Narrative Section of a Successful Proposal

The attached document contains the narrative and selected portions of a previously funded grant application. It is not intended to serve as a model, but to give you a sense of how a successful proposal may be crafted. Every successful proposal is different, and each applicant is urged to prepare a proposal that reflects its unique project and aspirations. Prospective applicants should consult the program guidelines at www.neh.gov/grants/education/landmarks-american-history-and-culture-workshops-school-teachers for instructions. Applicants are also strongly encouraged to consult with the NEH Division of Education Programs staff well before a grant deadline.

The attachment only contains the grant narrative and selected portions, not the entire funded application. In addition, certain portions may have been redacted to protect the privacy interests of an individual and/or to protect confidential commercial and financial information and/or to protect copyrighted materials.

Project Title: The American Skyscraper: Transforming Chicago and the Nation
Institution: The Chicago Architecture Foundation
Project Director: Jennifer Masengarb
Grant Program: Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops
INTELLECTUAL RATIONALE

Skyscrapers define the physical landscape and shape social life of major cities. High-rise construction is a symbol of innovation, industrial architecture and infrastructure. Chicago’s history as a center for development of the skyscraper from the late 19th through mid-20th centuries positions the city as an ideal place to explore the tall building’s relationship to urbanization.

In a six-day workshop conducted by the Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF), educators will investigate the skyscraper as a physical and cultural construct. By examining the significance of the skyscraper in Chicago, the workshop will engage educators in exploring the following questions: How did development of the skyscraper stimulate and reflect change in American life? What does this development indicate about the future of countries that are still building large numbers of tall buildings? The tall building in Chicago will serve as a lens for studying invention and innovation; urbanization; industrialization; labor; gender, particularly the introduction of women to the workplace; and civic identity. Studying the myriad forces that shaped Chicago as a skyscraping city will support educators’ investigations and teaching of how people continue to shape an urban nation.

The workshop’s landmark study site will be the Loop, Chicago’s renowned commercial district, which offers an unrivaled group of buildings—primary sources—that illustrate the skyscraper’s development in the 19th and 20th centuries. Through building field studies, primary source documents, and lectures by scholars, educators will gain understanding of the skyscraper and its pivotal role in constructing the modern city and urbanization of the United States. Through the workshop, educators will acquire practical, standards-based activities for engaging grade K-12 students in using place to study American history and culture.

**Themes**

During each of the six workshop days, the skyscraper will be examined from one thematic perspective. Workshop themes and investigations, grounded in current scholarship, supported through selected humanities readings and field studies, and introduced through lively lectures by scholars, will lead participants and students to a deeper understanding of the role of tall buildings in the urbanization of America.

**Skyscrapers and Myth:** The workshop begins with an introduction to the construction of skyscrapers and construction of meaning by CAF’s Vice President of Interpretation and Exhibitions. Gregory Dreicer will challenge educators to define the skyscraper by exploring how widespread misconceptions about invention have formed the basis of skyscraping tales: for example, that there could be a ‘first’ skyscraper or that one person ‘invented’ it. Examining humanities ideas about history, nations, evolution, and heroes will prepare educators for work in learning about and then engaging students in understanding tall buildings.

**Skyscrapers and Geography:** The development of skyscrapers in 19th century Chicago is closely linked to infrastructural innovations that reshaped the city’s landscape. By exploiting its geographic conditions and creating systems that linked Chicago with the country and the world, the city attracted waves of migrants and immigrants throughout the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Transportation and communication networks, such as the river/canal, rail, and telegraph, enabled Chicago’s growing population to connect to the world. Skyscrapers allowed more people to work within ever-denser areas; increasing land prices encouraged developers to build taller. The lecture and readings will address the relationship between Chicago’s geography and its growth as a metropolis and center for skyscraper innovation.
Skyscrapers and Urban Culture: Skyscrapers profoundly changed the physical and cultural landscape of 19th century cities, prompting fierce debates. On one side, some architects and property owners embraced tall buildings as the key to urban modernization. On the other side, social reformers and labor supporters viewed skyscrapers as symbols of oppression for immigrant workers. Joanna Merwood-Salisbury will present her ground-breaking research on the first skyscrapers in 1890s Chicago within a cultural and social context, outlining intense debate in the popular press of the day. Her approach will examine the rise of the first skyscrapers within the context of building trade strikes, the Haymarket Riots, The World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893, and Burnham and Bennett’s 1909 Plan of Chicago. Merwood-Salisbury will encourage educators to investigate how skyscrapers helped define urban culture for the people of Chicago and the nation.

Skyscrapers and Representation: Architects communicate the beauty, power, and identity of their designs through intentionally crafted sketches, drawings, and photographs. The Chicago Tribune Tower competition of 1922 spurred architects from around the world to design "a new and beautiful home worthy of the world’s greatest newspaper." More publicity stunt than design competition, this controversial event is remembered as a turning point in American architecture. Katherine Solomonson’s research on the Chicago Tribune Competition will serve as a case study to examine the ways architects represent skyscrapers as visual icons and how such images inform and influence public opinion about architecture, civic pride, and cultural identity.

Skyscrapers and Identity: All buildings were modern once. And no building is intended to be permanent. How does a city’s civic identity influence which buildings are built, kept, or torn down? Through two case studies – the Reliance Building (D.H. Burnham & Co, 1895) and the Federal Center (Mies van der Rohe, 1964, 1974) – educators will learn about the painstaking restorations of two iconic Chicago skyscrapers, constructed 70 years apart. Lectures, case studies, and field visits will illustrate how skyscrapers symbolize the constructed narrative
about the Chicago School that shaped Chicago preservation and urban renewal movements of the 1950s and 1960s.

