

MUSEUMS

Expanded
coverage in the
Chicago Tribune
A+E report

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Adler Planetarium

1300 S. Lake Shore Drive; 312-922-7827, adlerplanetarium.org

America's first planetarium has one of the world's greatest collections of antique astronomical instruments.

Through March 7: Free admission for Illinois residents Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Brookfield Zoo

8400 31st St., Brookfield; 708-688-8000, czs.org

On 216 acres, more than 3,000 animals live in walk-through settings that re-create their natural habitats, with different species sharing space just as they do in the wild.

Through Tuesday: Free admission Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays

Chicago Botanic Garden

1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe; 847-835-5440, chicagobotanic.org

The garden's 385 acres are situated on nine islands surrounded by 81 acres of tranquil waters, with 24 display gardens.

Through April 8: "Treewhispers": An exhibition of handmade art along with stories from different people about their relationships and connection to trees.

Chicago Cultural Center

78 E. Washington St.; 312-744-6630, chicago.culturalcenter.org

Live musical, dance and cultural arts performances take place year-round.

Through April 29: "Write Now: Artists and Letterforms": An exhibition of works using letters and text in painting, printmaking, sculpture and video explores letterforms.

DuSable Museum of African American History

740 E. 56th Place; 773-947-0600, dusablemuseum.org

The DuSable is one of the most notable African-American museums in the nation. The DuSable features permanent exhibits, including "Clothed in History," with the shoes of gospel legend Mahalia Jackson and a dress worn by Halle Berry in the movie "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge," and "Fight to Fly," highlighting the Tuskegee Airmen.

Field Museum

1400 S. Lake Shore Drive; 312-922-9410, fieldmuseum.org

One of the most popular attractions is "Sue," the world's largest and most complete *T. rex* dinosaur skeleton.

Harold Washington Library Center

400 S. State; 312-747-4300, chipublib.org

The Chicago Public Library's Special Collections and Preservation Division provides access to rare materials of the Chicago Public Library including items relating to the Civil War and Chicago's world's fairs.

Through May 15: "Actors, Plays and Stages: Early Theater in Chicago": The exhibition looks at the origin of Chicago's rich theatrical legacy and playhouses that have operated for more than 100 years.

John Hancock Center

875 N. Michigan Ave.; 888-875-8439, jhochicago.com

One of the tallest buildings in the city, the Hancock Center has spectacular views from

the 94th-floor observation deck.

Through April 8: Skating in the Sky: Get a wintry view of Chicago from the 94th floor Observatory while you ice skate on the indoor synthetic ice rink. Chicago Blackhawks youth hockey coaches offer skating lessons every Monday.

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

3001 Central St., Evanston; 847-475-1030, mitchellmuseum.org

The museum was founded after John and Betty Mitchell donated their personal collection of 3,000 Native American artifacts to Evanston's Kendall College in 1977, before becoming an independent nonprofit institution in 2006. Since the initial donation of artifacts, the museum's collection has grown to approximately 10,000 pieces, and it is one of only a handful of museums in the nation that focuses exclusively on the art, history and culture of American Indian and First Nation peoples from throughout the United States and Canada.

Through May 27: "Treasures of the Collection": Art from the museum's collection is on display, items dating from the mid-1800s to the late 20th century, including baskets, beadwork, Inuit art, ledger drawings, rugs and Southwest art.

Shedd Aquarium

1200 S. Lake Shore Drive; 312-939-2438, 312-559-0200, sheddaquarium.org

The Shedd is one of the nation's largest indoor aquariums.

Through May 28: "Jellies": A showcase of the strange anatomies and life cycles of the translucent ocean-dwellers.



TRIBUNE PHOTO

Check out the Regenstein Center for African Apes at Lincoln Park Zoo.

PICK OF THE WEEK

Wandering around animal habitats like the Nature Boardwalk, Pritzker Family Children's Zoo or Regenstein Center for African Apes at Lincoln Park Zoo, one of the last free-admission zoos in the country, is fun, but there's more to do. The gurus of zoo-based conservation and science programs offer educational programs throughout the year. Upcoming events include "Breakfast with the Apes" (March 4; \$75, for ages 12+) and "Sleep Under the Sky-scrappers: Indoor Overnight" (March 9-10; \$42-\$70, for ages 5-12). *Lincoln Park Zoo, 2001 N. Clark St.; 312-742-2000, lpzoo.org*