



# ANNUAL REPORT

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**2024**  
EDITION



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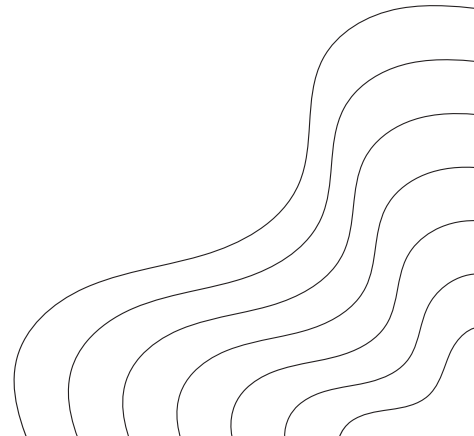
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# ABOUT THE MUSEUM

This historical Chicago Landmark at 4339 South Lake Park Avenue belonged to McKinley Morganfield, known professionally as Muddy Waters – the father of modern Chicago blues. It was the first house he had ever purchased. When the blues legend moved to Chicago from the South, it became a home away from home. It soon turned into a gathering place for Muddy, other blues musicians, and entertainers. They would host jam sessions in the basement, creating music that we all enjoy to this day.

The MOJO Museum will be a cultural center dedicated to sharing Waters' music and inspiring future generations of musicians. Imagine sitting in a room filled with music makers. Their creativity comes alive as they jam with each other trying new riffs – testing what their instruments can do. They've come to learn, to be inspired, and to be in the room where music history was made. They've come to the Muddy Waters MOJO Museum in Bronzeville, a neighborhood bursting with stories of cultural, political, and social luminaries who made – and changed – history. This is a place for music, for learning, for events and to be in community with others who feel the power of Chicago's original electric blues, pioneered by Muddy Waters.

## REBUILDING THE ORIGINAL HOUSE OF BLUES



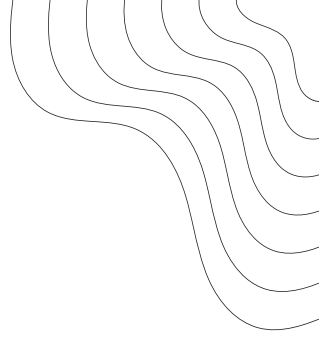
Preservation



Programming



Community Engagement



# MEET OUR TEAM

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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**Chandra Cooper**  
President &  
Executive Director



**Amelia Cooper-Sanders**  
Vice President



**Amy Dean**  
Secretary &  
Communications and  
Administrative Coordinator



**Deitra Farr**  
Board Member



**Kenny Smith**  
Board Member



**Mark Ampaw**  
Treasurer



**JoAnne Sabir**  
Board Member

## OPERATIONAL TEAM

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**Henry Wishcamper**  
Strategic Consultant



**Rita Organ**  
Exhibit Research & Design  
Consultant



**Ryan Gray**  
Exhibit Designer

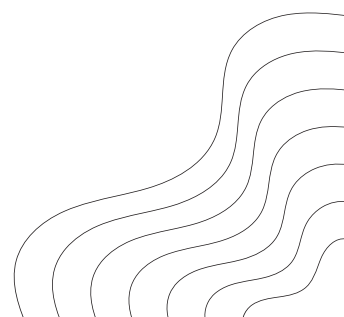
# VISION AND MISSION

## VISION

All generations will be empowered and inspired to keep blues music alive, and to celebrate the Muddy Waters house, history, his legacy, and sound.

## MISSION

To preserve and protect the Muddy Waters legacy, house, and story through authentic educational experiences, music inspiration, and community services.



# GRANTS AWARDED IN 2024

*We got our  
mojo workin'!*

The MOJO Museum is thriving! In 2024, the museum secured significant grant funding, and we've put these resources to great use. From launching new programs and hosting exciting events to making essential building updates, the MOJO Museum is achieving remarkable progress. We're absolutely thrilled about what's ahead!