**Skyscrapers and New Landmarks:** In the 1890s, architects came to Chicago to pursue professional opportunities. Today, Chicago architecture firms design super-tall skyscrapers in Asia and the Middle East. The day’s theme, lecture, and site visits will compare and contrast the tremendous growth of 19th century Chicago with today’s boom towns. Educators will be encouraged to apply knowledge of what made Chicago a hotbed for skyscraper development in the 1890s to today’s burgeoning cities, challenging them to consider how the construction of skyscrapers defines urban culture and identity in places separated by half a globe and more than 100 years.

**Intended Impact on Teachers and Their Students**

The primary goal of the workshop is to assist K-12 educators in acquiring new knowledge, experiences, resources, and tools for teaching about how skyscrapers stimulated and reflected change in American urban life. Additionally, participants will: a) cultivate the ability to incorporate best practices from the workshop into their teaching, including building explorations, use of primary source documents, and hands-on, standards-based activities; b) enhance their ability to use their local architecture and built environments as multi-disciplinary contexts for teaching core academic content; c) apply workshop content and best practices to lessons of American history and culture; and d) help students develop a suite of 21st century skills, including visual and information literacy, critical thinking, cultural literacy and global awareness, collaboration, and communication.

**CONTENT AND DESIGN**

**Workshop Structure:** Each workshop day’s instructional design includes a theme, central questions, and a combination of: a) readings and lectures designed to support and illuminate the theme; b) field studies with first-hand explorations of selected skyscrapers; c) hands-on, standards-based best practice activities and techniques; and d) curriculum project
development.

**Expectations of participants:** Workshop participants will be expected to read assigned readings prior to each day’s activities and to participate in discussions and planned activities. Participants will also be expected to begin developing a curriculum project while in Chicago, and to complete the project when they return home.

**Lectures, discussions, and readings:** Invited faculty scholars will contribute insight and expertise on topics that enhance participants’ content knowledge and understanding of the development of skyscrapers, with an emphasis on factors that supported the rise of a new American architecture form in Chicago.

**Field studies:** Guided observations of several landmark skyscrapers will demonstrate how to use buildings as primary source teaching tools. In addition to buildings included on CAF’s Historic Skyscraper walking tour (*see Appendix F*), case study buildings will include seminal skyscrapers, including: the Carson Pirie Scott Building (Sullivan, 1899); the Reliance Building (D.H. Burnham & Co. 1895); and Federal Center (Mies van der Rohe, 1964, 1974).

**Best Practices:** The workshop will introduce best practice activities and techniques designed to guide participants in developing lessons that use real buildings, places, and events to support students’ critical thinking, observation, research, and evaluation skills. Best practices are taken from CAF’s three award-winning and standards-based K-12 curricula – *Schoolyards to Skylines: Teaching with Chicago’s Amazing Architecture* (K-8); *The Architecture Handbook: A Student Guide to Understanding Buildings* (9-12); and DiscoverDesign.org, a digital learning tool designed to connect teens, teachers, and architects for 21st century project-based learning (9-12).

Workshop activities will provide instruction on: 1) techniques for ‘reading’ a building; 2) using buildings as primary source teaching tools; 3) using timelines to contextualize the skyscraper; 4)
designing walking tours and guided observations; 5) developing activities that incorporate ways to represent skyscrapers including sketching, drawing, and photographing; 6) selecting and using readings, including poetry, to heighten appreciation of places; and 7) using photographs of skyscrapers to tell a story. Additionally, the workshop will introduce primary source documents as teaching tools, including current, historic, and fire insurance maps, building plans, current and historic photos, newspaper articles, census data, and building records.

**Workshop Schedule (See also Appendix A – Expanded Study Plan)**

**Skyscrapers and Invention: Day 1 / SUNDAY**

**Topic:** Invention and mythmaking

**Big Questions:** 1) What is a skyscraper?; 2) How is the urge to define the skyscraper, label the ‘first’ skyscraper, and hold on to the notion of the lone designer antithetical to the true dynamic nature of invention?

**Scholar / Lecture:** Dr. Gregory Dreicer, *Interpreting the Skyscraper: Five Technological Myths*

**Required Reading:** “The Invention of the Skyscraper: Notes on its Diverse Histories” from *Assemblage No. 2*, Rosemarie Haag Bletter (1987); “The Soul of Chicago” from *Our America*, Waldo Frank (1919); “Skyscraper” from *Chicago Poems*, Carl Sandburg (1916).

**Activities:** Registration and light refreshments at CAF headquarters

**Field Study:** Architecture River Cruise for skyscraper overview and introduction to the city

**Skyscrapers and Geography: Day 2 / Monday**

**Topic:** Why Chicago?

**Big Question:** What is the relationship between Chicago’s geography and its growth as a metropolis?

**Scholar / Lecture:** Dr. Henry Binford, *Why is There a City Here?*

**Required Reading:** “Chicago” from *Chicago Poems*, Carl Sandburg (1916); “Prologue: Cloud over Chicago” from *Nature’s Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*, William Cronon (1991); “Stories in Stone and Steel” in *City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of*
**America**, Donald L. Miller (1996)

**Best Practices:** Timeline activity placing skyscrapers in context of US and Chicago history

**Field Study:** Harold Washington Library for visual analysis (‘reading’ a building) exercise

**Curriculum Development:** Introduction of resources; begin developing new lessons

---

**Skyscrapers and Urban Culture: Day 3 / Tuesday**

**Topic:** Skyscrapers in Context

**Big Questions:** 1) In what ways did skyscrapers help define urban culture in the late 19th century?; 2) What did the new building type symbolize for the people of Chicago and the nation?; 3) How did skyscraper technology change cities and American society?

