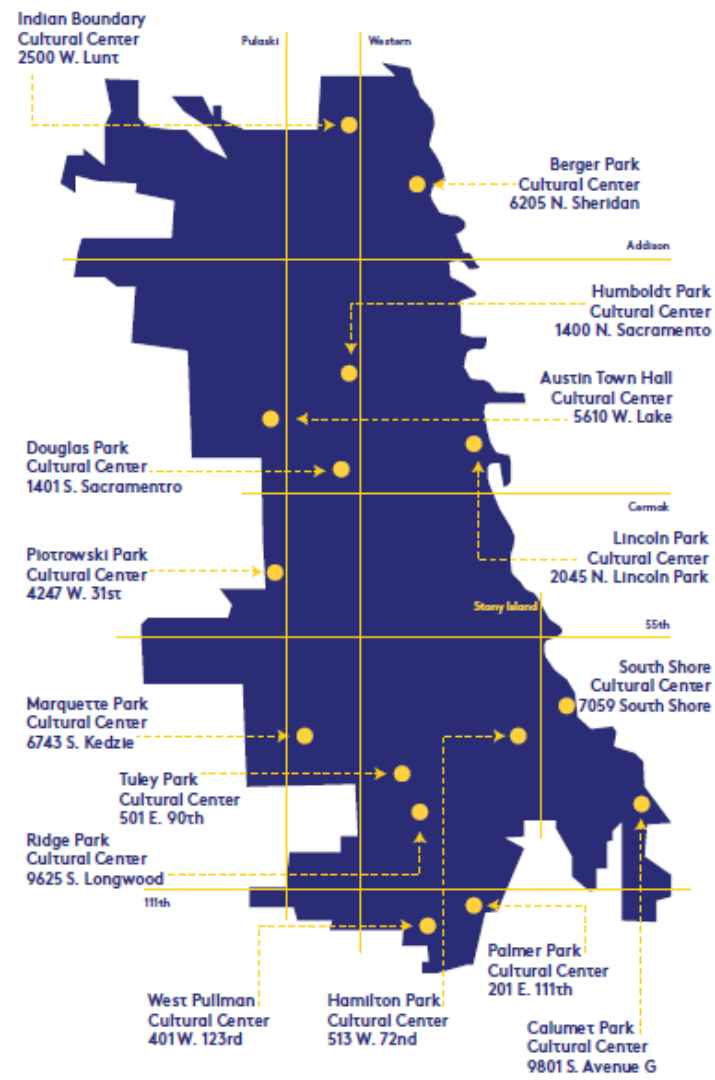




The Re:Center Project  
Creativity, Civic Action, and Cultural  
Organizing

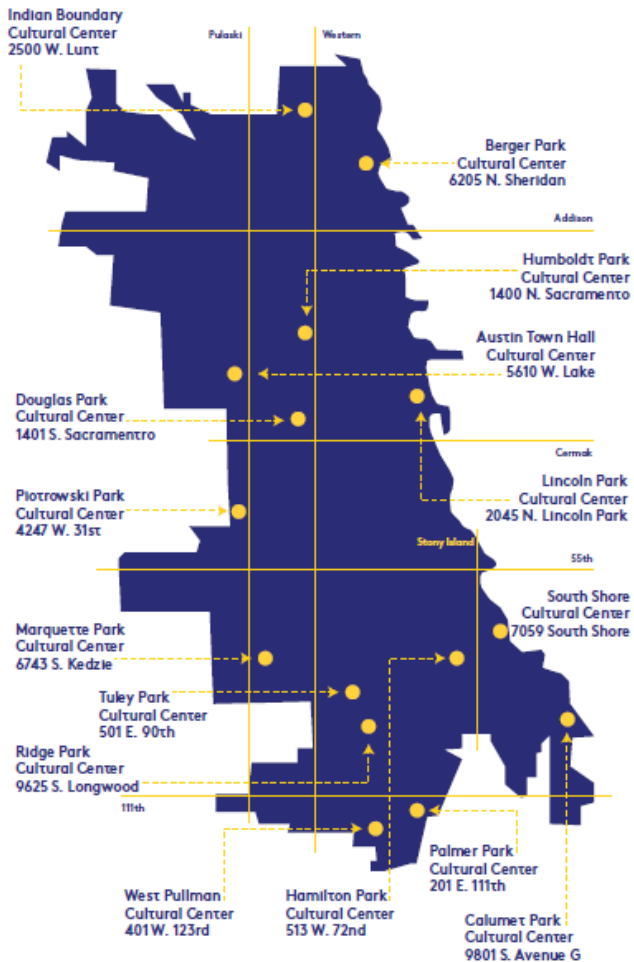
#PACC18





# We endeavor to...

- + Cultivate relevant programming that considers the interests of the community
- + Develop community members as stewards of cultural center/park space and place
- + Increase communication between park staff and community
- + Create platforms for community driven forms of artistic expression



# Re:Center as a Platform for Cultural Stewardship

- Empower citizens with tools to help support **cultural programming priorities** in their parks as community informed spaces
- Create value for the arts as a path to **civic engagement**--a way for park users to contribute to neighborhoods
- Build relationships of **mutual value and increased mutual understanding**.
- Model and teach **skill sets in relationship building and community programming**



# Re:Center in Four Phases



**Listening Party**



**MeetUP**



**Feature**



**Circulation**

# Sustaining Re:Center as Cultural Stewardship

- Year 1—Undergo four-phase process guided by Cultural Liaison.
- Year 2—Artist-in-Residence continues building momentum around developing cultural priorities with moderate support from Cultural Liaison around key identified projects.
- Year 3—Establish a “cultural committee” to collaborate with park staff on long-term cultural programming and with continued support from ACU/CAN.

