

Updated November 20, 2026

OPENING + CLOSING
Shows and Events

	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20	THURSDAY JANUARY 21	FRIDAY JANUARY 22	SATURDAY JANUARY 23	SUNDAY JANUARY 24	MONDAY JANUARY 25	TUESDAY JANUARY 26	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27	THURSDAY JANUARY 28	FRIDAY JANUARY 29	SATURDAY JANUARY 30	SUNDAY JANUARY 31
OPENING NIGHT PRELUDE RECEPTION - Fine Arts Building	5:15 - 6:45 pm											
FAMILY FRIENDLY **THE STORYVILLE MOSQUITO** *by* Kid Koala - Studebaker Theater (75 min)	7 pm		7:30 pm	2 pm 7:30 pm	2 pm							
FAMILY FRIENDLY **OPENING NIGHT POST-SHOW PARTY** - Fine Arts Building	8:30 - 10:15 pm											
CLOSING CABARET - Location TBA												6:30 pm

MORE SHOWS

	THURSDAY JANUARY 21	FRIDAY JANUARY 22	SATURDAY JANUARY 23	SUNDAY JANUARY 24	MONDAY JANUARY 25	TUESDAY JANUARY 26	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27	THURSDAY JANUARY 28	FRIDAY JANUARY 29	SATURDAY JANUARY 30	SUNDAY JANUARY 31
BRIAN HENSON'S PUPPET UP! - Studebaker Theater at The Fine Arts Building (120 min)									5 pm 9 pm	5 pm 9 pm	5 pm
CONCORDIS *by* Nina Vogel *with* Chef Christopher Sullivan - Private Wicker Park Location (90 min)	4 pm 6:30 pm 9 pm	4 pm 6:30 pm 9 pm	4 pm 6:30 pm 9 pm	4 pm 6:30 pm 9 pm				4 pm 6:30 pm 9 pm	4 pm 6:30 pm 9 pm	4 pm 6:30 pm 9 pm	4 pm 6:30 pm
THE DAEMON *by* Manual Cinema - Reva & David Logan Center for the Arts (65 min)								7 pm		3:30 pm 7:30 pm	3:30 pm
FAMILY FRIENDLY **HACHIŌJI KURUMA NINGYŌ...** *by* The Koryū Nishikawa Troupe - Lookingglass Theatre (100 min)								7:30 pm	7:30 pm	2 pm 7:30 pm	2 pm
IF IT WERE A MOVIE *by* Macarena Recuerda Shepherd - The Dance Center at Columbia College (60 min)								7 pm	3 pm 6 pm	12 pm 4 pm	
LITTLE THEATER AT THE WORLD'S EDGE - OPUS II *by* Théâtre de la Massue - Chopin Theatre mainstage (60 min)								5 pm 8 pm	5 pm 8 pm	5 pm 8 pm	3 pm 7:30 pm
LOCO *by* Compagnie Tchaïka - The Biograph's Začek-McVay Theater mainstage (60 min)	4 pm 7 pm	7 pm	4 pm 7 pm								
LATE NIGHT PUPPETRY **NASTY, BRUTISH & SHORT** *by* Rough House Puppet Arts - Constellation (60 min)		10:30 pm	10:30 pm						10:30 pm	10:30 pm	
FAMILY FRIENDLY **AN OCEAN OF LOVE** *by* Compagnie La Salamandre Steppenwolf Theatre's Merle Reskin Space (50 min)	8:30 pm	9 pm	2 pm 6 pm	2 pm	7 pm			8:30 pm	9 pm	2 pm 6 pm	2 pm
ON CALL *by* Théâtre à Bout Portant - 10 departures per day from Location TBA (30 min)	**10 DEPARTURES PER DAY** (see show page for details)					**10 DEPARTURES PER DAY** (see show page for details)					