**Scholar / Lecture:** Dr. Joanna Merwood-Salisbury, *Chicago: The Skyscraper and the Modern City*


**Field Studies:** Walking tour of historic Chicago skyscrapers (circa 1885-1935); Tribune Tower

---

**Skyscrapers and Representation: Day 4 / Wednesday**

**Topic:** Skyscrapers as Visual Icons

**Big Questions:** 1) How were architects visually representing skyscrapers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries?; 2) How do such images inform and influence public opinion and the design of buildings?

**Scholar / Lecture:** Dr. Katherine Solomonson, *The 1922 Chicago Tribune Tower Competition*

**Required Reading:** “The Chicago Tribune Tower Competition: Publicity Imagines Community” from *The American Skyscraper: Cultural Histories*, Katherine Solomonson (2005); “Built Languages of Class: Skyscrapers and Labor Protest in Victorian Public Space” from *The American Skyscraper: Cultural Histories*, Sarah Watts (2005); “The Tall Office Building Artistically
Considered” from *Lippincott’s Magazine*, Louis Sullivan (1896)

**Best Practices:** Teaching cross-curricular lessons with architectural illustrations and competitions; “How to Sketch Like an Architect” exercises

**Field Study:** The Art Institute of Chicago

**Curriculum Development:** Subject-based group discussion on developing place-based lessons

---

**Skyscrapers and Identity: Day 5 / Thursday**

**Topic:** Remaking Tradition: What is Modern?

**Big Questions:** 1) How does a city’s civic identity influence what buildings are built, kept, and torn down?; 2) If buildings are not intended to be permanent, what costs are acceptable to ‘save’ structures?; 3) How does the Chicago skyline reflect the ‘Chicago School’ constructed narrative between preservationists and modernists?

**Lectures:** Douglas Gilbert, AIA, *The Design and Restoration of the Reliance Building*; Paul Steinbrecher, *Mies in Chicago: Why All Glass Boxes are Not Alike*


**Best Practices:** Place-based activity with Sandburg’s *Skyscraper* poem; comparison-contrast activities; using primary source images

**Field Study:** Reliance Building; Federal Center

---

**Skyscrapers and New Landmarks: Day 6 / Friday**

**Topic:** Skyscrapers in the 21st century

**Big Questions:** 1) How does the tremendous growth of 19th century Chicago compare with growth of cities in 21st century Asia and the Middle East?; 2) How does the presence of skyscrapers define urban culture and identity for Asian and Middle Eastern cities today?; 3) What are current international design and technology trends in tall buildings?

**Scholar / Lecture:** Dr. Antony Wood, *Transformation: Tomorrow’s Skyscrapers*
**Required Reading:** *Chicago Tribune* articles from 1968 (John Hancock Center), 1970 (Sears Tower), and 1973 (First National Bank Plaza) by Alvin Nagelberg and Paul Gapp; *Chicago Tribune* and *Hartford Courant* articles from 2001 – 2012 (Trump Tower, Chicago Spire, Aqua Tower, Burj Khalifa, 9/11, etc) by Blair Kamin and Michael J. Crosbie; a *New Yorker* article from 2010 (Aqua Tower) by Paul Goldberger; and the CTBUH 2013 *Year in Review*.

**Best Practices:** Using primary source documents in the classroom

**Field Study:** Tour the architectural offices of Goettsch Partners

**Curriculum Development:** Subject-based group discussion on developing place-based lessons

**Curriculum Project Exchange: Day 7/ Saturday**

**Topic:** Concluding discussion and presentation of curriculum projects

**Workshop Resources**

CAF will create and provide participants with a course reading packet and also a copy of Donald Miller’s book *City of the Century* prior to the workshop. The reading packet will include three types of readings: 1) readings that offer educators a broad overview of the topic; 2) targeted readings aligned with each day’s theme and central questions; and 3) readings that support best practice activities. (*See Appendix B – Detailed Reading List.*)

Each day participants will receive vocabulary lists and other instructional materials designed by CAF, as well as handouts and resources from faculty scholars during lectures. In addition, each participant will receive a copy of CAF’s national award-winning resource: *Schoolyards to Skylines: Teaching with Chicago’s Amazing Architecture* (500 pp, 2002). CAF will also provide participants with selected Language Arts and Social Sciences lessons from the organization’s high school curriculum, *The Architecture Handbook: A Student Guide to Understanding Buildings* (640 pp, 2007).
Landmark Site

CAF’s headquarters, located in the historic Railway Exchange Building (D.H. Burnham & Co., 1904), will serve as the base of operations for workshop activities. The Railway Exchange Building is located in downtown Chicago’s commercial and cultural district, an incomparable grouping of 19th and 20th century skyscrapers that will serve as the project’s landmark study site. Chicago’s architectural history will come alive for educators as they explore buildings as primary sources in urban, social, and historical contexts. An interpretive architecture river cruise the first evening will offer educators an overview of the city and its skyscrapers. Early in the week, CAF docents will lead educators on interpretive walking tours of 19th and 20th century skyscrapers in Chicago’s Loop. Several other buildings will be investigated individually as part of best practice activities and field studies throughout the week. World-renowned buildings designed by William Le Baron Jenney, John Wellborn Root, Daniel Burnham, Charles Atwood, Louis Sullivan, William Holabird, Martin Roche, and Mies van der Rohe will serve as case studies for exploring skyscraper typology in the context of the American urban landscape.  
(See Appendix E – Historic Skyscrapers Tour Route)

