

Speaker Spotlight



KALENA CHEVALIER

Deputy Commissioner, Cultural Grants & Resources
Dept of Cultural Affairs and Special Events
City of Chicago

Kalena Chevalier has led the Cultural Grants Program at the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events since 2016, currently serving as the Deputy Commissioner of Cultural Grants and Resources.

Kalena has 20 years of experience working in Chicago's arts and culture community. She has worked artistically and administratively with organizations including Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company and Writers' Theatre, and as the Associate Director of Development for Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, where she managed foundation and government fundraising efforts over seven years.

She is also a playwright and her plays have been workshopped, developed and produced by several local storefront theaters. Kalena graduated from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor with degrees in Theatre, Dramatic Writing and History.