OVERVIEW
Night of Ideas event returned to Chicago on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 with headliners Studio Muoto, Poems While You Wait, Shermann ‘Dilla’ Thomas, Tonika Johnson, Isabelle Oliver, Bernard Turner, Natalie Moore, and the hosts of the 77 Flavors of Chicago podcast.

GOALS
In partnership with Villa Albertine, the goal of this program was the ‘global celebration of creativity and crucial thought featuring a wide variety of inspiring talks and performances by academics, activists, and artists.’

“The night was indeed a success! Appreciate you all for holding space for us to showcase our role in Chicago’s art community and ideate with the visitors!”

– JANELL NELSON, ENGELWOOD ARTS COLLECTIVE
OVERVIEW AND HIGHLIGHTS

This year’s theme, Outside the Lines: Shaping Narratives and Urban Futures centered on urban life, raising questions about climate change, gentrification and social justice, by way of diversity and inclusion, the future of cultural institutions, and the shapes of artistic communities in the built environment.

Night of Ideas transformed the Chicago Architecture Center gallery spaces into an exhilarating sensory experience. Studio Muoto’s visionary audio-immersive exhibit, The Ball Theater, from the Venice Architecture Biennale was a feature of the evening.

The CAC was also able to showcase the current exhibition, Systems, by French design studio, ChartierDalix.

“It was such a joy participating in this year’s Night of Ideas! I had a great time and had amazing conversations with participants.”

– WILLIAM ESTRADA – ARTS EDUCATOR, MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTIST, AND CONSULTANT

2024 SPONSORS

The event was co-curated by Villa Albertine and the Chicago Architecture Center. Special thank you to the Alliance Française de Chicago, France Chicago Center at the University of Chicago, Institut Français, and Villa Albertine Chicago for their generous support of Night of Ideas Chicago. Because of this support, the event was able to be offered for no admission fee.
PARTICIPANTS

We had bright minds from a variety of organizations join us, including:

77 Flavors of Chicago, Alliance Française de Chicago, ART WORKS Projects, Bronzeville-Black Metropolis National Heritage Area, ChartierDalix, Chicago State University, Cresson Lab, Ecole Franco-Américaine de Chicago, Englewood Arts Collective, Experimental Station, Freshwater Lab, Great Cities Institute, Grow Greater Englewood, Illinois Institute of Technology College of Architecture, Inherent L3C, Institut Français, Lycée Français de Chicago, Métamorphose, National School of Architecture of Grenoble, Nowhere Collaborative, Poems While You Wait, Université Grenoble Alpes, University of Illinois Chicago, Rutgers University, Sistas In the Village, and Studio Muoto.

ATTENDANCE AND IMPACT

More than 400 people engaged with Night of Ideas, with over 700 emails collected.

• Visitors stemmed from 20 unique zip codes.
• Over 60% of those zip codes had no previous interaction with the Chicago Architecture Center.

Earned Media

• 3 placements
• 1,004,678 impressions

Survey Results

• 85% of survey respondents said they would recommend this event to a friend
• 77% said they felt more interested in CAC events after attending Night of Ideas

"The variety of topics covered and opportunities for audience participation made this a stand-out event for me."
– ATTENDEE

"I loved how every speaker and performer engaged so wonderfully with the audience! It was a treat to get to connect personally with people generating and sharing ideas."
– ATTENDEE