Curriculum Projects

Participants will begin developing a curriculum project while in Chicago, where they have access to primary source buildings, workshop leaders, scholars, and new colleagues. They will complete lesson plans after they return home. The schedule allows participants to explore Chicago and skyscraper resources while in the city, and to return home where they have access to tools and resources to synthesize and further develop and refine workshop content into lessons that reflect workshop content and best practices. The workshop schedule includes three project development sessions where educators will work with workshop colleagues and confer with project leaders. A closing session for sharing preliminary project plans, scheduled for the final day, will provide opportunities for feedback from project leaders and workshop peers. Curriculum projects will be aligned with National Common Core Standards and applicable state/local standards. Project leaders will work with participants to guide development of curricular projects that support specific instructional goals. Teachers will also write a reflective
essay, painting a vivid narrative about the impact of the Landmarks workshop on their teaching practice. Their essay will respond to these questions: 1) How has this week changed how you are thinking about using architecture in your classroom? 2) How will you apply what you have learned this week?

FACULTY AND STAFF

Project Director: Jennifer Masengarb, Senior Manager of Educational Research, joined CAF in 2000. She is the primary author of *Schoolyards to Skylines: Teaching with Chicago’s Amazing Architecture; The Architecture Handbook*; and is the lead creator of DiscoverDesign.org – CAF’s digital learning tool that connects teens, teachers, and architects for 21st century project-based learning. For the past 12 years, Masengarb has developed and conducted professional development for K-12 teachers and taught courses about the built environment for adult learners. She holds a Master of Architectural History degree from the University of Virginia, a Bachelor of Architecture, and Bachelor of Arts in US History degree from the University of Detroit Mercy. Masengarb serves as Project Director for CAF’s 2013 NEH Landmarks workshop. She was lead faculty for *The American Skyscraper: Transforming Chicago and the Nation* in 2009, 2010, and 2012.

Project Faculty: Christian Greer is Vice President of Learning Initiatives at CAF where he provides strategic leadership and direction for youth education, adult education, and volunteer education programs. He will serve as Lead Faculty for the workshop. Greer has over 20 years of experience in museums and learning institutions where he has been responsible for program planning, management, teaching, and evaluation. His work as a museum educator has focused on developing learner-centered programs that integrate new technologies. Greer holds a Master of Arts in Educational Technology and is pursuing a Doctorate in Learning Technologies from Pepperdine University.

Faculty Advisor: Gregory K. Dreicer, Ph.D. is Vice President of Interpretation and Exhibitions at CAF. Dreicer has curated more than 20 exhibitions including *Between Fences*, a Smithsonian...
Institution Traveling Exhibition Service; and *Chicago Model City*, featuring a large-scale model of downtown Chicago. His research focuses on international development of the industrialized construction strategies that led to the skyscraper. Dr. Dreicer also serves as a Faculty Scholar. His workshop lecture will explore the inseparability of the construction of buildings and the construction of meaning. Dreicer holds a Ph.D. in the History of Technology / History of Architecture from Cornell University.

**Master Teacher:** Therese Laslo holds a Master of Arts in Special Education and has 30 years of teaching experience. She taught middle school Social Sciences, and has served as a Social Sciences coach for high school and elementary teachers, and a Standards-Based Instruction coach for the Chicago Public Schools.

**Faculty Scholars / Speakers:**

**Henry Binford, Ph.D.** is an Associate Professor of History and Urban Affairs at Northwestern University specializing in the 19th century evolution of subcommittee’s within cities and suburbs and redevelopment efforts of cities in the 20th century. He is the author of *The First Suburbs: Residential Communities on the Boston Periphery, 1815-1860* (University of Chicago Press, 1985) as well as numerous entries in *The Encyclopedia of Chicago*. Dr. Binford’s lecture will outline six stages of Chicago history and explore the relationships between people, geography, and growth of the city.

**Joanna Merwood-Salisbury, Ph.D.** is Assistant Professor and Director of Academic Affairs in the School of Constructed Environments, at Parsons The New School for Design where she teaches courses focused on 19th century architecture and urbanism in the United States. She is the author of *Chicago 1890: The Skyscraper and the Modern City* (University of Chicago Press, 2009). Dr. Merwood-Salisbury’s lecture will explore what skyscrapers meant to Chicagoans who designed, built, and worked in them.

**Katherine Solomonson, Ph.D.** is Associate Dean of Academic Affairs in the College of Design at the University of Minnesota where her teaching and scholarship address the complex roles built environments play in the production of values, identities, and social relations. She is the author
of Cass Gilbert in the West (University of Minnesota Press, forthcoming) and The Chicago Tribune Tower Competition: Skyscraper Design and Cultural Change in the 1920s (University of Chicago Press, 2003). Dr. Solomonson’s lecture will explore the impact of the 1922 Chicago Tribune Tower Competition on the architectural community and citizens of Chicago.

**Joel Berman, AIA** is Principal Architect at Joel Berman Architecture & Design. Berman has extensive architectural design experience in retail, institutional master planning, and health care projects. Since 1997, he has also served on the faculty of Columbia College Chicago and The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, teaching architectural sketching and color rendering. He also leads sketching courses for adult learners at CAF. For the Landmarks workshop, Berman will discuss how illustrations influence the way buildings are perceived and lead educators through drawing techniques suitable for beginners and classroom use.

