✶✶ THIS IS ✶✶ CHICAGO

OUR HOME

EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLIC SPACES

Chicago History Museum

We can make the Chicago History Museum (CHM) a must-see destination for visitors of every age—creating unforgettable experiences from the moment you step in the door.

The Chicago History Museum welcomes everyone from around our city—and our world—to experience the stories we collect and share, explore our collections, and become immersed in learning, discovery, and wonder. Our exhibitions and public spaces are the touch-points where these connections are made—where strangers meet, ideas become tangible, and one quick photo can immortalize you side-by-side with people and treasures from Chicago history.

As we look ahead to the Museum—and the Chicago—of tomorrow, it's time to reinvest in these important spaces: creating layers of experience that speak to different ages and backgrounds; broadening accessibility through new technologies; and drawing in more families, students, and first-time visitors.

Through this campaign, we will extend the exciting work that began with the recent re-imagining of our first floor interactive gallery, the transformation of our auditorium into a theater, and creation of a centerpiece film. Drawing on a range of current scholarship—art, history, literature, sociology, and economics—and inspiring visitors with compelling stories and civic engagement, we will transform gallery experiences throughout the Museum and make CHM a must-see destination for all visitors.

Lobby Welcome Experience: To invite the city to our door and offer a fun and inspiring experience, we will create a new entry to the Museum and redevelop our website. Our goal will be to embrace our mission of welcoming everyone and becoming the city's museum while offering all visitors a personalized introduction to the city and its most powerful and surprising stories.

Re-conceptualizing L Car: By adding new multisensory technologies and perspectives to update our historic 'L' car, CHM will offer visitors a truly immersive experience of one of the city's most treasured artifacts. Here, the history of the elevated train system will take visitors on a journey through the city across time. Coupled with an animated digital display of the history of the rail systems as they spread across the city, the car experience will orient our guests to the history of Chicago and its neighborhoods, art, culture, and industries in a new and exhilarating way.

Prohibition-Era Object Theater Experience: We will build a state-of-the-art object theater that changes the way visitors encounter and engage with some of our city's most riveting and important stories.

Chief among them will be an honest portrayal of Al Capone and gangland Chicago almost 100 years ago. Offering a corrective to the cartoonish legends that populate the current landscape, this authentic portrait will reveal the true and challenging nature of these gangs, their violent behavior, and their impact on the city's reputation and popular narratives of Chicago history, as well as the law enforcement agents and judges who brought them to justice.

New Costume Exhibition Space: Our newly dedicated costume exhibition space on the second floor will be refurbished, nearly doubling the space of our current costume gallery and providing an ideal environment to continue developing engaging exhibitions of our world-renowned collection of historical clothing.

Experimental Gallery: This new gallery space will feature innovative and unexpected ways to experience history that will engage young and diverse audiences. In it, we will employ digital media, interactive technology, creative partnerships, and other experimental exhibition approaches—beginning in the fall of 2016 with *Chicago Authored*, the nation's first-ever crowdsourced exhibition.

These projects—and this campaign—are only the beginning. As we grow into our vision and extend our role as a community hub for the 21st century, we will continue to develop exciting new experiences while incubating ideas and projects that facilitate thought-provoking encounters with our city's history. Your support will make it all possible.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM

COVER: *Museum-goers explore the Chicago History Museum's many exhibits.*