



CHICAGO LOOP ALLIANCE YOUNG LEADERS BOARD INTEREST FORM

Chicago Loop Alliance

Chicago Loop Alliance (CLA) leads the community by creating and supporting inclusive programs that attract people and investment to the Loop.

The organization was founded in 2005 following a merger between the Central Michigan Avenue Association and the Greater State Street Council, which was created in 1929 and consisted of local merchants eager to promote economic prosperity for their businesses during the Great Depression. The Chicago Loop is defined as the Chicago River on the north and west, Ida B. Wells drive on the south, and Lake Michigan on the east. Currently, CLA represents over 300 organizations located within the Loop, downtown Chicago, and beyond.

Board of Directors and Governing Structure

CLA is governed by a Board of Directors, which initiated an associate board in 2025, as an inaugural effort in advancing the organization's strategic objective of engaging the next generation of leaders by Ensuring Everyone's Neighborhood. The Young Leaders Board has been established by CLA's Board to provide supplemental support to the organization's foundational giving and serve as an auxiliary funnel for future representatives among the CLA Board of Directors.

Young Leaders Board Governance

The Young Leaders Board should consist of no more than fifteen (15) individuals from organizations within or with a vested interest in the work of Chicago Loop Alliance. Members should be aged 25-44. The Young Leaders Board is comprised of two elected positions – chair and vice chair – with an ad hoc liaison based on capacity needs.

Membership Requirements

- Attend the scheduled board meetings bi-monthly on predetermined dates
- An annual \$1,000 give/get to Chicago Loop Alliance Foundation
- Contribute to the Young Leaders' annual fundraising goal of \$15,000 annually through one annual event
- Assist in garnering visibility and support for Chicago Loop Alliance Foundation programming
- Keep your membership dues and company information current
- Act as an ambassador for Chicago Loop Alliance, promoting CLA's mission and initiatives
- Attend CLA events whenever possible, including but not limited to, LoopedIn networking events, CLAF events – Annual Meeting and Annual Gala, and placemaking projects like Sundays on State.

We recruit for the Young Leaders Board once a year each fall. **Applications for the 2025 Fall recruitment are open through October 31.**



Interested candidates are invited to attend an Interest Mixer. This is an informal opportunity to meet Chicago Loop Alliance staff, board, committee members, and other interested Young Leader members; learn more about Chicago Loop Alliance; and ask questions regarding the application process.

Following the application close, the Steering Committee will compile a selection of viable applicants. Finalists will be selected and asked to participate in an interview with the Steering Committee and will be notified of selection by January 2026.

If you wish to apply for participation on the Young Leaders Board in 2026, please complete the form below and sign. Active participation is crucial to advancing the mission and goals of CLA. If you feel you cannot fulfill these responsibilities, please let us know immediately. Thank you for your consideration, the Steering Committee will be in touch to conduct formal interviews in Q4 2025. We are extremely grateful for your support and your many contributions to the organization.

I have read the duties and responsibilities that come with participation on the Chicago Loop Alliance Young Leaders Board and

- ☐ Yes, I wish to apply for a position on the 2026 Young Leaders Board
- ☐ No, I must decline participation on the board at this time

Why do you wish to be a part of Chicago Loop Alliance's Young Leaders Board?

Why do you think you'd be a beneficial addition to Chicago Loop Alliance and its Young Leader Board?

Full Name: _____

Title: _____



Company: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

INTERNAL USE ONLY: Race and Ethnicity (check all that apply):

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

☐ Asian

☐ Black or African American

Hispanic or Latine

☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

White/Caucasian

Signature: _____

Date: _____