn't reach out to the rest of the city. How it impacted the community and the culture, housed at Boys and Girls Club, youth from the neighborhood worked their volunteers. Bro's best friend was a DJ, I thought that was so cool, looking up to my brother and his friends. People would call in. House music and freestyle was big at the time. Inspirational if you listen to old mixes, I remember listening to that on WCYC. I don't think they have that there in the neighborhood anymore. But it greatly impacted the youth and the neighborhood.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
South Shore	Park District	Celebration of Lena McLin at South Shore Cultural Center	<p>This event was a tribute to my grandmother, Lena McLin, that was held at the South Shore Cultural Center. It was great to see so many people impacted by her work and to be apart of her lineage. The event was a culmination of appreciation to her work. I felt like she was celebrated by the South Shore Community after having served the community for over 40 years. She literally lived across the street from where this event happened. It was televised, widely attended and even included other people from other neighborhoods and as her grandson, I felt honored.</p>
South Shore	Park District	Desire for support at the South Shore Cultural Center	<p>I was very disappointed with the lack of support I encountered. The South Shore Cultural Center seems to be a Cultural Cwntwr in name only at this point. As a part of the neighborhood, the place needs a deeper connection with the community through programming and support for the artists here. There should be several artists residencies houses in the building and an invitation for artists in the community to engage.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
South Shore	Park District	eta Creative Arts Foundation	<p>1-As a young woman growing up in Chicago and wanting to attend theater/enjoy the performing arts but unable to afford the mainstream (i.e. costly) theater like Goodman I found ETA!! it was a mainstay for my girls night out and it impacted tremendously. Showed me the power of personal artistic performance!! there were so many plays I went to and to this day I still enjoy performing arts. Sometimes I even attend the mainstream (costly) venues but there is NOTHING like community theater.</p> <p>2-eta Creative Arts Foundation, located on the Southside of Chicago, adjacent to South Shore, is the reason why I am the artist I am today. When I was 8 years old, I went to see a play called "Song and Dance." The moment I left that show, I knew I wanted to be a performer. It was written and directed by Runako Jahi who later became my life mentor. This play was a TYA show, specifically made for young theater audiences. And today, I write shows specifically for young people because of the impact that this experience had on my life. As a child, I used to have to take the bus to go to the theater. I wish that there were more accessible theaters within communities like South Shore so that young people don't have to take the bus to get to arts programs. This can also help young people have more access to arts programs that could serve as an emotional outlet to ultimately decrease violence in the community.</p>
South Shore	Park District	Mural of Black woman in a colorful style	<p>This person impacted me a bit because personally I tend to do a lot of colorful playful illustrations with the main characters being black most of the time. It was really cool to also see that same type of style on display especially in my neighborhood which is generally not the most creative area but it helped me realize there was others like me in my community.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
South Shore	Park District	Opportunities for youth with B.FLI Productions	<p>1-I remember wanting more high quality performing arts programs to be within my South Shore community, especially for the teenage daughter. So, I re-established B.FLI Productions, Inc. after returning home from Disney's The Lion King National Tour. I began by hosting an arts seminar for parents and youth at the KLEO center and then hosting a \$1000 grand prize (funded by myself) to help uplift, find and expose talent in South Shore. After holding auditions at the Don Nash Park District, we found 8 amazing talents and even collaborated with other community programs including Global Girls and a local all women comedian group. I called on professionals in the field to lead the judging process while the audience would pick the top three winners. The judges placed them. In the end, a young male poet, father and activist who was from ABJ Community Center won the \$1000 and the remaining acts won \$100 and \$50. The place was packed and loaded with energy. An encouraging community moment indeed.</p> <p>2-Rashada's teens from her program were prepping to perform. Rashada asked me to provide a back stage team. Rashada [with B.Fli productions] allowed and trusted my Back Stage students to run and co- design the production on more than one occasion.</p>
South Shore	Park District	Positive role models for youth	<p>I believe that if the youth can see positivity in their neighborhood it can impact them and their story. Many of us had the privilege of positive role models and motivation speakers to shape our goals into adulthood. It is essential we show this generation the options and access they feel they don't have or may not know of</p>
South Shore	Free Street	Rebuild Foundation / Stony Island Arts Bank	<p>A community center and cultural hub on the Southside dedicated to transforming buildings. Various artistic and communal redevelopment programs and offerings. www.rebuild-foundation.org</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
South Shore	Park District	Stony Island Arts Bank	<p>The Stony Island Art Bank hosts a number of impactful enriching programs. There, I attended a moving performance about women who are living with H.I.V. It helped me to empathize with people experiencing that infection and it inspired me to persevere through my own hardships. I also attended a panel discussion about Black Art. Before the discussion, I got to see the exhibition showcasing a multitude paintings of President Obama. During the discussion, I was able to learn from and fellowship with some of Chicago’s artists. I felt a sense of inspiration and belonging as a result of that program.</p>
South Shore	Park District	The Stillwell Institute for Contemporary Black Art	
Uptown	Park District	Protest for Breonna Taylor	<p>It was the 200th day since Breonna Taylor was murdered by white police men. Some young Black women organized a protest: From the Riviera Theatre on Broadway we marched south to Sunnyside, where we sat down in a large circle in the intersection and stayed there for 200 minutes. Black women were invited to share feelings, experiences, and poetry at the microphone. Otherwise the crowd was silent for 3.5 hours. One woman who spoke invited us to visit the altar for Breonna she and her mother had created on the fence a little ways away from the protest. This is part of their ongoing creative practice that brings art and spirituality together for uplifting Black and brown people. It was a really beautiful space where people would be hugging each other, praying, and taking photos to share out the message.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
Uptown	Park District	Shared Street on W Argyle at N Broadway	Just east of Broadway on Argyle Street is the city's first "Shared Street" project - pedestrians mingle with automobiles, storefronts across the street feel connected by a giant sidewalk, community makes its presence known. Chairs holding uncles wearing slippers spill out with no clear boundaries, kids holding bubble tea group jostle shoulders. Argyle Street belongs first to the people who live there. Second to the stores, some ever revolving through the doors, some there since your grandfather went there, some bringing stalls out during the festivals. And only third to the cars. It reminds me that neighbors are their own cultural institution, their own living archive, their own performance for themselves, a reminder that you are my neighbors.
