

# KNOW *Your* CHICAGO

Exploring Our City for 66 Years



**2014** SYMPOSIUM

IN PARTNERSHIP  
WITH:



THE UNIVERSITY  
of CHICAGO

**GRAHAM SCHOOL**

# Welcome

The Know Your Chicago Committee takes great pleasure in welcoming you to our 66th season of civic engagement with the Chicago community. Founded in 1948 by Mary Ward Wolkonsky, Know Your Chicago strives to foster understanding and appreciation of the complexity, diversity, and richness inherent in this great American city.

We're excited for you to join us for a day of lectures and presentations on some of the most pressing social and political concerns in the city and beyond. The Know Your Chicago Symposium is the official beginning to the annual tour series, bringing together five prestigious speakers. The speakers will address important issues related to the season's tours, the subjects of which are constructing the city's new parks; the history and future of public housing; the role and struggle of transgender individuals and trans-friendly resources; the contributions of the Haitian community to Chicago and recontextualizing vodou; and the bustling film scene in Chicago. Regardless of whether you participate in the tours, we're sure you'll find today's presentations interesting and thought-provoking.

Learn more at [knowyourchicago.org](http://knowyourchicago.org)



# 2014 Know Your Chicago Symposium

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 | Ida Noyes Hall

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- INTRODUCTION** **Welcome to Our 66th Tour Season**  
Pam Sheffield, Chair, Know Your Chicago  
Mark R. Nemec, Dean, The University of Chicago Graham School of Continuing Liberal and Professional Studies
- TOUR 2** **Public Housing: Persisting Conundrums**  
Alexander Polikoff, Senior Staff Counsel, BPI
- TOUR 1** **City in a Garden: Chicago's Extraordinary Parks**  
Julia Sniderman Bachrach, Historian, Chicago Park District
- TOUR 3** **Cinema in Chicago**  
Rich Moskal, Director of the Chicago Film Office
- TOUR 4** **Renegotiating Relationships: Trans Folk in America**  
Christina Kahrl, Editor, ESPN.com
- TOUR 5** **Haiti: History and Hope**  
Judge Lionel Jean-Baptiste, Circuit Court of Cook County



*Pictured: Ida Noyes Hall*

# Meet the 2014 Symposium Speakers



**TOUR 1**  
Parks and More than Recreation

**Julia Sniderman Bachrach** is the historian and preservationist for the Chicago Park District. Ms. Bachrach joined its Department of Planning and Development in 1988. A Trustee of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, she has been honored by The Cultural Landscape Foundation with its Cultural Landscape Stewardship Award.

In 2012, Ms. Bachrach published *The City in a Garden, A History of Chicago's Parks, Second Edition*, to cover new and renovated parks since her 2001 book, *The City in a Garden, A Photographic History of Chicago's Parks*. She and Jo Ann Nathan published *Inspired by Nature, The Garfield Park Conservatory and Chicago's West Side*, in 2008. Ms. Bachrach is a contributor to *The Oxford Companion to the Garden and Midwestern Landscape Architecture*.

Ms. Bachrach earned her M.S. in Landscape Architecture-Historic Preservation from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and she is an expert on Frederick Law Olmsted, Jens Jensen and Alfred Caldwell.



**TOUR 2**  
Sweet Home Chicago: Problems and Promises of Public Housing

**Alexander Polikoff** has served as lead counsel in the landmark Gautreaux public housing litigation for more than 40 years. Alex joined BPI one year after its founding in 1970 as Executive Director, a position he held for almost 30 years. Previously, he was a member of the Chicago law firm Schiff Hardin & Waite (now Schiff Hardin LLP). He holds a BA and MA in English Language and Literature and a JD from the University of Chicago. He is the author of three books, *The Path Still Open: A Greater Chance for Peace Than Ever Before* (2009), *Waiting for Gautreaux: A Story of Segregation, Housing, and the Black Ghetto* (2006), and *Housing the Poor: The Case for Heroism* (1978).



**TOUR 3**  
Reel Chicago

A lifetime Chicagoan and graduate of St. Patrick High School and Loyola University, **Rich Moskal** is at the helm of the Chicago film industry as Director of the Chicago Film Office. Since his appointment in 1996, Rich is responsible for more than 800 film and television productions being filmed in our city. Recent blockbusters include movies such as Transformers, Divergent and The Dark Knight, along with 15 network TV series, including NBC's Chicago Fire, Chicago PD and Crisis. In less than two decades, Rich's efforts have generated more than \$2 billion for Chicago's economy. He continues to lead all efforts promoting Chicago as an industry hub and destination for film, television and media production.

