

## CAC For the Family: Design Club offers kids and families five days of design-centered fun and learning to enjoy at home

May 11–15, CAC Education staff lead an exploration of the design process through activities, lessons, videos and more for ages 6–12 and caregivers

**For immediate release April 29, 2020**

[High-resolution images with captions and credits downloadable here](#)

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CHICAGO – **CAC For the Family: Design Club** helps children ages 6–12 explore the ways architecture and design impact them every day. Over the course of five days, participants will be contacted daily by CAC Education staff with each day’s lessons, videos and resources. Staff will be available to provide support to participants throughout the week via email. CAC For the Family: Design Club runs Monday, May 11 through Friday, May 15 with approximately two to three hours of activities per day. Admission is FREE with advance registration, online at [architecture.org/designclub](http://architecture.org/designclub).

CAC For the Family: Design Club participants will explore the design process: a tool architects, engineers and designers use to solve problems. Using items generally found at home, kids will practice using the design process to imagine a new corner of their city as well as to design a new living space for the people around them. They’ll share their ideas with CAC Education staff and bring their ideas to life through a series of daily hands-on building activities.

## CAC For the Family: Design Club Program Outline

### **Design Club Day 1, Monday, May 11: “How Buildings Work”**

Have you ever wondered, “How do buildings stand up?” Learn the basics of architectural engineering to understand differences between load-bearing and skeleton-frame structures.

### **Design Club Day 2, Tuesday, May 12: “Building Styles”**

Buildings come in all shapes, sizes and styles. Explore some iconic styles found in Chicago’s world-famous skyline and choose a style for your own original building.

### **Design Club Day 3, Wednesday, May 13: “Architecture in Three Dimensions”**

Learn how to translate your building sketches into three-dimensional forms.

### **Design Club Day 4, Thursday, May 14: “Ornamentation”**

Learn about the various materials used in the built environment and choose what ornamentation is best for your own original building.

### **Design Club Day 5, Friday, May 15: “Beyond Buildings”**

Think creatively about your building’s context and how it engages its neighboring environment.

CAC For the Family: Design Club activities are entirely self-guided and were conceived to only involve materials already available around the household. Those with questions are encouraged to reach out via email to [education@architecture.org](mailto:education@architecture.org).

### **About the Chicago Architecture Center**

The Chicago Architecture Center (CAC) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1966, dedicated to inspiring people to discover why design matters. A national leader in architecture and design education, the CAC offers field-leading tours, programs, exhibitions and more that are part of a dynamic journey of lifelong learning.

Opened to the public in 2018, its riverfront location is in the heart of the city, where Michigan Avenue meets the Chicago River, featuring nearly 10,000 square feet of exhibition space filled with super-sized models—and views—of iconic skyscrapers built over the course of more than a century. Exhibitions focus on Chicago’s diverse neighborhoods, housing types, leading architects and future projects, and include the largest scale model of the city, with more than 4,250 miniature buildings, interactive touchscreens and a cinematic backdrop animating key moments in its history. Highly knowledgeable, enthusiastic CAC docents guide visitors and residents through more than 75 walking tours with more than 7,000 annual departures, plus the Chicago Architecture Foundation Center River Cruise aboard Chicago’s First Lady.

Through partnerships with schools and youth-serving organizations, the CAC reaches approximately 30,000 K–12 students annually, while teacher workshops provide educators with tools and resources they need to advance STEM curricula in their classrooms. Committed to increasing access for populations historically under-represented in ACED (architecture, construction, engineering and design) professions, the CAC offers many of its education programs—and all of its programs for teens—at no cost to participants. CAC programs for adults and members include talks with acclaimed authors and practicing architects, in-depth presentations on issues and trends in urbanism, and classes unlocking a wide range of subjects with connections to the built environment.

Proceeds from programs, tours and the CAC Design Store, as well as from grants, sponsorships and donations, support its educational mission. Visit [architecture.org](http://architecture.org) to learn more and follow @chiarchitecture and #chiarchitecture on social media.

