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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Chicago Loop Alliance announces The Living Loop Performing Arts Festival**

### **Twelve weeks of free site-specific performances enliven downtown Chicago beginning June 2014**

CHICAGO (December 17, 2013)—**Chicago Loop Alliance** (CLA), with the support of **The Chicago Community Trust** (the Trust), will showcase the diversity and legacy of Chicago's performing arts community during **The Living Loop Performing Arts Festival**—a free 12-week site-specific performing arts series in downtown Chicago beginning in June 2014. **The Living Loop** is co-presented by **High Concept Laboratories** and made possible by a \$45,000 grant from the Trust, awarded to further CLA's ongoing creation and management of high-performing urban experiences in the Loop.

**The Living Loop** is designed to engage a wide range of audiences in public spaces, as artists make use of locations throughout the Loop ranging from storefronts to outdoor open spaces. The festival will incorporate a diverse array of mediums, disciplines, styles and cultural influences—from music, theatre and literature to dance, conceptual performance, puppetry and more. Chicagoans and visitors will be invited to learn more about the performers and their work through social media and a program-specific website to be launched in 2014.

“Placemaking and place management are key priorities for Chicago Loop Alliance, and The Living Loop is a continuation of our efforts to enliven public spaces downtown,” said CLA Executive Director **Michael Edwards**. “The Chicago Community Trust's generous support ensures the festival will be accessible to all members of our community, as audience members can attend and participate free of charge.”

For 98 years, **The Chicago Community Trust**, our region's community foundation, has connected the generosity of donors with community needs by making grants to organizations working to improve metropolitan Chicago. In 2012, the Trust, together with its donors, granted more than \$130 million to nonprofit organizations. From strengthening schools to assisting local art programs and building health centers to protecting the safety net for those hardest hit by the recession, the Trust continues to enhance our region. To learn more, please visit the Trust online at [www.cct.org](http://www.cct.org).

**Chicago Loop Alliance** (CLA) creates, manages and promotes high-performing urban experiences, attracting people and investment to the Loop. For more information, please visit [www.LoopChicago.com](http://www.LoopChicago.com).

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