Washington Park	Park District	Du Sable Museum and George Washington Park	George Washington Park is one of my favorite spaces to walk. There is always some cook out or festival or party or tour happening in the park. It is a beautiful span of land and houses the DuSable museum. It's also a hub of Black Chicago history that I am still learning a lot about.
West Town	Park District	Chicago Dramatists Tutterow Program	Chicago Dramatists said yes to me as a playwright, when I was struggling to find my niche in Chicago's vibrant, eclectic arts scene. The Tutterow program provided dedicated resources to me for 2 formative years, and helped re-energize my momentum as a queer black writer. I'm grateful for the community I've found there, the mentors, and been happy to step in and support the organization through transitions and the pandemic.
West Town	Park District	Chicago Gamespace	Founded in 2020, Chicago Gamespace is the Midwest's leading video game museum and art gallery. It features a playable collection of top video games from history, and a gallery of artwork from the most essential games and game artists of today. Visitors learn, play, and are inspired by captivating new media. Located in Chicago's vibrant and lively Logan Square neighborhood just off the Blue Line and 606 trail, Chicago Gamespace welcomes local and international audiences. Recent exhibitions include Nom Nom: 40 Years of Pac-Man Design and History, Cyberpunk 2077, and the Video Game History Collection.

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
West Town	Park District	Filter Photo	<p>Filter Photo is a nonprofit festival, exhibition, and educational space in Chicago's West Town neighborhood. We organize the annual Filter Photo Festival, a multi-day celebration of photography that includes workshops, lectures, exhibitions, and portfolio reviews.</p> <p>Join us at Filter Space year-round where we exhibit a robust roster of internationally recognized artists and host social, educational, and professional development activities for photo-based artists and the broader community.</p>
West Town	Park District	Revolution Books gathering space	<p>Although i was promoting a poetry venue that i was starting along with my partner-in-rhyme, it is the creative space i consider my home (outside of the black church). I have grown immensely from a spoken word artist, as I am working in various genre and/or media, but my start at this space shaped and informed my work in art, education and activism. It was a place where artists such as Kevin Coval, Theaster Gates, and Denizen Kane cut their teeth. Poets like Pulitzer Prize winner Tyheimba Jess and other poets who inspired the story that became the movie "Love Jones" performed there. It was also a hub for artistry infused into political practice it took place in a bookstore housing revolutionary books.</p>
Woodlawn	Park District	Desire for welcoming business at 63rd St Beachhouse	<p>Reggies (the location behind the 63rd St Beach House) doesn't seem to want us in their establishment, yet they open up a spot in our neighborhood. This is a problem. With an event as big as The Chosen Few event, why couldn't we, Black people, have opened up an establishment for ourselves? The bathrooms are gross and the owners don't seem to be very welcoming of Black people. It seems like the problem is shared: we, Black people, don't take care of our things, businesses and people the way we should and white people tend to come in and claim ownership to places within our communities that should be opened and welcomed to ownership by the Black people that live in the community. This disappoints me as an artist and a resident.</p>

Community Area	Collected By	Asset Name	Description or Story
	Park District	ways of knowing' performance	<p>'ways of knowing' was a collaborative, process-based performance project exploring concepts of mastery and value through acts of knowledge exchange. The work asked people to share their skills and stories of expertise with us as we shared Honey Pot Performance's process of codifying our own methods of art-making. Post-show conversations engaged audience members with the artists and exposed many local community residents to both Experimental Station and HPP. With limited cultural spaces on the South Side, specifically in Woodlawn, sustaining relationships and collaborations such as this one are important for both the artists and community residents in supporting hyper-local creative vitality. HPP is also working on a new collaboration with Experimental Station for 2021, re-staging Ladies Ring Shout (which was originally performed there in 2011) with an intergenerational cast of Black women from communities in Woodlawn and neighboring Jackson Park, Washington Park, and South Shore.</p>