**Re:Center is  
slow cooking  
work.**

# **Re:Center Cohorts**

2015: Austin Town Hall, Hamilton, Indian Boundary

2016: Lincoln, Piotrowski, West Pullman

2017: Calumet, Palmer, Douglas

2018: Marquette, Tuley, Ridge

2019: South Shore, Humboldt, Berger









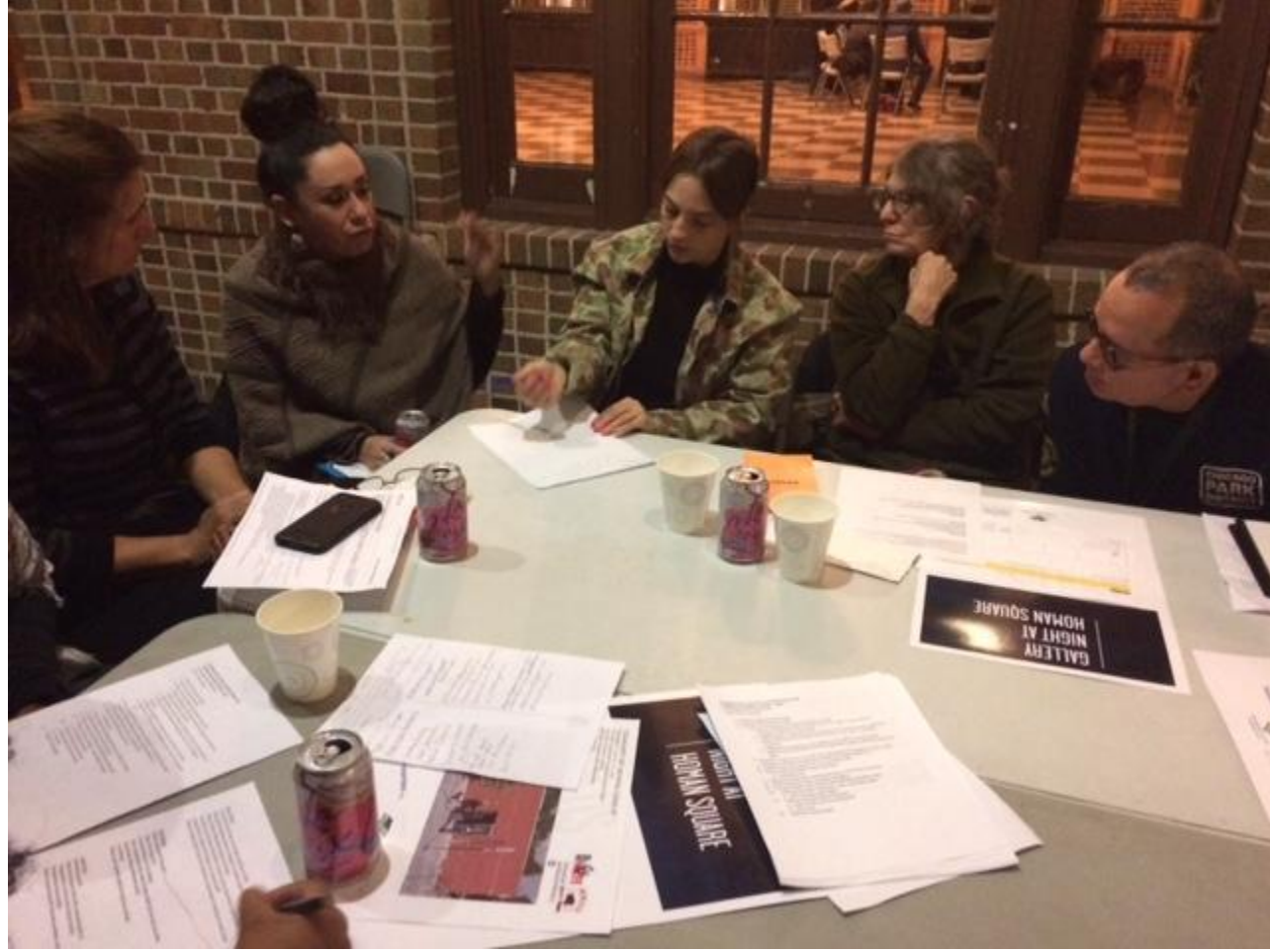


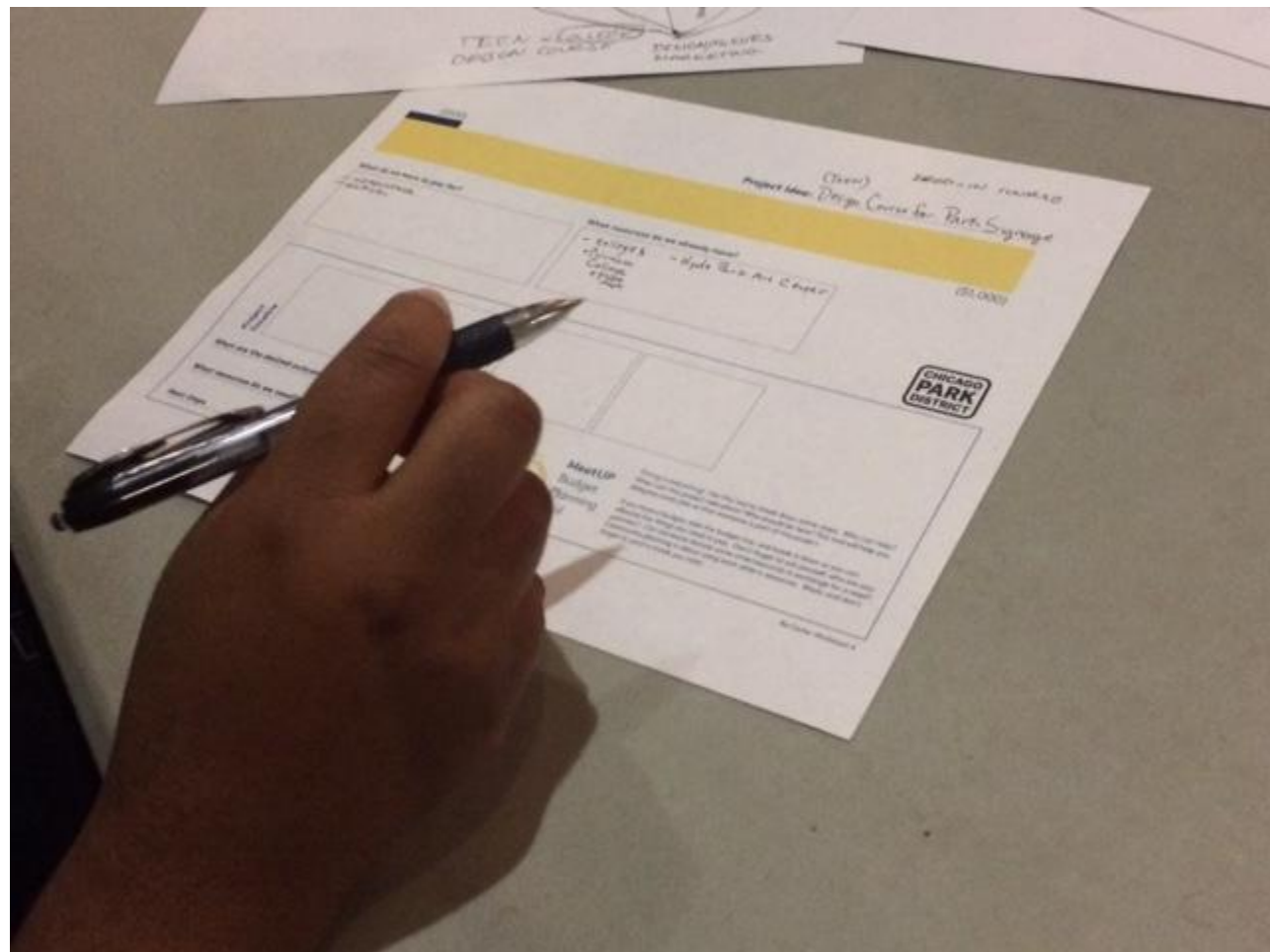
**Re:Center is about  
understanding  
your Cultural  
Center ecosystem.**

