

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



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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



MOJO MUSEUM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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

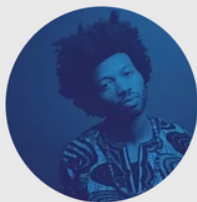


Mark Ampaw
Treasurer



JoAnne Sabir
Board Member

OPERATIONAL TEAM



Sam Thousand
Programming &
Production Coordinator



Henry Wishcamper
Strategic Consultant



Kenge Adams
Corporate & Community
Partnerships



Rita Organ
Exhibit Research &
Design Consultant





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.



African American Civil Rights Network



In 2023, Muddy Waters MOJO Museum was welcomed into the African American Civil Rights Network. The Network is a collection of properties, facilities, and programs that offer a comprehensive overview of the people, places, and events associated with the African American Civil Rights movement.

The continuing African American struggle for social, economic, and political equality has forever changed the United States. The African American Civil Rights Network seeks to tell the story of the men and women whose bravery and sacrifices shaped the movement throughout American history, and still Impact our country today. The Muddy Waters MOJO Museum plays a critical role In this story.

As one example, Martin Luther King & Muddy Waters' journeys from the Mississippi Delta intersected in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial in May, 1968. Muddy Waters and his band had driven all night from Chicago to D.C. to play for the Poor People's March on Washington. He was invited by the entertainment coordinator, Alan Lomax -- the folklorist who first recorded him on the plantation in Clarksdale, Mississippi decades before.

[Learn more here.](#)



Presence at Chicago Blues Festival

**CHICAGO
BLUES
FESTIVAL**
JUNE 8-11, 2023
MILLENNIUM PARK



Muddy Waters MOJO Museum experienced another surge of engagement during Chicago's iconic Blues Festival in June of 2023. One of the week's highlights was celebrating Barry Dolins' Day, who is one of our Emeritus Board Members.

2023 Museum Hosted Events

MUDDY WATERS MOJO MUSEUM
PRESENTS:

WOMEN IN BLUES: CONCERT & CONVERSATION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12TH | 3-5 PM
4339 S LAKE PARK AVE, CHICAGO, IL

ALICIA "YA YAH" TOWNSEND **DEMETRIA TAYLOR**

HOST
CHANDRA COOPER

This project is partially supported by a Chicago Presents grant from the
City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events

 **DCASE**
Department of Cultural and Special Events

 **Bronzeville BLUES**

 **MOJO MUSEUM**
MUDDY WATERS ORIGINAL JAZZ CLUB

 **BRONZEVILLE BLUES** 2022



MUDDY WATERS MOJO MUSEUM
presents

Front Porch SUMMER SERIES

4339 S. LAKE PARK AVE
CHICAGO

*3-5pm
Free!*

SAT, JUNE 24 - JAMIAH ROGERS BLUES BAND
SAT, JULY 15 - JOEY SAYE TRIO
w/Kenny "Beedy Eyes" Smith & Bob Stroger
SAT, AUG 12 - WOMEN IN BLUES CONVERSATIONS
& CONCERT HOSTED BY CHANDRA COOPER,
music by Alicia "Ya Yah" Townsend & Demetria Taylor

DCASE **MOJO MUSEUM** **BLUES SOCIETY**

This project is partially supported by a Chicago Presents grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events



MUDDY WATERS MOJO MUSEUM
PRESENTS

Front Porch Summer Series

4339 S LAKE PARK AVE CHICAGO, IL

SATURDAY | JUN 24TH, 2023
3-5 PM

JAMIAH ROGERS

This project is partially supported by a Chicago Presents grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events.

DCASE **BRONZVILLE BLUES COLLECTIVE** **MOJO MUSEUM**



Join us
for a
chair
yoga
session

Blues
Music
Yoga &
Wellness
Session

JUNE 24, 2023
5:30pm to 6:30pm

Muddy Waters Mojo Museum (Healing Garden)
4339 S Lake Park Ave Chicago, IL 60653
** Please bring your lawn chairs to session**

Sponsored By:



Muddy Waters MOJO Museum

MUDDY WATERS MOJO MUSEUM
PRESENTS:
FRONT PORCH SUMMER SERIES
 4338 S LAKE PARK AVE CHICAGO, IL 60653



SATURDAY JULY 15TH, 2023
3-5 PM

JOEY J. SAYE

THIS PROJECT IS PARTIALLY SUPPORTED BY A CHICAGO PRESENTS GRANT FROM THE CITY OF CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS & SPECIAL EVENTS.








Muddy Waters MOJO Museum

MUDDY WATERS MOJO MUSEUM PRESENTS

SHAKE YOUR BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLUES

A FREE COMMUNITY & FAMILY EVENT
4339 S LAKE PARK AVE

SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2023 11A-2P

LIVE MUSIC • FOOD TRUCKS
BACKPACKS & SCHOOL SUPPLIES • CRAFTS & PAINT WALL
FRONT PORCH PHOTOS

- HOSTED BY TORONZO CANNON
- DONNA HERULA
- THE SMILEY TILLMON BAND
- UGOCHI & A.S.E.

