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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Chicago Loop Alliance hosts public Leadership Forum on results of 2014 Loop Education Study**

**Panelists include executives from World Business Chicago, Gensler, Walgreens and Anderson Economic Group, LLC**

**Monday, Nov. 17 from 8-9:15 a.m.**

CHICAGO (October 30, 2014)—**Chicago Loop Alliance** (CLA) will host a public **Leadership Forum** on Monday, Nov. 17 from 8-9:15 a.m. based on the findings of its 2014 Loop Education Study, revealing the impact of 22 higher education institutions in the Loop. The new report is an update of CLA's 2009 study, completed in conjunction with America's Urban Campus®, a newly formed consortium of 17 Chicago-area colleges and universities who aim to enhance the image of Chicago as a global destination for higher education and post-graduate employment.

Panelists for the Leadership Forum are World Business Chicago President and CEO **Jeff Malehorn**; Gensler Principal and Firmwide Education and Culture Sector Leader **David Broz**; Walgreens Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer **Kathleen Wilson-Thompson**; and Anderson Economic Group, LLC Senior Consultant **Jason Horwitz**. CLA Board of Directors Chairman and Senior Managing Director at CBRE|U.S. Equities Realty **Martin Stern** will moderate.

CLA's Leadership Forum will take place at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) Ballroom, 112 South Michigan Avenue, on Monday, Nov. 17 from 8-9:15 a.m. A networking reception will be held before the event beginning at 7:30 a.m. Tickets are \$20 for CLA members and \$30 for non-members. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit [www.loopchicago.com/LeadershipForum](http://www.loopchicago.com/LeadershipForum).

Leadership Forum panelists will discuss the Loop Education Study findings; importance of higher education in attracting investment into Chicago; the importance of design and urban amenities to attract students; and how Chicago-based companies benefit from a vast talent pool of local graduates. Questions for panelists from attendees will be encouraged. The full text of CLA's Loop Education Study will be made available after the event.

The Chicago Loop is home to 22 for-profit and not-for-profit higher education institutions. While the total historical, cultural, social and economic benefits that these universities provide to the Loop are in some ways immeasurable, in the updated 2014 Loop Education Study, CLA will

present data and research that demonstrate relevant economic, social and cultural impacts on businesses in the Loop community.

**Chicago Loop Alliance** (CLA) creates, manages and promotes high-performing urban experiences, attracting people and investment to the Loop. Since its founding as the Greater State Street Council more than 70 years ago, CLA has distinguished itself as an innovative and effective promoter of the Loop's high-performing, world-renowned cultural, civic, business and architectural assets. With 250 members representing the Loop's business and nonprofit community, an active board of directors comprised of industry and civic leaders, and wide-ranging partnerships with peer institutions and municipal agencies, CLA promotes and unites Loop businesses and organizations to support one another in creating a vibrant, flourishing Loop where people live, work and play. For more information, please visit [www.LoopChicago.com](http://www.LoopChicago.com).

**America's Urban Campus**<sup>®</sup> (AUC) is a consortium of 17 of Chicago's largest colleges and universities formed in 2013 to enhance the image of Chicago as a global destination for higher education and build upon the strength of its member institutions as Chicago's economic and social drivers. AUC is committed to supporting initiatives, facilitating job opportunities and foster connections by investing in the future of Chicago through education and research. The 17 AUC member colleges and universities include Adler School of Professional Psychology, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Chicago State University, City Colleges of Chicago, Columbia College Chicago, DePaul University, Illinois Institute of Technology, John Marshall Law School, Loyola University, North Park University, Northwestern University, Robert Morris University, Roosevelt University, Saint Xavier University, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago.

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