When not busy promoting Chicago's film industry, Rich actively engages with producers, directors and designers, collaborates with local, state and federal officials, and contributes to the Chicago Filmletter (which he co-founded), the Chicago Reader and Chicago Magazine. His efforts make possible the on-location production of major motion pictures, network television series, independent features, documentaries and other media. As record breaking film industry production activity continues in Chicago, Rich and his team make the city a production destination second only to Hollywood.



**TOUR 4**  
Transitioning: Challenging Our Understanding of Gender

Photo Courtesy of Peter McCullough

**Christina Kahrl** is a Chicago-based sports journalist who works for ESPN.com as a national MLB editor and writer, and is a member of the Baseball Writers Association of America. She has also contributed features on trans issues to Cosmo.com, Playboy.com, and the Windy City Times. She has worked on issues of public accommodations, health care, and police policy in Chicago and Illinois, has served on the board of Equality Illinois, and currently serves on the board of GLAAD and the leadership council of the LGBT Sports Coalition. In 2013, she was elected into the inaugural class of the Gay and Lesbian Sports Hall of Fame.

A native of northern California, Christina moved to Chicago in 1985 to attend the University of Chicago, from which she received a degree in European history. She subsequently earned a master's degree in history from Loyola University of Chicago. In the earliest days of the internet, she co-founded the Baseball Prospectus think tank in 1996, launching an unexpected career in sports that resulted in a bestselling baseball annual, as well as creating a company that has provided opportunities for dozens of people in Major League Baseball and national sports media.



**TOUR 5**  
Haiti: History, Culture, and Vodou/Voodoo

© Canadian Museum of History, Mauro Peressini

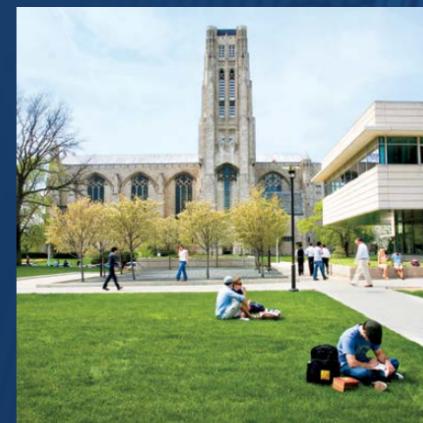
**The Honorable Lionel Jean-Baptiste** was born in Haiti and moved with his family to Evanston at the age of 14. Prior to his appointment to the Circuit Court of Cook County in 2011, Judge Jean-Baptiste practiced law for 20 years and served as an Alderman in Evanston City Council for 10 years.

He graduated from Evanston Township High School in 1970 where he was President of the Student Council, and from Princeton University (political science, 1974). He received a law degree from Chicago-Kent Law School in 1990.

Judge Jean-Baptiste's belief in the importance of freedom, justice and equality in our society is reflected in his many volunteer efforts.

A respected leader in the Chicago Haitian community, he founded the Haitian Congress to Fortify Haiti, the Haitian Relief Fund of Illinois, and the Haitian American Lawyers Association of Illinois. He and his wife of 38 years, Lenore, have three children and three grandchildren.

## Meet Our Partner



**The University of Chicago Graham School of Continuing Liberal and Professional Studies** has provided diverse educational programs for adults since the University's founding over one hundred years ago. The Graham School includes Know Your Chicago in its continuing education programs and provides extensive administrative and logistical support to all aspects of the symposium and the tours. Know Your Chicago is grateful for this partnership.

Learn more at [grahamschool.uchicago.edu](http://grahamschool.uchicago.edu)



# Our Founder



Photo Courtesy of Waldemar Reichert

**Mary Ward Wolkonsky** (1907-2002) was an extraordinary woman who made a major and lasting contribution to the educational and philanthropic world of Chicago. Throughout her long life, she offered her talents in a multitude of ways, focusing particularly on issues and organizations that advanced the role of women.

Mrs. Wolkonsky loved Chicago. In 1948, she founded Know Your Chicago, not only as a way to share her excitement about our city, but also to educate women for civic participation. Over its long history, Know Your Chicago has enabled thousands to experience the unique, the serious, the humorous, the beautiful and, often, the little-known aspects of this wonderful city.

Born in Michigan, Mrs. Wolkonsky moved to Chicago in 1939 and quickly became involved in the life of the city. Her remarkable intelligence, charm, and leadership abilities made her an asset to many of the area's leading institutions including the University of Chicago. This affiliation was a source of particular pride to her. She founded the Women's Board of the University, served as its chairman for eight years, and in 1975 she was named a University trustee.

