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**For which project type are you applying? (Choose one – You may apply for more than one type of assistance by completing a separate application form.)** Transit Station Activation Project (pilot program)

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**Transit Station Activation Project**

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**Describe your proposed activation project:**

In March of 2023, Chicago Film Archives (CFA) installed a projection system in the street-level mezzanine at the Cicero Green line station to exhibit 20th century Chicago home movies. This filmic exhibition is called "we love" and opens with an edited piece created by curator Romi Crawford and filmmaker John O'Hagan. This six-minute film is followed by a sampling from a variety of home movies from CFA's archive. The movies are projected on the 9' x 12' lobby wall and they run 24 hours a day. CFA periodically changes the footage to portray a variety of families and imagery. What we found when building this exhibit is that home movies from communities of various backgrounds all resonate with the feelings of love, belonging, and safety.

CFA's request is two-pronged. 1) CFA would like to install a second projection system at the Howard Red line station where folks who travel through the northern neighborhoods of Chicago will find home movie imagery that reflects the diverse communities and ridership that emanate from that widely used CTA station. This second CTA site (in addition to the Cicero Green Line station) can begin to grow the idea that the RTA considers its ridership an intrinsic element of Chicago's legacy and brilliance. 2) CFA would also like to research and identify families with home movies who specifically live in the West Garfield Park community today. We believe the projection of home movies that portray local families will encourage travel and bring excitement and acknowledgement to the lives of people in the neighborhood. With the help of neighborhood community centers, CFA will actively search out these families on Chicago's west side; digitize their home movies, and project them as part of the exhibition at the Cicero Green line station.

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**Where will the project take place? (State the name of the transit station or stop and the specific location where the activation project will take place. Please also note the name of the property owner if not on Service Board property.)**

Howard Street Red Line station, 7519 N. Paulina St., Chicago - images will be projected upon the wall that faces north where the escalators run between the ground lobby and the second floor. (Please see map and site)  
Cicero Green Line station, 4800 W. Lake St., Chicago - in the northwest corner of the street-level lobby. The doors to Cicero Avenue face the wall that exhibits "we love", a beautiful sequence of Chicago home movies.

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**How much funding are you requesting?  
Please detail the expenses (estimates  
are fine).**

HOWARD RED LIE STATION INSTALLATION OF PROJECTOR AND  
OTHER EQUIPMENT AND CREATION OF CONTENT

Projector	16,000
Lens - zoom	2,000
Projector Enclosure	7,000
Playback Deck	1,000
Shipping	2,100
Electrical Install	1,500
Misc. Supplies	1,000
Project Tech	7,000
Maintenance	1,000
Media Content Curator	5,000
Content Editor and preparation	5,000
Project Mgr./Coordinator	2,500
Total	51,100

RESEARCH, DIGITIZATION AND EDIT OF HOME MOVIES FROM  
CHICAGO'S WEST SIDE FOR CICERO GREEN LINE STATION

Total Estimate	10,000
Grand Total	61,100

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**What is the timeline for this activation? (i.e. What is your thinking about the time of day, day of the week, month, for your proposal)**

At both sites, the exhibitions will run 24 hours a day.

CICERO GREEN LINE STATION (when funded)

CFA research and identify home movies within the community. One to two months,

CFA will immediately begin digitizing home movies found in the Garfield Park neighborhoods. Organizing, digitizing, curating and edit of two hours of material will take two to three weeks. The films then can then be incorporated into the installation.

HOWARD RED LINE STATION (Preparation and installation begin when funded)

October - November, 2024  
Site inspection and plan with CTA personnel

November 2024 - January 2025  
Order equipment. Allow for supply chain interruptions (over seas)  
Projectors w/ lens  
System Enclosures  
Playback decks  
Begin Curating/post production of home movie content for projection at site and online access

January - February 2025  
Check in and test projection equipment  
Continue creating home movie content for projection site  
Create content, text and credits for QR online access to installation  
Create exhibition placards for site

March 2025  
Install and launch exhibitions

Installation runs until March 2026 (or longer if CTA and CFA agree).  
Content will be replaced every six months.

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**Will the project process include activities in which the general public will be invited to participate? If so, please describe:**

We will invite people from Chicago's west side and north side communities to share their home movies with CFA so that we can digitize them and incorporate them into the RTA film exhibition at both the Cicero Green Line Station and the Howard Red Line Station..

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**Is your organization currently in communication with the relevant transit agency and/or property owner? Do you anticipate needing assistance in making contact?**

We are in communication with Elizabeth Karpowicz, who has collaborated with CFA in the installation and exhibition of the Cicero Green Line station. She supports and will collaborate with CFA on the "we love" installation at the Howard Red Line station as well.

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**Describe any experience you have with implementing something similar to your proposal:** CFA has already installed a 45-minute loop of home movies at the Cicero Green Line station, which is currently being exhibited on a wall in the street-level lobby. The equipment and its installation was well-researched and executed without incident (with the assistance of CTA engineers). CFA has been able to maintain the installation and the filmic components of the exhibition over the past year without incident or inconvenience to the CTA or its ridership.

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**What resident or community support do you have or would like to gain for the proposed activation?** We expect that this CFA project will bring an immediate and strong connection with the everyday people of Chicago who travel public transportation to the city for work and for fun. It is easy to recognize ourselves in these films. This exhibition brings with it an intrinsic understanding that each of our individual lives are notable components of Chicago's legacy.

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**Is there any additional information you want us to know?** You can view the current Cicero station installation on CFA's website at "Digital Exhibitions" or at the station itself.

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**Please upload a map of where specifically the activation will take place:** <https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/16093093999>

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## Closing Questions

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**How did you find out about the call for projects? (Select all that apply)** Planning liaison  
Other: Garfield Park Community Center forwarded the application to CFA

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**What resources did you find helpful as you apply for the call? (Select all that apply)** Technical assistance flow chart

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**How difficult was it to fill out this application?** Very easy

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