

# KNOW *Your* CHICAGO

Exploring Our City for 67 Years



2015 SYMPOSIUM



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
GRAHAM SCHOOL

# Welcome to the 2015 Know Your Chicago Symposium!

Founded in 1948 by Mary Ward Wolkonsky, Know Your Chicago strives to encourage civic participation and to foster understanding of, and appreciation for, the diverse forces and institutions shaping our city.

As the official beginning to our 67th annual tour season, the Symposium brings together five distinguished speakers who address important issues related to our tour topics. Our 2015 tours focus on the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and Governors State University; women who have transformed Chicago; the International Baccalaureate K-12 education method; the positive forces of hip-hop in Chicago communities; and manufacturing and skilled-workforce development in Chicago.

We trust you will find today's speakers interesting and thought-provoking, and look forward to learning with you this season.

Learn more at [knowyourchicago.org](http://knowyourchicago.org)

# 2015 Know Your Chicago Symposium

Wednesday, September 9, 2015 | Ida Noyes Hall

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## INTRODUCTION **Morning Welcome to Our 67th Tour Season**

Gay-Young Cho, Chair, Know Your Chicago  
Eric Isaacs, Provost, The University of Chicago

## TOUR 1 **Scholarship and Sculpture**

Dr. Elaine Maimon, President, Governors State University

## TOUR 2 **Chicago's First and Accidental Alder(wo)man**

The Honorable Marilou (Hedlund) von Ferstel

## TOUR 3 **The World in Chicago: International Baccalaureate Programs**

Geoffrey Jones, Head of School at GEMS World Academy Chicago  
Kyle Westbrook, Executive Director of Magnet, Gifted and IB Programs at CPS

## BREAK FOR LUNCH

## INTRODUCTION **Afternoon Welcome to Our 67th Tour Season**

Mark R. Nemecek, Dean, The University of Chicago Graham School

## TOUR 4 **Hip Hop: What It Is and Why It Matters**

Che "Rhymefest" Smith, Creative Artist and Community Activist

## TOUR 5 **Does Manufacturing Have a Future in Chicago?**

Melissa Harris, Business Columnist, *Chicago Tribune*



# Meet the 2015 Symposium Speakers



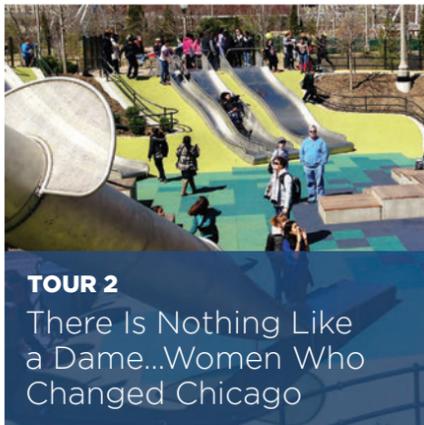
**TOUR 1**  
Big Ideas on the Prairie:  
The Nathan Manilow  
Sculpture Park and  
Governors State  
University

Yes! for Lady Day, 1968-69, Mark diSuvero | Railroad tank car, Steel I-beams, Cable | Gift of Lewis Manilow Collection of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park | 1971.01

**Dr. Elaine P. Maimon** is the fifth President of Governors State University (GSU). Under her leadership, GSU was awarded the American Council for Education/Fidelity Investment Award for Institutional Transformation in 2015. Her previous positions include Chancellor of the University of Alaska Anchorage and Vice President of Arizona State University.

She is a member of The Chicago Network, and has served on the boards of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and the National Association of Teachers of English. Her numerous awards include the Donna Shavlik Award for Women's Leadership in Higher Education (2014) and the Chicagoland ATHENA Leadership Award (2014).

Dr. Maimon earned her BA, MA and PhD in English at the University of Pennsylvania.



**TOUR 2**  
There Is Nothing Like  
a Dame...Women Who  
Changed Chicago

Photo Courtesy of Chicago Park District

**Marilou von Ferstel** was the first woman elected to the Chicago City Council, in 1971. A ten-year member of the Democratic National Committee, she was a member of the Chicago Zoning Board of Appeals and numerous other city and civic committees and commissions.