Music was one of Mrs. Wolkonsky's great interests. She was an excellent pianist, both classical and jazz; knew the lyrics of an amazing number of cabaret songs; and, even in her 90s, was always ready to put on her dancing shoes. She followed the careers of many of the great jazz ensembles of Chicago, often visiting the clubs where they played. This love of music led to her long involvement with the University of Chicago's music program where she served as chairman of the Visiting Committee to the Department of Music and founded the Jazz Archive.

Mrs. Wolkonsky also founded Bright New City, a series of lectures and seminars on the physical and cultural aspects of Chicago. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Lyric Opera and was instrumental in creating its Women's Board. She served on the boards of the Chicago Public Library Foundation, the Chicago Symphony, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Field Museum, the Chicago Art Institute, and Planned Parenthood. Her numerous awards and honors are a testament to the vision and character of Know Your Chicago's founder, Mary Ward Wolkonsky.

# 2014 Tour Season

<b>TOUR 1</b>	<b>Parks and More Than Recreation</b>	Tuesday, September 23 or Wednesday, September 24 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)
<b>TOUR 2</b>	<b>Sweet Home Chicago: Problems and Promises of Public Housing</b>	Tuesday, September 30 or Wednesday, October 1 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)
<b>TOUR 3</b>	<b>Reel Chicago</b>	Thursday, October 9 or Friday, October 10 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)
<b>TOUR 4</b>	<b>Transitioning: Challenging Our Understanding of Gender</b>	Monday, October 13 or Thursday, October 16 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)
<b>TOUR 5</b>	<b>Haiti: History, Culture, and Vodou/Voodoo</b>	Monday, October 27 or Wednesday, October 29 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)

# Know Your Chicago Committee

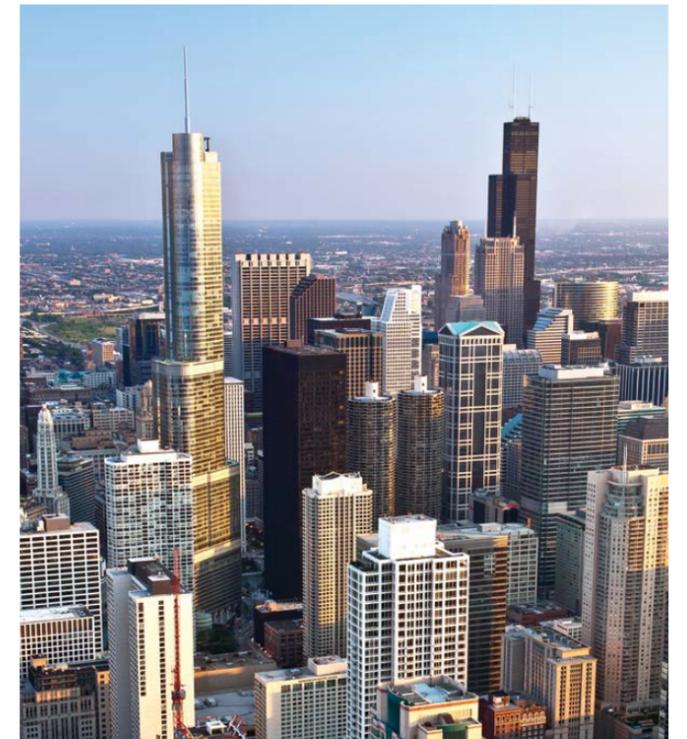
## Pam Sheffield, **Chair**

Susan S. Aaron  
Vicki Apatoff  
Jean S. Berghoff  
Judith S. Block\*  
Lucille Burrus  
Dee Dee Chesley  
Josie Childs  
Gay-Young Cho  
Mari H. Craven  
Paula Epstein  
Jean M. Foran  
Mary Galvin  
Denise Gardner  
Louise Glasser  
Maureen S. Hartigan  
Dorothy Hawley  
Doris B. Holleb  
Sarah P. Jaicks  
Jan Jentes\*  
Colleen Karr  
Carolyn Lang  
Donna LaPietra

Janis Lariviere  
Jill F. Levi  
Susan Clark McBride  
Judith Paine McBrien  
Nancy McCracken  
Gail McGuinness  
Maggie Meiners  
Erica C. Meyer  
Joan L. Miller  
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Ellen O'Connor\*  
Barbara Pearlman  
Marlene O. Rankin  
Biba Roesch  
Madeline Rosenberg  
Carol M. Schulz  
Patricia A. Sikorovsky\*  
Joan F. Small  
Ruddy Smith  
Elizabeth Sonnenschein\*  
Isabel C. Stewart

Jeannette P. Tamayo  
Betty Van Gorkom\*  
Bonnie Vickrey\*  
Joan Von Leesen  
Claire Weiler  
Tracy S. Whitehead  
Iris Witkowsky  
Linda Woloshin  
Bobbi Zabel

## \*Former Chair



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