SHOWS *cont.*

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THE RAMAYANA LEATHER SHADOW PUPPET SHOW OF KERALA *by* Harisree Kannan Tholpavakoothu Kalakendram - Epiphany (60 min)		4 pm	4 pm	4 pm							
LATE NIGHT PUPPETRY **THE RAMAYANA RITUAL INSTALLATION EXPERIENCE** *by* Harisree Kannan Tholpavakoothu Kalakendram - Epiphany (durational up to 4 hours)		**DAILY: 8 PM - 12 MIDNIGHT** (each ticket has a timed entry with open-ended departure) 8 pm, 9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm	8 pm, 9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm	8 pm, 9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm	8 pm, 9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm	8 pm, 9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm	8 pm, 9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm	8 pm, 9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm			
FAMILY FRIENDLY **ROBOT DANCE PARTY** *by* Kid Koala - CircEsteem (90 min)				11 am							
FAMILY FRIENDLY **SISYPHOLIA** *by* Compagnie Tchaïka - MCA Plaza (45 min) FREE!		12:15 pm	12:15 pm	12:15 pm							
SPA & BEAUTY *by* Geumhyung Jeong - MCA Chicago, Crown Room (60 min)	3 pm	11 am 3 pm	11 am 3 pm	3 pm							
FAMILY FRIENDLY **STRIPES** *by* Myra Su - Chopin Theatre mainstage (50 min)	7 pm	3 pm 8 pm	11 am 7 pm	3 pm							
THREE SINGULAR SOLOS: Abby Palen, Samuel Taylor, and Blair Thomas - Location TBA (75 min)						7 pm	7 pm	5 pm 8 pm			
UNE TRAVERSÉE *by* Compagnie Tchaïka - MCA Chicago, Edlis Neeson Theater (60 min)						7 pm	4 pm 8 pm	4 pm 8 pm			
FAMILY FRIENDLY **THE Y - FEEL LIKE FLYING** *by* Yldor Llach - CircEsteem (50 min)	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	11 am 3 pm	3 pm				6:30 pm	6:30 pm	11 am 3 pm	11 am 3 pm
YOROBOSHI *by* Satoko Ichihara - MCA Chicago, Edlis Neeson Theater (90 min)	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	2 pm							
FAMILY FRIENDLY **FREE NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR** **OUT WITH IT** *by* Rough House Puppet Arts, *featuring* Claire Saxe - See show page for locations (45 min) FREE!		1 pm 4 pm						4 pm	6:30 pm	1 pm	1 pm

FILMS

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DEAR STRANGER *followed by* talkback with Blair Thomas - Film Row Cinema at Columbia College (138 min)				4:30 pm *(followed by talkback)*							
PROJECT HAIL MARY *with special guest* James Ortiz Film Row Cinema at Columbia College (156 min)					4 pm *(followed by talkback)* 7:30 pm						
MANIPULATE FESTIVAL PROGRAM A The Best of Scottish Stop Motion Short Films Film Row Cinema at Columbia College (81 min)						5 pm	5 pm *(followed by talkback)*				
MANIPULATE FESTIVAL PROGRAM B The Best International Stop Motion Short Films Film Row Cinema at Columbia College (75 min)						7 pm	7 pm *(followed by talkback)*				

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

	THURSDAY JANUARY 21	FRIDAY JANUARY 22	SATURDAY JANUARY 23	SUNDAY JANUARY 24	MONDAY JANUARY 25	TUESDAY JANUARY 26	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27	THURSDAY JANUARY 28	FRIDAY JANUARY 29	SATURDAY JANUARY 30	SUNDAY JANUARY 31
ELLEN VAN VOLKENBURG PUPPETRY SYMPOSIUM - MCA Chicago (panels); Fine Arts Building (UNIMA event) FREE!			10 am - 12 pm *Artist panel 1*	10 am - 12 pm *Artist panel 2*					10 am - 12 pm *UNIMA International Artistic Exchange*	10 am - 12 pm *Artist panel 3*	10 am - 12 pm *Artist panel 4*
CATAPULT ARTIST INTENSIVES - Various Locations		Session 1: *Opening Weekend Shows - Led by Erica Mott*			Session 2: *Mid-week Workshop Intensive*				Session 3: *Closing Weekend Shows - Led by Samuel J. Lewis, II*		
WORKSHOPS WITH FESTIVAL ARTISTS - The Fine Arts Building, Little Studio, 7th Floor, unless otherwise listed, check show pages for detials (3 hours or 6 hours)	9:30 - 12:30 pm *Colin St-Cyr Duhamel* 1:30 - 4:30 pm *Dorian Chavez*			9:30 - 4:30 pm *Koryū Nishikawa V and Tom Lee* 1:30 - 4:30 pm *James Ortiz*					9:30 - 12:30 pm *Macarena Recuerda Shepherd* 9:30 - 4:30 pm *Sajeesh Pulavar*		9:30 - 12:30 pm *Ézéquiel Garcia -Romeu* 9:30 - 12:30 pm *Manual Cinema*