

While "New Treasures of Our Collection" is not guite reason enough for a trip to the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian (go for the thought-provoking exhibit on the War of 1812 instead), it certainly captures the diversity inherent in the broad and in many ways meaningless label "American Indian." Among the items displayed are the standard miniature moccasins and red winter parkas, but there's also a custommade skateboard.—Tomi Obaro

Marine Corps Relief Society, Fisher House and Chicago Wolves Charities.

Sights & tours

Chicago Botanic Garden

1000 Lake-Cook Rd, Glencoe (847-835-5440, chicagobotanic.org). Daily 8amsunset. Free admission; parking per car \$20, seniors on Tue \$7, vans \$25. Water plants are in abundance at this beautiful site, where the sprawling gardens are a series of islands. Stroll through 24 landscapes, including the Japanese Garden,

reen year-round, and the Regenstein Fruit and Vegetable Garden. You can also commune with nature on a prairie, in the woods and by the Skokie River.

Morton Arboretum

nursery catalogs.

4100 Illinois Rte 53, Lisle (630-968-0074, mortonarh.org). Daily 7am–sunset; \$12 (Wed \$8), seniors 65 and older \$11 (Wed \$7), kids ages 2–17\$9 (Wed \$6), kids under 2 and members free. In 1922, salt company magnate Joy Morton established this tree haven on 1 75 acres. Today it spans 1,700 acres of woodlands, gardens, wetlands and other natural areas. The backyard gardener or landscape professional can sign up for classes or learn about nature in a 27,000-volume library featuring 5,000 rare books, 62 rare magazine titles and 1,500 pre-20th-century

McCormick Tribune Ice Rink

11 N Michigan Ave (312-742-5472, millenniumbark org)

* FREE McCormick Tribune Ice Rink Perhaps you're game for a couple-skate, or making figure eights. Maybe you're afraid of falling and refuse to let go of the rails. Either way, the most popular city rink is open for business, er, pleasure. Through Mar 15.

Chicago Architecture Foundation

FREE 224 S Michigan Ave (312-922-3432, architecture.org). Daily 9:30am-4:30pm. Tour: Sun 13 2-4pm; \$35, CAF and AIA

*AT HOME: Hard Hat Tour of **C3Prefab Construction** Green modular houses could soon replace multiple hathrooms as the ultimate real-estate status symbol. Maybe after eating barbecue drinking beers and getting a behind-thescenes walk-through at Square Root Architecture + Design's newest project, participants will be sold on the idea of affordable energy-efficient homes. Advance registration is required.

Chicago Detours

Meet at the Southeast end of the Chase Tower, 10 S Dearborn St. Ends at the Cultural Center (chicagodetours.com). Tour: Thu 10am-noon; Fri 3-5pm; Sat 10am noon, 1:30–3:30pm. Sun 1:30–3:30pm; \$34. students \$32. kids under 5 free.

Inside the Loop: Interior Architectural Tour Get an up-close look at the Loop's architectural and cultural history without trekking around in the cold. Chicago Detours founder and former Rick Steves travel guide Amanda Scotese leads you through underground paths and corridors to spots like the First United Methodist Church, Block 37 shopping mall and Chicago Cultural Center (not on Sundays). Reservations required.

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, University of Chicago

5850 S Woodlawn Ave (773-702-2100, rockefeller.uchicago.edu). Daily 8am-4pm. Tour: Mon-Fri 11:30am-12:30pm, 4:30-5:30pm.

* KIDS Rockefeller Chapel Carillon Recitals and Tours The sweet sounds from the carillon are worth the climb up 271 narrow steps. The instrument weighs in at 100 tons and has 72 bells, making it the largest instrument ever made. Tower tours take place 30 minutes prior to each performance. Through Jan 31.

Museums

Adler Planetarium

1300 S Lake Shore Dr (312-922-7827, adlerplanetarium.org). Daily 9:30am-6pm. \$12, seniors \$10, kids ages 3–11 \$8; discounts for Chicago residents \$2–\$3. *Ongoing: **"Welcome to the Universe."**

The Grainger Sky Theater's second screening to be made in-house takes you a billion light years away and back to Earth, where you can zoom in on landforms rendered with NASA data that's updated weekly. Much like in the domed theater's original incarnation, a live staffer helms the daily presentations. (Screens about five times a day. Price including admission \$28, kids \$22.)

Art Institute of Chicago

111 S Michigan Ave (312-443-3600, artic.edu/aic). Mon–Wed 10:30am–5pm,

Thu 10:30am-8pm, Fri-Sun 10:30am-5pm. \$18; seniors, students and kids 14 and over \$12; kids 13 and under free. First and second Wednesdays of the month are free for Illinois residents. \$2 discount for Chicago residents. Admission free to Illinois residents every

*Through Feb 24: "Building: Inside
Studio Gang Architects." The projects
of Studio Gang Architects, led by
MacArthur Fellow Jeanne Gang, are showcased in a workshoplike environment that reveals the practice's creative processes as they seek to answer pressing contemporary issues through architecture. The exhibition features more than a dozen projects framed around four major issues facing contemporary architecture: its relationship to nature, questions of density, community-building and architecture as performance.

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\$20, seniors on Tue \$7, vans \$25.
Through Feb 10: "The Garden Turns 40:
Documenting Our Past, Planning for the Future." See how the garden has grown since opening in 1972. The exhibition features rarely seen archival documents, including a records book containing minutes from an 1890 fundraising meeting with Garden parent org the Chicago Horticultural Society, issues of membership magazine Garden Talk from the 1950s and a layout design, circa 1940, of the Japanese Garden Bridge.

Chicago History Museum

1601 N Clark St (312-642-4600, chicagohistory.org). Mon–Sat 9:30am–4:30pm; Sun noon–5pm. \$14; seniors and students \$12; members, kids under 12 free. **Through summer 2013: "Vivian Maier's Chicago." This is the first public museum display of photographer Vivian Maier's block and white sellection. The subthis

black-and-white collection. The exhibit features only Maier's Chicago years, displaying photos taken from 1960–1973.

DuSable Museum of African American History

¢740E56thPl(773-947-0600, dusablemuseum.org). Tue-Sat 10am-5pm; Sun noon-5pm. \$10, students and seniors \$7, kids ages 6–11 \$3, kids 5 and under free. Sundays free. \$2 discount for Chicago residents.

★ Through Mar 10: "Dust in Their Veins:

A Visual Response to the Global Water Crisis." Visual artist Candace Hunter takes on the water-shortage crisis in this mixed media exhibit. Wood silhouettes of naked women's torsos line the walls-each depicting some aspect of the drought in parts of sub-Saharan Africa. Sobering text panels relay the effects of the shortage in stark statistical terms: The average American consumes up to 20 times more water a day than the average African; 40 billion work hours are lost each year in sub-Saharan Africa, in the pursuit of good drinking water. Though the exhibit occasionally lacks nuance-one torso shows a woman drinking from a spigot with H2O painted beneath the portrait—it's a thoughtprovoking display.

Edgewater Historical Society Museum

5358 N Ashland Ave (773-506-4849. edgewaterhistory.org). Sat Noon-4pm; Sun 1–5pm.

Through Apr 6: "Ten Years: Celebrating Our History." The retrospective is a compilation of the museum's favorite exhibits. Revisit "Then and Now in Edgewater," "Edgewater