McArthur Foundation  
Vital Communities Grant



Field Foundation  
A Road Together Program



GAYLORD AND  
DOROTHY DONNELLEY  
FOUNDATION

Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley  
Foundation Broadening  
Narratives Program



PRITZKER  
TRAUBERT  
FOUNDATION

Pritzker Traubert Foundation



AACRN X AAAM



Mellon Foundation Humanities  
in Place Program



Chicago Department of Cultural  
Affairs and Special Events  
City Arts Grant



Grants for Arts Projects: Music



Shirley J. Newsome  
Beautification Grant



Illinois Arts Council Grant



Allstate & Build Bronzeville  
The Main Street Grant Program



Polk Bros Foundation Grant

# PRESENCE AT CHICAGO BLUES FESTIVAL



Muddy Waters MOJO Museum experienced another surge of engagement during Chicago's iconic Blues Festival in June of 2024.

# 2024 MUSEUM HOSTED EVENTS





Muddy Waters MOJO Museum Presents

# FRONT PORCH SUMMER SERIES

4339 S LAKE PARK AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60653

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**FRONT PORCH PERFORMANCE**      Featuring live music by  
Saturday, June 22, 2024 | 2-4p      Melody Angel

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**FRONT PORCH PERFORMANCE**      Featuring live music by  
Saturday, July 13, 2024 | 2-4p      Jimmy Burns

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**WOMEN IN BLUES & FRONT PORCH PERFORMANCE**      Featuring live music by  
Saturday, August 10, 2024 | 2-4p      Demetria Taylor

No street parking. Park in One Stop parking lot across the street. Bring your own lawn chair.

Save the Date  
Shake Your Back-to-School Blues  
Saturday, September 7  
11a-2p

www.mojomuseum.com      info@mojomuseum.com



Muddy Waters MOJO MUSEUM THE REAL HOUSE OF BLUES

Muddy Waters MOJO MUSEUM PRESENTS

# Melody Angel

## FRONT PORCH SUMMER SERIES

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024 | 2-4P

4339 S LAKE PARK AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60653

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www.mojomuseum.com      info@mojomuseum.com



**MUDDY WATERS MOJO MUSEUM PRESENTS**

*Jimmy Burns*



**FRONT PORCH SUMMER SERIES**

**SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2024 | 2-4P**

4339 S LAKE PARK AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60653

No street parking. Park in One Stop parking lot across the street.  
Bring your own lawn chair.







[www.mojomuseum.com](http://www.mojomuseum.com)      [info@mojomuseum.com](mailto:info@mojomuseum.com)




**YOGA**

**POP UP YOGA & WELLNESS SESSION**

Join us for a family-friendly, rejuvenating yoga class with Wellness Curator Nicole Jeanine at the Muddy Waters MOJO Museum Garden. Embrace tranquility and find your flow while Blues and Jazz music plays. Open to all ages.



FREE YOGA MATS, BLOCKS AND STRAPS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

*Join Us!*

**SATURDAY, JULY 13**  
4:30-5:30 PM

4339 S Lake Park Ave, Chicago, IL 60653

No street parking. Park in One Stop parking lot across the street.




# WOMEN *in blues*

MUSIC & CONVERSATION

2 - 4 PM  
AUG 10

Join us for an engaging and in-depth conversation celebrating the contributions of women in the blues. Our panelists, ranging from publicists and artist relations experts to talented musicians and more, will share their insights, experiences, and stories. Including live music featuring Demetria Taylor.



LIVE MUSIC FEATURING

*Demetria Taylor*



MODERATOR

*Chandra Cooper*

Presented by:



## FRONT PORCH SUMMER SERIES

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MOJO HEALING GARDEN AND PERFORMANCE CENTER

FREE YOGA MATS, BLOCKS AND STRAPS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

JOIN US!

SATURDAY, AUG 10  
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

4339 S Lake Park Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60653



No street parking. Park in One Stop parking lot across the street.



# SHAKE YOUR BACK TO SCHOOL BLUES

LAPTOP GIVEAWAY!



THE REAL HOUSE OF BLUES

The Muddy Waters MOJO Museum presents Shake Your Back-to-School Blues, a vibrant and FREE community and family event designed to welcome the new school year with joy and excitement. Join us for a day filled with live music, snacks, food trucks, and fun activities for all ages.