**Doug Gilbert, AIA** is Principal Architect of his own architectural practice in Oak Park, Illinois. With more than 15 years of experience in preserving and restoring historic structures, he has served as Project Architect for the preservation or restoration of Chicago landmarks including: the Reliance Building/Hotel Burnham (D.H. Burnham & Co. 1895); the Carson Pirie Scott Building/Sullivan Center (Louis Sullivan, 1899); and S.R. Crown Hall (Mies van der Rohe, 1956). Gilbert’s lecture will explore the restoration of the Reliance Building and how this historic structure is seen as an important ‘proto-modern’ building in American architecture.

**Paul Steinbrecher, AIA** is Principal Architect at Design Eight Architects (IDEA) in Chicago, Illinois. Steinbrecher has more than 20 years of experience in new construction and preservation projects throughout the Midwest. Current projects include restoration of the façade at the Federal Center buildings in Chicago (Mies van der Rohe, 1964, 1974), Milwaukee, and Cleveland. Recently he served as Project Manager for construction of the new Modern Wing at the Art Institute of Chicago. For the workshop, Steinbrecher will discuss modernism, Mies’ life and built works, and Chicago’s reaction to the midcentury glass and steel box.

**Antony Wood, Ph.D., RIBA**, is Executive Director of the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) and Studio Associate Professor in the College of Architecture at Illinois Institute of Technology. Since 2006, Wood has been responsible for day-to-day operations of the CTBUH, the world’s leading professional body in the field of tall buildings and recognized
source arbiter of the criteria upon which tall building height is measured. Dr. Wood’s lecture will discuss current international design and technology trends in tall buildings, including the hundreds of skyscrapers being constructed in Asia and the Middle East.

**Support Staff:** Tocarra Mallard, Youth Education Associate, joined the Education staff in 2012, where she coordinates student field trip and family programs. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Art History and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Art Administration and Policy at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

**SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

CAF will publicize Landmarks workshops to a national audience of K-12 educators. Outreach efforts will include a detailed description of the workshop with images from past workshops on the CAF website, targeted announcements to individual teachers, principals, and schools through its educator email lists – including 320 past Landmarks educators located in 43 U.S. states – and the Illinois Humanities Council educator lists. Similar outreach efforts in 2009, 2010 and 2012 yielded more than 275 applications submitted for 80 slots available for each Landmarks workshop.

A selection committee comprised of the Project Director, CAF lead faculty member, and the Master Teacher will review applications and select a diverse group of educators representing a range of geographic locations, teaching experiences, grade levels, and subject areas. In addition to the NEH selection criteria and guideline to give preference to first-time applicants, CAF will seek applicants whose essays demonstrate enthusiasm for the subject coupled with a clear statement about how they will use knowledge gained in the workshop in their teaching practice. Because the workshop requires that educators participate in walking tours and other outdoor activities, a detailed description of required activities will be included with application information. Reasonable accommodations will be made whenever possible to ensure full participation of all workshop attendees.

**PROJECT WEBSITE**
CAF will create workshop web pages on the organization’s website to share ideas and resources with educators across the U.S. The webpage will include access to selected participants’ curriculum projects, images of participants engaged in workshop best practice activities, workshop resources, and links to related websites. In addition, CAF will leverage its existing social media and networking tools throughout the workshop week, including: Facebook, Pinterest, Tumblr, and Twitter. Participants will also receive a link to a Flickr photo sharing site containing workshop images from each week’s experiences, which educators will be able to use for publicity and presentations to colleagues about their Landmarks experience in Chicago.

EVALUATION
The workshop will be evaluated at three stages to ensure planned goals are achieved: 1) during the workshop, participants will evaluate sessions using feedback forms designed for each day and activity. Based on participants’ responses, staff may make adjustments to schedule, pace, and activities for subsequent days. Observations by project leaders, CAF staff, and docents will determine other mid-course adjustments; 2) at the conclusion of the workshop, in addition to the online NEH evaluation form, participants will be asked to complete a survey to indicate overall satisfaction, understanding of workshop material, and impact of the experience on their understanding of the subject and how they think about teaching; 3) six months after the workshop, CAF will send participants an electronic survey to gather information about how teachers have implemented best practices, field studies, and workshop learning. To assess workshop impact, the questionnaire will also ask participants to compare levels of activities using the built environment before and after the workshop.

What CAF learned from previous Landmarks Workshops
As previously noted, NEH awarded CAF funding to conduct The American Skyscraper: Transforming Chicago and the Nation workshop in the summers of 2009, 2010, 2012, and 2013 (forthcoming). Copies of NEH 2012 Summer Scholars’ and participants’ evaluations are included in the attachments.
Conducting The American Skyscraper workshops has clarified for CAF staff the power of teaching about skyscrapers and contextualizing the tall building in Chicago, an experience which engaged and inspired participating educators. It is clear – from anecdotal information shared during workshops and in program evaluations – that educators are eager to learn about the historic and social context for skyscrapers and their role in shaping urban environments. CAF is equally eager to engage new groups of teachers in learning about skyscrapers from a humanities perspective.

Evaluations from previous years demonstrate the effectiveness of place-based learning/teaching, the workshop’s instructional design, and participants’ satisfaction with workshop activities. Positive feedback from 2012 participants reflects a tested schedule, speakers, readings, assignments, and program. Specific feedback from the 240 educators who participated in previous workshops informed the proposed 2014 The American Skyscraper workshop, in these areas:

**Content:** Prior workshop participants requested instructional materials about labor and gender issues related to the development of skyscrapers and urbanization of cities. Additionally, participants expressed interest in learning about 21st century skyscrapers to support their units on global studies and human geography. A new 2012 speaker was brought in to address these issues.

**Readings:** Additional illustrations were included in the reading pack to make the academic articles easier to understand. The addition of a 1928 primary source document on building skyscrapers supported teachers’ desire to learn more about the construction of skyscrapers.

