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# Friends of the Chicago River



**MCCORMICK TRIBUNE BRIDGEHOUSE  
& CHICAGO RIVER MUSEUM  
Corporate Club 2009**

**An Invitation to Membership**

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# McCormick Tribune Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum

## CORPORATE CLUB 2009

### Overview



The river has always been at the heart of our city's progress. First engineered for commerce, then for sewage, it both caused *and* accommodated the growth of our metropolis. Yet for decades it suffered from pollution and neglect, becoming inhospitable to people and wildlife. Today, the river is undergoing a renaissance that is once again changing our city, giving birth to new residential neighborhoods, vibrant wildlife habitat, varied recreational options and exciting tourist destinations.

Nestled inside the southwest tower of the Michigan Avenue Bridge, the McCormick Tribune Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum uncovers the marvels of the Chicago River. A program of Friends of the Chicago River, the Bridgehouse Museum reveals the inextricable link between the river and its namesake city as a way of introducing people to the river and motivating them to take part in its revival.

Spiral your way to the top of the five-story structure and find out how a prairie stream held the key to transforming a marsh into a metropolis in less than a century. Whether it's learning why the river's flow was reversed or how plant and animal species once nearly lost are now returning, the Bridgehouse Museum shares the story of how the Chicago River changed with the growth of a city.

The historic bridge tower is itself a relic of another time. Envisioned by Daniel Burnham in the 1909 *Plan of Chicago* and designed by Edward H. Bennett, the Beaux-Arts structure celebrates the vision of Michigan Avenue as the grand boulevard that would unite the north and south sides of the city. The Bridgehouse Museum also houses the gears of the landmark bridge. Visitors are treated to a rare look at the innerworkings of the bridge that is lifted by two 108 horse power engines.

The Bridgehouse Museum is located at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive, and its entrance is on the riverwalk level. The museum is open from spring until fall and for special events throughout the year.

### Why become a member?

The Bridgehouse Museum boosts Friends' efforts for a cleaner and healthier river for the benefit of people and wildlife. By becoming a Corporate Club member, your company positions itself as a champion of responsible environmental stewardship, while at the same time sustaining Chicago's cultural vibrancy – a dual contribution to a better quality of life in our great city.

Membership offers benefits such as museum passes, private guided tours, community recognition and more. Whether you share the benefits with your staff, members, associates or clients, they can easily take advantage of our centrally-located, ingenious and unique museum.

A clean and healthy Chicago River is both an environmental and aesthetic asset to our city, helping make Chicago an increasingly desirable place to live, work and play. As a river neighbor, our company is invested in the success of the Bridgehouse Museum and Friends' work to educate people about our river and give them the tools to participate in its revitalization.

**David Blake, Publisher  
Crain's Chicago Business**

# McCormick Tribune Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum

## CORPORATE CLUB 2009

### Membership Levels



#### Presidium Circle - \$5,000

- Invitations to exclusive member events for you and your guests
- Corporate entertaining opportunity: private guided tour for up to 25 guests
- Unlimited guest passes for employee or client use
- Four family season passes
- Four Bridge Lift passes to view the Michigan Avenue Bridge gears at work
- Employee free admission week including one guest
- Name on annual donor plaque at the Bridgehouse Museum
- Recognition in Friends' annual report and newsletter, and on museum website
- Employee discount of 10% on museum store merchandise

#### Benefactor - \$2,500

- Invitations to exclusive member events for you and your guests
- 500 guest passes for employee or client use
- Three family season passes
- Three Bridge Lift passes to view the Michigan Avenue Bridge gears at work
- Employee free admission week including one guest
- Name on annual donor plaque at the Bridgehouse Museum
- Recognition in Friends' annual report and newsletter, and on museum website
- Employee discount of 10% on museum store merchandise

#### Patron - \$1,000

- Invitations to exclusive member events for you and your guests
- 150 guest passes for employee or client use
- Two family season passes
- Two Bridge Lift passes to view the Michigan Avenue Bridge gears at work
- Employee free admission day including one guest
- Name on annual donor plaque at the Bridgehouse Museum
- Recognition in Friends' annual report and newsletter, and on museum website
- Employee discount of 10% on museum store merchandise

#### Leader - \$500

- 80 guest passes for employee or client use
- One family season pass
- Name on annual donor plaque at the Bridgehouse Museum
- Recognition in Friends' annual report and newsletter, and on museum website
- Employee discount of 10% on museum store merchandise

#### Sustainer - \$250

- 40 guest passes for employee or client use
- Name on annual donor plaque at the Bridgehouse Museum
- Recognition in Friends' annual report and newsletter, and on museum website

#### Supporter - \$100

- 15 guest passes for employee or client use
- Recognition in Friends' annual report and newsletter

#### Current Audience:

Approximately 1,000 people visit our museum monthly, and our numbers are growing.

In 2008, we had visitors from 47 states and 33 countries. 49% of visitors in 2008 were from Illinois.

#### Media Exposure in 2008:

Chicago Tribune  
Chicago Sun-Times  
WLS Channel 7  
WMAQ Channel 5  
Various magazines, on-line news outlets and blogs

A portion of your membership is tax-deductible. You may choose to waive some of the benefits listed and the amount of your support that is tax-deductible will increase.

Please contact Ozana Balan at (312) 939-0490, ext. 23, for more information .

# McCormick Tribune Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum

## CORPORATE CLUB 2009

### Membership Reply Form



Please complete the information below to help Friends of the Chicago River properly recognize your participation.

- I want to join the Bridgehouse Museum Corporate Club! Select one:
- Presidium Circle      \$5,000
  - Benefactor                \$2,500
  - Patron                        \$1,000
  - Leader                        \$500
  - Sustainer                    \$250
  - Supporter                    \$100

For recognition purposes list my name or company name as:

\_\_\_\_\_ please print

- I would like to discuss membership benefits further. Please contact me.

#### Contact information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment method

- My check made payable to Friends of the Chicago River is enclosed.
- Charge my:  American Express  Discover  MasterCard  VISA
- Card number \_\_\_\_\_
- Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ 3-4 digit security code \_\_\_\_\_
- Card holder's name and billing address (if different than above) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- My company will send a check separately. Expect it in about \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.

#### Return this form to:

Bridgehouse Museum Corporate Club  
FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO RIVER  
28 E. Jackson Blvd., Suite 1800  
Chicago, IL 60604  
Fax: (312) 939-0931

For questions or additional  
information, please contact:  
Ozana Balan  
Museum Director  
(312) 939-0490, ext. 23  
obalan@chicagoriver.org

**Friends of the Chicago River**  
