

Hello NFA'ers and Welcome back to Chicago.

The Chicago Hilton and Towers is located at 720 S Michigan Ave. 60605. In 2020, this hotel completely transformed itself with a 270 million dollar makeover.

The area around this iconic hotel has transformed itself from up and coming to an amazing and fantastic area of the city. Since the last convention in 2014, this neighborhood has undergone major construction of condo buildings, single family homes and townhomes. It also has become a self-sustaining neighborhood with grocery stores, restaurants and pharmacies. The Hotel has 4 restaurants, Kitty O'Sheas, 720 S Bar and Grill, Herb N' Kitchen, and quick grab Snax.

To the East, directly across the Hotel is the southern extension of Grant Park and it looks towards the Museum Campus, which consists of The Adler Planetarium, The Field Museum of Natural History and the fantastic Shedd Aquarium. A short walk, around 5-15 minutes by foot.

To the South, and West of the hotel will be my listings of close restaurants, pharmacies and grocery stores. All of these are short 2-4 blocks from the Hotel.

To the North, one of the main sections of Michigan Ave, is the Symphony Center, (where the concerto night will take place), at 220 S Michigan Ave. Up in this area is the main section of Grant Park (the "Bean") in Millennium Park, the Pritzker Stage of the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra, Maggie Daily Park, The Art Museum, and our beautiful Buckingham Fountain. One can walk, but it is 6-7 city blocks up and then back!

Chicago is a great city with a ton of things to do for everyone. So if you are coming to the convention and making a vacation or just taking a couple of days, here are a few items you may want to explore.

The Lincoln Park Zoo, The roof top bars in the city, (just google it), 80 Fun and Unusual Things to Do in Chicago, (most of these I have done...its great), and if at all possible try to book the First United Methodist Church of Chicago - "Chapel in the Sky" (tix and many stairs), the open to the public Tiffany Mosaic Dome in the Cultural Center 78 E Washington Ave. steps off Michigan Ave.

Mary Stolper, local events chair of the 2022 NFA Chicago Convention.