Ms. von Ferstel retired as executive Vice President of Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide, was a managing director of Hill and Knowlton, Chicago, and a reporter and feature writer for the *Chicago Tribune*.

She is a trustee of Rush University Medical Center, and has served as a director for numerous corporations and civic organizations. A graduate of Barat College, she holds an MA in public policy from the University of Chicago.



**TOUR 3**  
International  
Baccalaureate: Increase  
Your IB IQ!

Photo Courtesy of GEMS World Academy-Chicago

**Geoffrey Jones** is an experienced educator and innovative leader with expertise in K-12 curriculum development. He is Head of School at GEMS World Academy-Chicago, which opened in September 2014. In his early career he was Principal of the Upper School at the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools.

Mr. Jones was Head of School at The Potomac School, in Washington, D.C., and Founding Principal of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, in Alexandria, Virginia. Under his 12-year leadership the school was nationally recognized for its excellence in STEM programs and consistently ranked as the best high school in the USA. He works with the U.S. Department of State Office of Overseas Schools to create and host annual professional development programs for educators from around the world.

**Kyle Westbrook** has worked in and around Chicago Public Schools (CPS) for nearly 20 years as a teacher, teacher leader, leadership coach, and central office leader. From 2008-2011, he served as Director of Secondary School Support at the University of Chicago Urban Education Institute.

In his current role as Executive Director of Magnet, Gifted, and International Baccalaureate Programs (IB), Mr. Westbrook leads district-wide efforts to create and sustain high quality options to accelerate student learning. Since 2011, he has led CPS efforts to increase student access to IB programs by leading the incubation and start-up of 26 new programs in 21 schools.



**TOUR 4**  
Hip Hop in Chicago:  
What It Is and Why It  
Matters

Photo Courtesy of Donda's House

**Che "Rhymefest" Smith** is the quintessential Renaissance man—a writer, artist and activist. In 2005, Rhymefest won a Grammy for co-writing "Jesus Walks" with Kanye West. He released his critically-acclaimed *Blue Collar* album on Clive Davis's J-records in 2006. In 2013, with his wife, Donnie Smith, and Kanye West, he co-founded Donda's House, a nonprofit offering premium arts instruction to youth.

Rhymefest won a Critics Choice award, a Golden Globe, and an Academy Award in 2015 for co-writing "Glory" with John Legend and Common for the film *Selma*. He believes "true power is the power to empower others."



**TOUR 5**  
Made in Chicago: A  
Manufacturing  
Renaissance

**Melissa Harris** joined the Chicago Tribune as a business columnist in 2009 after nearly five years as an award-winning metro reporter at the Baltimore Sun. Prior to joining the Sun, she was a metro reporter at the Orlando Sentinel.

Harris is a graduate of Northwestern and Johns Hopkins universities (BS in Journalism and MA in Government), and a two-time finalist for the Livingston Award, honoring outstanding reporting by journalists younger than 35. She is working towards a Master of Business Administration at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

## Meet Our Partner

The University of Chicago Graham School of Continuing Liberal and Professional Studies has partnered with Know Your Chicago since 1949 as part of its mission to provide diverse educational programs for all ages. Founded in 1893, the Graham School celebrates its 125th anniversary this year! We look forward to the next 125 years of lifelong learning and continuing education programming.

Learn more at [grahamschool.uchicago.edu](http://grahamschool.uchicago.edu).



# Our Founder



Photo Courtesy of Waldemar Reichert

**Mary Ward Wolkonsky** (1907-2002) was an extraordinary woman who made a significant and lasting contribution to the educational and philanthropic world of Chicago. Throughout her long life, she offered her talents in a multitude of ways, focusing particularly on issues and organizations that advanced the role of women.

Mrs. Wolkonsky loved Chicago. In 1948, she founded Know Your Chicago, not only as a way to share her excitement about our city, but also to educate women for civic participation. Over its long history, Know Your Chicago has enabled thousands to experience the unique, the serious, the humorous, the beautiful and, often, the little-known aspects of this wonderful city.

