



KYC at a Glance

For more than 65 years, Know Your Chicago (KYC) has educated, entertained and enlightened Chicagoans through its annual series of thought-provoking tours. These daylong learning experiences offer new knowledge and perspectives on cutting-edge issues concerning Chicago, its citizens and its future.

KYC tours provide rare access to city leaders, innovators and experts, and unique locations, as they tackle subjects critical to the quality of life in the City. If it's happening in Chicago, KYC is exploring it... as no one else can.

These insightful tours are created by a committee of women whose diverse backgrounds range from the arts, architecture, media, urban affairs and social services to education, business, law, science and philanthropy. Their collective experience, expertise and resources are invaluable in the development of KYC's tours.

Each autumn, five tours are offered, each twice in the same week. A sample of the hundreds of tours offered include explorations of:

- Inside urban gang culture
- Breakthroughs in bionic technology
- The business of film and television
- Invasive species in Chicago's waters
- Being transgender in Chicago
- Sweets & Spirits in the city
- The poetry scene: salons to slams
- Planning for Chicago's 21st century

A Fall Symposium on the University of Chicago campus kicks-off each tour season where over 400 tour attendees hear from experts on topics of the current season's tours. Past audiences have enjoyed noteworthy speakers including prize-winning author Studs Terkel, Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart, Erikson Institute co-founder, Barbara Bowman; and television writer and presenter, Geoffrey Baer.

Know Your Chicago is the brain-child of civic leader and philanthropist Mary Ward Wolkonsky (1907-2002) who sought to provide Chicagoans with insight into the forces and institutions that shape their city so that they might be more active and engaged citizens.

Today, her legacy thrives as KYC, in partnership with the University of Chicago Graham School of Continuing Liberal and Professional Studies, explores and presents new, relevant, and provocative tours that promote civic awareness, participation and a more comprehensive understanding of Chicago.

Please visit our website for more information on the many Know Your Chicago opportunities:
www.knowyourchicago.org