2022 Connecting Communities Award

PRESENTED BY THE CHICAGO PARKS FOUNDATION

The Chicago Parks Foundation’s Connecting Communities Award is designed to spread positive park energy and foster a lasting community presence within Chicago parks. This award of $500 will be presented to one Park Advisory Council (PAC) from each region (North, Central, South) to support a community event, project, or program within a park.

To qualify, Park Advisory Councils must be in good standing with the Chicago Park District. Please reach out to Maria Stone with any questions regarding your status.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

PACs must submit and answer the following questions via the application by February 23, 2022.

- Do you have approval from your Park Supervisor and other vital staff in the planning of this program, project, or event?
- In 500 words or less, to which program, project, or event would this money be applied?
- What is the timeline or scope of your program, project, or event if awarded this money?
- What, if any, safety protocol will you have in place for those who attend and participate in your program, project or event?
- Specifically, how would the $500 be used?
- Is the program, project, or event dependent on this award? If so, please explain.
- In what way does this program, project or event benefit the community you serve?

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- PAC must have approval from Park Supervisor and other vital park staff before applying.
- PAC event/project/program must occur and be reimbursed by the end of the following year awarded (December 31, 2023).
- Applying PACs must be officially registered with the Chicago Park District and be in good standing.
- Program, project, event should be non-denominational and inclusive of the entire community.
- Award cannot be granted to a PAC that received the award in the previous year.
- The Connecting Communities Award cannot be used for capital improvement projects.

REVIEW PROCESS

Applications will be anonymously reviewed and scored by Chicago Park District and Chicago Parks Foundation staff. The winning PAC from each region will be notified by March 2nd and the winners will be announced at the PAC Conference (March 5, 2022).

AWARD DETAILS

Winning PACs will receive a $500 grant to cover expenses of only the event/project/program that was submitted on the behalf of the PAC. Expenses will be discretionarily reimbursed with proof of purchase, or invoices can be directly sent to the Chicago Parks Foundation. The Chicago Parks Foundation will create and track a profit and loss report for each winning PAC.