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR
PARK IN ONE STOP LOT
NO STREET PARKING

FOR MORE INFO: ADMIN@MOJOMUSEUM.COM





Grants Awarded

MOJO Museum Continues to thrive. Last year, the MOJO Museum received an impressive amount of grants. In 2023, our team has already put these funds to work by implementing new programming, events, and building updates. The MOJO Museum continues to make great strides and we couldn't be more thrilled.



Mellon Foundation Humanities
in Place Program



Field Foundation
A Road Together Program



B2B Arts



GAYLORD AND
DOROTHY DONNELLEY
FOUNDATION

Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley
Foundation Broadening
Narratives Program



Chicago Department of Cultural
Affairs and Special Events
City Arts Grant



Chicago Department of Cultural
Affairs and Special Events
Together We Heal



Shirley J. Newsome
Beautification Grant

*We got our
mojo workin'!*



Building Updates

In 2023 there was notable progress made in the building stabilization and rehabilitation. Here's a recap of the exciting developments made:

- Front stairs restored
- Cracked limestone repaired
- Bay window torn out and reconstructed
- Sandblasting of the limestone and front porch stairs
- Removal of metal coverings from the front porch
- Tuck pointing of brick exterior
- Paint removal from exterior
- and more!



Front Yard Beautification



With the support of the Shirley J. Newsome Beautification Grant, the museum added pavers from the sidewalk to the front door, add trees, and plant annual flowers in the front yard of the Muddy Waters House.

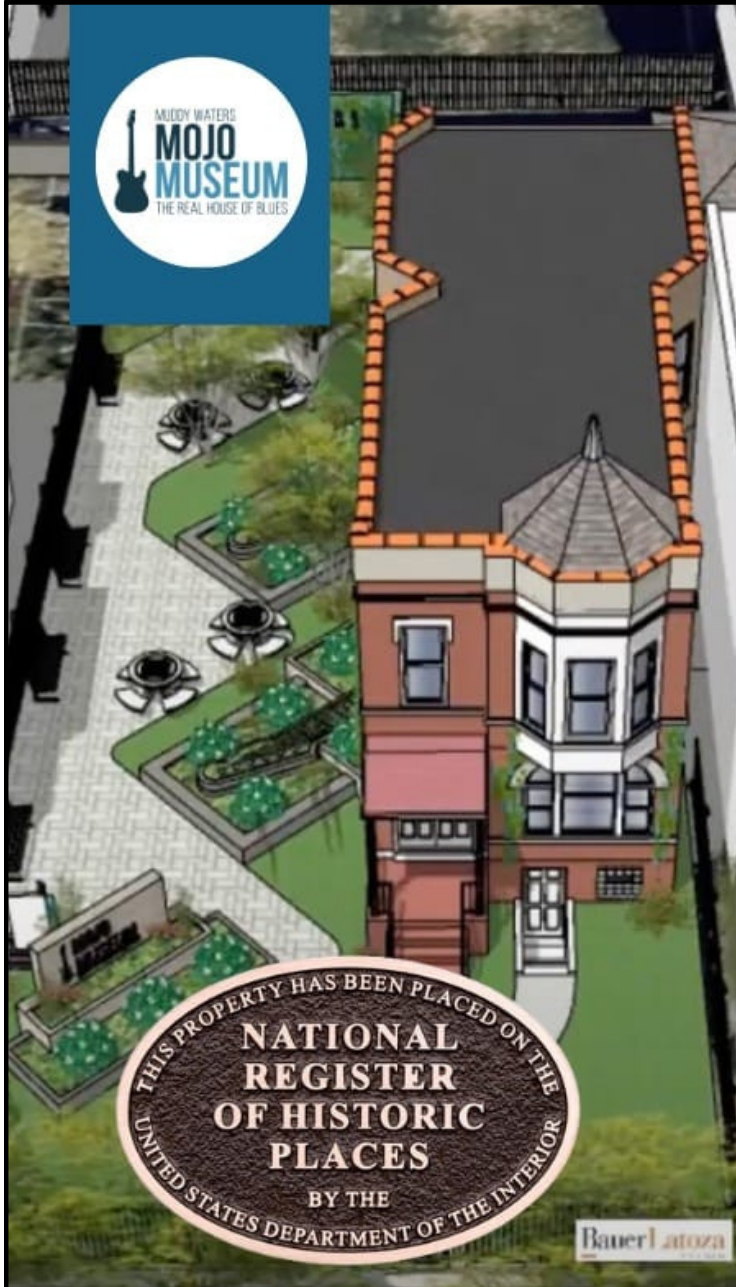


Securing the Vacant Lot

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 would be acquired by Chandra Cooper and will be used as a landscaped side-yard and outdoor performance space for the forthcoming Museum. The vacant lot will be purchased in the first quarter of 2024.



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



BREAKING NEWS!

Muddy's first home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places!

4339 South Lake Park Avenue, Chicago, IL

This is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. The National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources.



Contact Us



info@mojomuseum.com



www.mojomuseum.com