# Douglas Park (2017)

- Supervisor interested in growing partnerships with area schools and neighborhood organizations. Wants to establish a cultural committee to help develop strong sustainable cultural programming year round.
- Existing assets include cultural instructors (Drama, Dance, Visual Arts) and a longtime music partner.
- Challenges include fieldhouse set in interior of the park, lighting and safety concerns, marketing cultural programs, and increasing teen involvement.
- Projects for 2018 include: an arts entrepreneurship series and teen mentoring program; restorative justice, peace circles, and community organizing skill shares; and creating nature sound walks and sculptural public installations on the mini-golf course.







# West Pullman Park (2016)

- Park has gone through a series of staff transitions. Has taken longer to develop cultural programming priorities, but work beginning to flourish.
- Park assets include cultural instructors in visual arts and dance, and a strong special recreation program.
- Supervisor creating signature events and programs: Third Thursdays, Jabberwocky Marionettes as Nature Artists in Residence in Savanna, Deeply Rooted Dance Theater building a satellite program longer term.
- Investing in building stronger relationships with neighborhood schools and other parks in the surrounding area to share resources.









# Resources & Tools

- 3 Cultural Liaisons embedded at 1 cultural center per year + Cultural Partnerships team year round support
- Cultural stewardship workshop series: Topics include Partnerships, Event & Program Planning, Budgeting/Fundraising & Marketing
- Re:Center Cultural Organizing game
- Cultural Priorities Binder: unique cultural plan/living document for each cultural center

# Impact: 2015-2017

9 Active Sites-at various stages in the process

10 Artists-in-residence to help continue the work and vision started in the first year of participation

Provided over \$100,000 in additional cultural dollars to support programming at 9 cultural centers so far

Produced art & culture community festivals, cultural heritage days, gospel concerts, murals, art fairs, art exhibitions, performance series, back to school festivals, & public art installations

Catalyzing signature events at cultural centers and building capacity to produce the events with community support and increasing attendance

Several cultural centers have used the process to help build cultural committees separate from their Park Advisory Councils

At least one cultural center used the process to jumpstart their PAC, ensuring cultural programming was a focus

Community support in cultural programming and engagement looks different at every park

We continue to develop strategies for engaging park staff, communities, and local artists in ways that speak to each of these roles





## Additional Questions?

Drop a note in the question box  
on the way out!

#PACC18

