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CITY COUNCIL APPROVES CONSTRUCTION OF LUCAS MUSEUM OF NARRATIVE ART

City Council today passed an ordinance moving forward the development of the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art and new parkland, creating new cultural, educational and recreational opportunities for children and families throughout Chicago. This is the culmination of a broad public process started nearly two years ago that has included community meetings, approvals by the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners, the Plan Commission and the Department of Planning and Development.

"The Lucas Museum of Narrative Art will be an incredible addition to Chicago's Museum Campus," said Mayor Emanuel. "The Lucas Museum will join the 56 other museums in Chicago to provide new cultural and educational benefits for generations to come. And the new parkland will add more open greenspace that will be enjoyed by residents across the city."

The Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, will be privately funded at no cost to taxpayers. The museum plans to have partnerships with education institutions throughout the City, along with an observation deck that will be free and open to the public featuring city and lakefront views. Public outreach and educational programming are key components to the mission of the museum.

"We are very pleased with today's approval by the City Council," said Lucas Museum of Narrative Art President Don Bacigalupi. "The Lucas Museum of Narrative Art will be a tremendous educational and cultural amenity for all Chicagoans, and a major addition to the city's vibrant and renowned artistic community. It will also deliver nearly 200,000 square feet of new green space and accessible parkland along the lakefront for all to enjoy. We are excited to move forward with the Museum's construction."

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