Born in Michigan, Mrs. Wolkonsky moved to Chicago in 1939 and quickly became involved in the life of the city. Her remarkable intelligence, charm, and leadership abilities made her an asset to many of the area's leading institutions including the University of Chicago. This affiliation was a source of particular pride to her. She founded the Women's Board of the University, served as its chairman for eight years, and was named a University trustee in 1975.

Music was one of Mrs. Wolkonsky's great interests. She was an excellent pianist, both classical and jazz; knew the lyrics of an amazing number of cabaret songs; and, even in her 90s, was always ready to put on her dancing shoes. She followed the careers of many of the great jazz ensembles of Chicago, often visiting the clubs where they played. This love of music led to her long involvement with the University of Chicago's music program where she served as chairman of the Visiting Committee to the Department of Music and founded the Jazz Archive.

Mrs. Wolkonsky also founded Bright New City, a series of lectures and seminars on the physical and cultural aspects of Chicago. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Lyric Opera and was instrumental in creating its Women's Board. She served on the boards of the Chicago Public Library Foundation, the Chicago Symphony, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Field Museum, the Chicago Art Institute, and Planned Parenthood. Her numerous awards and honors are a testament to her vision and character.

# 2015 Tour Season

<b>TOUR 1</b>	<b>Big Ideas on the Prairie: The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and Governors State University</b>	Tuesday, September 15 or Wednesday, September 16 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)
<b>TOUR 2</b>	<b>There is Nothing Like a Dame: Women Who Changed Chicago</b>	Monday, September 21 or Tuesday, September 22 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)
<b>TOUR 3</b>	<b>International Baccalaureate: Increase your IB IQ!</b>	Tuesday, September 29 or Wednesday, September 30 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)
<b>TOUR 4</b>	<b>Hip Hop in Chicago: What It Is and Why It Matters</b>	Tuesday, October 6 or Wednesday, October 7 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)
<b>TOUR 5</b>	<b>Made in Chicago: A Manufacturing Renaissance</b>	Tuesday, October 20 or Wednesday, October 21 Rain or shine	\$85 (Bus transportation and lunch included)

# Know Your Chicago Committee

Gay-Young Cho, **Chair**

- |                     |                         |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Susan S. Aaron      | Donna LaPietra          | Elizabeth Sonnenschein* |
| Jean S. Berghoff    | Janis Lariviere         | Isabel C. Stewart       |
| Judith S. Block*    | Jill F. Levi            | Jeannette P. Tamayo     |
| Lucille Burrus      | Susan Clark McBride     | Betty Van Gorkom*       |
| Dee Dee Chesley     | Judith Paine McBrien    | Bonnie Vickrey*         |
| Josie Childs        | Nancy McCracken         | Joan Von Leesen         |
| Mari H. Craven      | Gail McGuinness         | Claire Weiler           |
| Paula Epstein       | Maggie Meiners          | Tracy S. Whitehead      |
| Jean M. Foran       | Erica C. Meyer          | Iris Witkowsky          |
| Kitty Freidheim     | Joan L. Miller          | Linda Woloshin          |
| Karen Frank         | Josephine B. Minow*     | Bobbi Zabel             |
| Mary Galvin         | Penny Obenshain         |                         |
| Denise Gardner      | Ellen O'Connor*         | <b>*Former Chair</b>    |
| Louise Glasser      | Barbara Pearlman        |                         |
| Maureen S. Hartigan | Marlene O. Rankin       |                         |
| Dorothy Hawley      | Biba Roesch             |                         |
| Doris B. Holleb     | Madeline Rosenberg      |                         |
| Marian S. Jacobson  | Carol M. Schulz         |                         |
| Sarah P. Jaicks     | Pam Sheffield*          |                         |
| Jan Jentes*         | Patricia A. Sikorovsky* |                         |
| Colleen Karr        | Joan F. Small           |                         |
| Carolyn Lang        | Ruddy Smith             |                         |



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