**Speakers:** The 2010 and 2012 workshops included a new speaker who addressed the skyscraper in 21st century, post-9/11, global society. A site visit to an architecture firm that designs skyscrapers in China added another dimension to workshop activities.

**Schedule:** The schedule reflects participant recommendations for regular hourly breaks.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participants who complete the workshop will receive a signed letter of completion indicating the number of workshop hours and a workshop description with syllabus. Participants may use the documents to receive continuing education credits. Continuing Professional Development Unit forms for Illinois teachers will be made available.

INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

Founded in 1966, CAF is a national and international leader in and model for public education about architecture and design. The organization is an interpreter Chicago’s landscapes, focusing on public exploration of city building, architectural and infrastructural innovation, the construction of livable communities, and design as a learning activity. CAF is the largest organization in the U.S. serving as a forum for multidisciplinary public learning and engaging in dialogue about the built world. CAF programs, which served a half a million individuals in 2012, include: the Tour Program: 450 trained volunteer docents conducted 6,200 departures of 90 tours for 292,000 individuals; Public Programs: exhibitions, symposia, lectures—most of which are free of charge and open to the public—and adult education courses; and Youth Education Programs: award-winning curricular materials, including the K-8 resource, Schoolyards to Skylines: Teaching with Chicago’s Amazing Architecture, and high school curriculum, The Architecture Handbook: A Student Guide to Understanding Buildings; student field trips; and professional development workshops for teachers. CAF Youth Education programs reach more than 44,000 students and teachers annually. In 2008, CAF was selected by NEH to conduct a three-day workshop for recipients of the Picturing America image collection. CAF received funding from NEH in 2009, 2010, 2012, and 2013 to present the Landmarks of American History and Culture workshop, The American Skyscraper: Transforming Chicago and the Nation.

Workshop Facilities: The workshop will be presented in the historic Railway Exchange Building on South Michigan Avenue, where CAF’s offices, gallery spaces, city model, learning studio, lecture hall, and retail center are located. The building is across the street from the Art Institute of Chicago and two blocks from Millennium Park and the Harold Washington Public Library.
Center, Chicago’s central library. The Lecture Hall in the Railway Exchange Building offers free wi-fi access and multimedia capabilities to support workshop presentations.

**Housing Facilities and Meal Options:** Workshop participants will stay amid south-Loop skyscrapers in 4-person apartment suites at the University Center, located a short walk south of CAF headquarters. University Center is an upscale college dorm during the school year and converts to a conference center in the summer. Room rates are approximately $99 per person per night and include full breakfast, kitchen facilities, access to a fitness center, and wi-fi access. A range of low-cost, healthy meal options is available within five blocks of the University Center. Both the Railway Exchange Building and the University Center are located near public transportation, including direct routes to both Chicago airports and the Amtrak train station. Housing facilities are located within easy walking distance of Lake Michigan and lakefront jogging and bike paths, cinemas, live theater, jazz and blues clubs, major league baseball, and dozens of world-class museums. A map indicating the location of CAF, case study buildings, and housing is included in Appendix E.
APPENDIX A: EXPANDED STUDY PLAN 2014

CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION

The American Skyscraper: Transforming Chicago and the Nation
Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshop for Teachers

Skyscrapers and Invention: Day 1 / SUNDAY

**Topic**
Invention and mythmaking

**Big Questions**
1) What is a skyscraper?
2) How is the urge to define the skyscraper, label the ‘first’ skyscraper, and hold on to the notion of the lone designer antithetical to the true dynamic nature of invention?

**Required Reading**
“The Invention of the Skyscraper: Notes on its Diverse Histories” from *Assemblage No. 2*, Rosemarie Haag Bletter (1987)

“The Soul of Chicago” from *Our America*, Waldo Frank (1919)

“Skyscraper” from *Chicago Poems*, Carl Sandburg (1916)

**Schedule**

2:30 pm  **Introductions / Reception**
Arrival at the Chicago Architecture Foundation, 224 South Michigan Avenue; registration, reception

3:30 pm  **Lecture / Discussion**
*Interpreting the Skyscraper: Five Technological Myths*
Greg Dreicer, Chicago Architecture Foundation

Dreicer will explore how the construction of buildings and the construction of meaning are inseparable activities. He will also discuss invention skyscraper mythmaking and the relative impermanence of buildings. Dreicer will also outline the challenges in both defining the skyscraper and identifying a lone inventor.

5:30 – 7:00 pm  **Field Study: Architecture River Cruise**
Walk to the CAF dock at the Michigan Avenue bridge for a 90-minute cruise along the main stem and the north and south branches of the Chicago River. A CAF docent will provide an overview of historic and modern skyscrapers, as well as a brief history of the river.

*OPTIONAL:* pizza dinner
Skyscrapers and Geography: Day 2 / MONDAY

Topic
Why Chicago?

Big Question
1) What is the relationship between Chicago’s geography and its growth as a metropolis?

Required Reading
“Chicago” from Chicago Poems, Carl Sandburg (1916)


Schedule
9:00 am   Expectations / Introduction of theme / Review of readings

10:15 am   Lecture / Discussion
[11:00am – 11:15 am break]
Why is There a City Here?
Henry Binford, Northwestern University

Through geographic perspective, Binford will outline six stages of Chicago history with an emphasis on the time period of most dramatic growth, 1830 – 1914, and address the obstacles to putting a city here and how the obstacles were overcome.