**FREE ACTIVITIES!**  
 Family Yoga  
 Arts and Crafts  
 Art Wall  
 Music Making Station  
 FREE Backpacks & School Supplies

**PERFORMANCES BY:**  
 Alicia Ya Yah Townsend  
 Intonation Music  
 Bandwith Chicago



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 | 11-2P**  
**4339 S LAKE PARK AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60653**

No street parking. Park in One Stop parking lot across the street.  
 Bring your own lawn chair.

[www.mojomuseum.com](http://www.mojomuseum.com) [info@mojomuseum.com](mailto:info@mojomuseum.com)



THE MUDDY WATERS MOJO MUSEUM PRESENTS

## Alicia Ya Yah Townsend



**FREE ACTIVITIES!**  
 Laptop Giveaway!  
 Family Yoga  
 Arts and Crafts  
 Art Wall  
 Music Making Station  
 FREE Backpacks & School Supplies

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MUDDY WATERS  
**MOJO MUSEUM**  
 THE REAL HOUSE OF BLUES

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR ANNUAL  
**Holiday Blues**  
*Soirée*


**FEATURING LIVE MUSIC BY  
 JOHN PRIMER & THE REAL DEAL BLUES BAND**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024**

**LOGAN CENTER  
 PENTHOUSE - 9TH FLOOR  
 915 E 60TH STREET  
 CHICAGO, IL 60637**

**\$100  
 ADMISSION**  
 FOOD INCLUDED

**6:30 PM  
 TO 9:30 PM**

**AND PERFORMANCES BY  
 BANDWITH CHICAGO**

Join us for a fundraiser celebrating Muddy Waters' legacy and blues music. Proceeds will support Muddy Waters MOJO Museum and the historical landmark. Purchase tickets on Eventbrite.com.

TICKETS  


SPONSORED BY  
 THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
**LOGAN CENTER**  
 for the Arts

**DONATE OR BECOME AN EVENT SPONSOR:  
 WWW.MOJOMUSEUM.COM/SPONSOR**



# 2024 MUSEUM STATS

10

*Museum-hosted events*

500

*Est. Event Attendees*

972

*Email Subscribers*

5,800

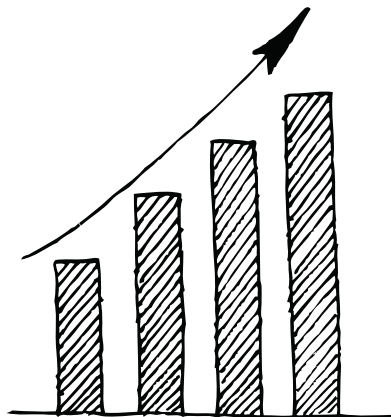
*Facebook Followers*

5,703

*Website Visitors*

20,058

*Website Page Views*



# BUILDING UPDATES

In 2024, significant strides were made in the stabilization and rehabilitation of the building, even during the challenging winter months. Thanks to the Museum team's determination to keep the project moving, the following progress has been achieved:

- Underground plumbing and water systems are now in place.
- The awning has been completely redone.
- Cladding on the bay window is finished, with the window installation pending.
- Ductwork and lighting installations are nearing completion.

The building is now ready for the team to begin interior work, with even more updates to come in Spring of 2025!



# VACANT LOT UPDATES

On December 13, 2023 Mayor Brandon Johnson proposed City-owned land sales to the City Council that included the vacant lot at 4337 S. Lake Park Avenue, which is next to the MOJO Museum. The lot will be used as a landscaped side-yard and outdoor performance space for the forthcoming Museum. The vacant lot was purchased in the first quarter of 2024 and the Museum hosted a groundbreaking ceremony In April of 2024.



**MOJO**  
**HEALING**  
**GARDEN**  
AND PERFORMANCE CENTER



*Muddy Waters House Museum Garden, 4339 S. Lake Park Ave. Rendering Credit: Bauer Latoza Studio*





# CONTACT US



[info@mojomuseum.com](mailto:info@mojomuseum.com)



[www.mojomuseum.com](http://www.mojomuseum.com)