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World class art gets a world class home in Jefferson Park on Chicago's Northside

Chicago, IL: The Chicago Art Center, The Ed Paschke Art Center, and the National Veterans Art Museum are excited to announce the launch of a new cultural district in Jefferson Park, Chicago. This new cultural district will revolve around a state-of-the-art 20,628 sqft, architect-designed cultural center that will house all three Chicago-based independent arts organizations. The Northside Cultural District plan also articulates a unifying vision for advancing arts, culture, and access as vital contributors to our community and economy.

“By bringing together three incredible arts organizations operating under a shared roof we will all realize our vision to offer free access, equity, and inspirational programming to elevate the arts in Chicago” stated Vesna K. Stelcer, co-founder of EPAC and The Northside Cultural District. Stelcer expressed appreciation for the “invaluable input from our community and local groups, Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association and Jefferson Park Forward, along with collaboration from elected officials, The City of Chicago, and specifically, 45th Ward Alderman Jim Gardiner.”

Alderman Gardiner stated, “I am excited to partner with these organizations to help make art more accessible to the residents of our community. By working collaboratively, we can continue to build upon the artistic foundation that the Ed Paschke Art Center has brought to Jefferson Park while welcoming new expressions of art.”

The Northside Cultural District will also offer visitors and residents of Jefferson Park access to a public café in a partnership with Jefferson Memorial Park Advisory Council and provide support to the renowned local Jefferson Park storefront theater, the Gift Theatre.

The Northside Cultural District development was designed by John Ronan Architects, an internationally recognized design firm based in Chicago. Financing was facilitated by IFF, a Community Development Financial Institution, and supported by Arts Alliance Illinois, a statewide multidisciplinary organization dedicated to the strengthening of arts and culture across Illinois.

For more information please contact:

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About the Northside Cultural District:

The Northside Cultural District was established in 2021 to become a new place to enjoy, access and learn about world class art in a world class setting. Located in a purpose designed building in the heart of Jefferson Park, Chicago, the center is home to three diverse cultural institutions; the Ed Paschke Art Center, the National Veterans Art Museum and The Chicago Art Center. Additional affiliates include the Jefferson Memorial Park Advisory Council and The Gift Theater.

Images for Press Release:

Ed Paschke Art Center, National Veterans Art Museum, The Chicago Art Center:

Viewed from above



National Veterans Art Museum:

Rendering showing
Above and Beyond installed in a
new gallery



Ed Paschke Art Center, National Veterans Art Museum, The Chicago Art Center:

Viewed from Jefferson Memorial Park



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