12:00 – 1:00 pm   Lunch on your own

1:15 pm   Best Practices
Skyscraper timeline activity and presentation; connections to population growth, milestone dates in US and Chicago history, and the development of the skyscraper

[3:00 – 3:15 pm break]

3:15 pm   Field Study: Harold Washington Library
How to read a building activity at the Harold Washington Library, taken from CAF’s resource book for teachers, Schoolyards to Skylines.

[4:00 – 4:15 pm break]

4:15 pm   Curriculum Development Projects
Begin developing new lessons plan ideas that incorporate the built environment.

6:00 – 6:30 pm   Walk to Millennium Park for group photo; dismiss from park
Skyscrapers and Urban Culture: Day 3 / TUESDAY

Topic
Skyscrapers in Context

Big Questions
1) In what ways did skyscrapers help define urban culture in the late 19th century?
2) What did this new building type symbolize for the people of Chicago and the nation?
3) How did skyscraper technology change American society?

Required Reading
“Building a Skyscraper” from Skyscrapers and the Men Who Build Them, William A. Starrett (1928)
“A City under One Roof: Skyscrapers, 1880-1895” from Constructing Chicago, Daniel Bluestone (1991)

Schedule
9:00 am   Introduction of theme / Review of readings
9:30 am   Field Study: Historic Skyscrapers
12:00 – 1:00 pm   Lunch on your own
1:15 pm   Lecture / Discussion
Chicago: The Skyscraper and the Modern City
Joanna Merwood-Salisbury, Parsons The New School for Design

Merwood-Salisbury will explore what skyscrapers meant to Chicagoans who designed and built them, worked inside their walls, and gazed up at their facades. Using case study examples of Louis Sullivan, Daniel Burnham, and John Wellborn Root, she will explore how skyscrapers fostered an urban culture that spread across the country.

3:30 – 4:30 pm   Field Study: Tribune Tower
Walk to the Tribune Tower, as a preview for Day 4 lesson and lecture; dismiss from North Michigan Avenue
Skyscrapers and Representation: Day 4 / WEDNESDAY

Topic
Skyscrapers as Visual Icons

Big Questions
1) How were architects visually representing skyscrapers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries?
2) How do such images inform and influence public opinion and the design of buildings to follow?

Required Reading

“Built Languages of Class: Skyscrapers and Labor Protest in Victorian Public Space” from The American Skyscraper: Cultural Histories, Sarah Watts (2005)

“The Tall Office Building Artistically Considered” from Lippincott’s Magazine, Louis Sullivan (1896)

Schedule
9:00 am  Introduction of theme / Review of readings

9:15 am  Curriculum Development Projects
Subject-based group discussion on developing classroom lessons that focus on place-based education and hometown built environment.

10:15 am  Field Study: The Art Institute of Chicago
A visit to the archives to view sketches, plans, drawings, and other primary source documents of skyscrapers by several renowned Chicago architects.

11:45 am – 12:45 pm  Lunch on your own

1:00 pm  Lecture/Discussion
The 1922 Chicago Tribune Tower Competition
Katherine Solomonson, School of Architecture, University of Minnesota

Solomonson will explore the impact the 1922 Chicago Tribune Tower Competition had on the architecture community and on the citizens of Chicago through a presentation and discussion of the competition drawings.

3:00 pm  Best Practices
How to teach with architectural illustrations and competitions in social sciences, language arts, and fine/visual arts classes; use a lesson on the Tribune Tower competition from Schoolyards to Skylines

3:30 pm – 5:15 pm  Best Practices
How to Sketch Like an Architect
Joel Berman, Joel Berman Architecture & Design, Ltd.

Architect Joel Berman will discuss how illustrations influence the way we perceive buildings; sketching activities to introduce drawing techniques for classroom use.
Topic
Remaking Tradition: What is Modern?

Big Questions
1) How does a city’s civic identity influence what buildings are kept, torn down, and built?
2) If buildings are not intended to be permanent, what lengths / costs are acceptable to ‘save’ structures?
3) How does the Chicago skyline reflect the ‘Chicago School’ constructed narrative between preservationists and modernists?

Required Reading


Schedule
9:00 am  Introduction of theme/ Review of assigned readings

9:30 am  Lecture / Discussion
9:30 – 10:30 am break
Case Study 1: The Design and Restoration of the Reliance Building
Douglas Gilbert, AIA
As the project architect on the restoration team of the historic Reliance building, Gilbert will discuss the restoration and how this building with its unusually thin curtain wall, is often seen as an important ‘protomodern’ building in American architecture.

11:15 am  Field Study: Reliance Building
Walk to the Reliance Building for guided tour with CAF docents

12:30 – 1:30 pm  Lunch on your own

1:30 pm  Lecture / Discussion
1:30 – 2:30 pm break
Case Study 2: Mies In Chicago: Why All Glass Boxes are Not Alike
Paul Steinbrecher, AIA, InterActive Design, Inc.
As a member of the renovation team of Mies van der Rohe’s Federal Center, Steinbrecher will discuss modernism and Mies’ life and work in particular, as well as Chicago’s reaction to the glass and steel box.

3:30 – 5:00 pm  Best Practices / Field Study: Fisher Building
Place-based activity with Sandburg’s *Skyscraper* poem

Best Practices / Field Study: Federal Center
Guided observation, comparison contrast, and using primary source images
Skyscrapers and New Landmarks: Day 6 / FRIDAY

Topic
Skyscrapers in the 21st century

Big Questions
1) How does the tremendous growth of 19th century Chicago compare and contrast with growth of cities in 21st century Asia and the Middle East?
2) In what ways is the appearance of skyscrapers defining urban culture and identity for Asian and Middle Eastern cities today?
3) What are the current international design and technology trends in tall buildings?

Required Reading
Chicago Tribune articles from 1968 (John Hancock Center), 1970 (Sears Tower), and 1973 (First National Bank Plaza) by Alvin Nagelberg and Paul Gapp; Chicago Tribune and Hartford Courant articles from 2001 – 2012 (Trump Tower, Chicago Spire, Aqua Tower, Burj Khalifa, 9/11, etc) by Blair Kamin and Michael J. Crobie; a New Yorker article from 2010 (Aqua Tower) by Paul Goldberger; and the CTBUH 2013 Year in Review.

Schedule
9:00 am   Introduction of theme / Review of assigned readings
9:30 am – 11:00 am  Field Study / Tour: Offices of Goettsch Partners
[11:00 – 11:15 am break]
11:15 am   Lecture / Discussion
Transformation: Tomorrow’s Skyscrapers
Antony Wood, Exec Director, Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat
Wood will discuss the work and mission of the CTBUH. He will also explain current international design and technology trends in tall buildings, including the hundreds of skyscrapers being built in Asia and the Middle East.

12:30 – 1:30 pm  Lunch on your own

1:45 – 3:00 pm   Best Practices: Primary Source documents
View a 1929 film of the Chicago Board of Trade Building (Holabird & Root) under construction; examine the use of other primary source documents for place-based and change over time activities in the classroom.

3:15 – 4:15 pm   Curriculum Development Projects
Subject-based group discussion on developing classroom lessons that focus on place-based education and your local built environment.

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm optional
Field Study (OPTIONAL)
Architectural walking tour of Chicago’s public sculpture including Picasso, Miro, and Chagall.
Topic
Concluding Discussion and Presentation of Curriculum Projects

Schedule
9:00 am – 12:00 pm  

Curriculum Development Project: Sharing / Discussion / Feedback

Round 1
Participants are divided into groups to respond to the question: How has this week changed how you are thinking about using architecture in your classroom? An assigned scribe will capture the discussion and report to the entire group on themes, trends, and discussion highlights. CAF workshop leaders, staff and master teacher will help facilitate discussions at tables.

Round 2
Continuing in groups, participants will respond to the question: What are you going to do with what you have learned this week? Participants will report to the entire group.

Review / Wrap Up Discussion
Slide show of photos taken during the week’s activities. Wrap-up discussion will explore the power of place-based teaching. The day will conclude with final evaluations and details for completing and turning in final projects.
APPENDIX B: DETAILED READING LIST 2014

The American Skyscraper: Transforming Chicago and the Nation
Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshop for Teachers

In the months prior to the workshop, participants will be mailed a 250-page reading course packet of the texts included here. Upon arrival in Chicago, they will also receive a copy of Donald Miller’s City of the Century (1996), which provides an overview of Chicago’s dramatic growth from the 1830s until 1900.

Skyscrapers and Invention
Day 1 / SUNDAY

Bletter’s article on the invention of the skyscraper explores the inherent challenges of defining a skyscraper as well as pinpointing the “first” such building. Frank’s reading provides a first-hand account of one 19th century visitor’s impression of the city and this new building type. CAF staff will introduce Sandburg’s poem on Sunday and reuse the poem on Thursday in a hands-on activity that explores place-making and writers’ attempts to personify buildings.


Skyscrapers and Geography
Day 2 / MONDAY

Cronon’s prologue describes the intricate relationships between people, geography, and the growth of the city. Miller’s “Stories in Stone and Steel” provides an overview to architectural innovators and introduces skyscrapers as a new building type. Sandburg’s “Chicago” poem is commonly referenced in high school US history courses and will be discussed in class as a way to connect architecture with the Industrial Revolution.


Skyscrapers and Urban Culture
Day 3 / TUESDAY

Tuesday’s readings explore several key ideas in the design of skyscrapers: the relationships between neighborhood factories on the industrial periphery and the company’s city-center headquarters; the impact of women on the design of skyscraper office space; new amenities expected by 19th century first-class office workers; the relationships between the architects and the labor movement; and the masculine culture of engineers and construction workers building skyscrapers.


Skyscrapers and Representation
Day 4 / WEDNESDAY

Solomonson’s essay on the history of the Tribune Tower Competition – and the 263 architects that submitted entries – is contrasted with Sullivan’s 19th century manifesto on the design and iconography of the American skyscraper. Watt’s essay explores how various images of one New York skyscraper were used by both the building developers and the labor movement to further their unique causes.


Skyscrapers and Identity
Day 5 / THURSDAY

Bluestone’s article explores the use of the identifier: ‘Chicago School’ by preservationists and modernists arguing for the either the restoration or demolition of certain 19th century Chicago skyscrapers. Hitchcock and Johnson’s seminal text lays out the principles of the International Style that would come to dominate American skyscraper design in the 20th century.


Skyscrapers and New Landmarks
Day 6 / FRIDAY

A collection of newspaper and magazine articles from the mid-20th century to the present day, explores such topics as: skyscraper construction technology, the role of the plaza, the aesthetics of the façade, the relationship between the economy and skyscraper design, the role of women architects in the 21st century, and the changing nature of tall buildings in Asia and the Middle East.


Kamin, Blair. “How to build today’s Supertalls; Elegance, not machismo, is behind Chicago's unprecedented reach for the sky.” Chicago Tribune, August 19, 2007.


Kamin, Blair. “Dubai stands tall as skyscraper debuts: Renamed Burj Khalifa opens, tops record for world's tallest by more than 1,000 feet.” Chicago Tribune, January 5, 2010.


Crosbie, Michael J. “Burj Khalifa: Dubai Tower is something to look at, but wasteful.” Hartford Courant, March 15, 2012.