



*sweet home  
cook county*



September, 2007

Dear Friends:

We've all done it before; we've watched a movie or heard a song and then said, "She's from Chicago, right?" To be sure, I asked our Vital Records Division to track down birth certificates and see if those famous names were really born here.



Chicago and the Cook County suburbs have been home to countless figures celebrated for their wit, athleticism, brains or talent. Although it's just the tip of the iceberg, this small book is a guide to some of our home-grown celebrities. Leafing through it, you might be surprised to find who was once just a guy or girl next door.

You may be equally stunned to see who is missing. While Gwendolyn Brooks, Saul Bellow, Sara Paretsky, Studs Terkel, Joan Cusack, Kanye West, Jeremy Piven and others may seem synonymous with Chicagoland, they were born as far away as the deep south, the east coast and Canada.

Of course, lists like this are never done. We look forward to hearing from you, our readers, to see who we've missed. Plus, we all know there is more local talent just waiting to make a mark on the world stage. Those future stars and champs will have to wait for the next edition of Sweet Home Cook County.

Sincerely,

David Orr  
Cook County Clerk

## Sweet Home Cook County

Sweet Home Cook County is a project of the Cook County Clerk's office. This information was compiled with the help of our DePaul University communications intern Trevor Layton and the cooperation of our Vital Records Division, its director Tim Dever and deputy director Gerry Weston. Tremendous gratitude is due to Sue Ellen Colon, Mark Mesle, Kathy Kloss, Jimmy McClellan and the hard-working team in Vitals. Special thanks to deputy communications director Kelley Quinn.



The Cook County Clerk's office is the official record keeper for births, marriages and deaths that occur in Chicago and suburban Cook County. Our 23 million records stretch back to 1871. In a massive preservation effort, we have digitized all of these Cook County records.

Please send comments, additions, questions and corrections to:  
[scolon@cookcountygov.com](mailto:scolon@cookcountygov.com).

# *PERFORMERS*

## **Gillian Anderson**

**Born:** August 9, 1968 at St. Mary Nazareth Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actress

Gillian Leigh Anderson grew up in London, England and Grand Rapids, Michigan. After moving to Los Angeles in the early 1990s, she landed the role of FBI Special Agent Dana Scully on *The X-Files* in 1993. Anderson has been involved in charitable work for the Feminist Majority Foundation and Artists for a New South Africa. Her credits include *The X-Files*, *The Vagina Monologues*, and *The Last King of Scotland*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Gillian Anderson graduated with a degree from DePaul University's Goodman School of Drama.

## **James Belushi**

**Born:** June 15, 1954 at Norwegian American Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor, comedian

James Edgar Belushi was a key performer at Second City in Chicago before making the leap to *Saturday Night Live* in 1983. Belushi went on to star in a number of films, such as *K9* and *Mr. Destiny*, in which he played a wide range of characters and frequently alternated between action, comedy and drama. Belushi now stars in his own hit sitcom, *According to Jim*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Belushi wrote a book entitled *Real Men Don't Apologize, Real Women Don't Sass Back*.

## **John Belushi**

**Born:** January 24, 1949 at the Norwegian American Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** March 5, 1982

**Occupation:** Actor, comedian

John Adam Belushi was an iconic comedian who first honed his skills at Chicago's Second City. His famed "Cheezborger, Cheezborger" skit is based on the Billy Goat Tavern. His career took off when he became one of the original cast members of *Saturday Night Live*. While working on the show, Belushi also began making a name for

himself in music and films. On the eve of his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday, Belushi was at the apex of American pop culture. He was starring in the nation's number one late-night show, *SNL*. His band, *The Blues Brothers*, had Billboard's number one album. He also had a starring role in the nation's number one film, *Animal House*.

**\*Fun Fact:** While filming *Animal House*, Belushi did a stand-up performance at Ithaca College. When introduced, he came onstage with a chainsaw and cut the podium in half.

## Jack Benny

**Born:** February 14, 1894 in Chicago

**Died:** December 26, 1974

**Occupation:** Radio and television comedian

Benjamin Kubelsky, known as Jack Benny, began his show business career as a violinist for vaudeville companies. He branched out into comedy while performing for the U.S. Navy. He became a mainstay on radio with his comic routines for NBC and CBS. Benny made the transition to television on *The Jack Benny Show* (1955-1965).

**\*Fun Fact:** After his television career ended, Benny played violin at benefit concerts with symphony orchestras nationwide.

## Paul Butterfield

**Born:** December 17, 1942 at Illinois Central Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** May 4, 1987

**Occupation:** Musician

Paul Vaughn Butterfield was a major factor in the integration of blues music in the United States. White blues bands were playing electric "Chicago-style blues" in England, but Butterfield's band brought the style home. Butterfield honed his skills on the harmonica in Chicago blues clubs before he achieved a greater following. Along the way, he played with musical greats such as Bob Dylan. Butterfield appeared in the classic concert film of The Band's last show, *The Last Waltz*.

**\*Fun Fact:** In his youth, Butterfield was classically trained on the flute by the first-chair flutist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.



## Dan Castellaneta

**Born:** October 29, 1957 at Roseland Community Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor, comedian

Daniel Louis Castellaneta has one of the world's most recognizable voices. As Homer Simpson on *The Simpsons*, he has won three Emmys and turned Homer into one of the world's most famous fathers. Castellaneta has also worked on shows such as *Arrested Development* and in film, *The Pursuit of Happyness*.

**\*Fun Fact:** On *The Simpsons*, Castellaneta also does the voice of Abraham "Grampa" Simpson, Barney Gumble, Krusty the Clown, Groundskeeper Willie, Mayor Joe Quimby, Hans Moleman, Sideshow Mel, Itchy, Kodos, Arnie Pie and others.

## Jay Chandrasekhar

**Born:** April 9, 1968 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Director, actor, writer

Jay Chandrasekhar, an Indian-American, is a leading member of the Broken Lizard comedy team. The Lizards met at Colgate University, where Chandrasekhar studied in the early 1990s. With the cult hi Super Troopers, Chandrasekhar made his name as a filmmaker in the goofball tradition of *Animal House*. Chandrasekhar directed the 2005 *Dukes of Hazzard* movie, which became the number one movie in the country. More recently, Jay directed the film *Beerfest*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Chandrasekhar has guest-directed on comedy series such as *Arrested Development* and *Undeclared*.

## Anna Chlumsky

**Born:** December 3, 1980 at Foster G. McGaw Hospital in Proviso Township

**Occupation:** Actress

Anna Chlumsky began her acting at a very early age after modeling for department store ads. She became widely known for her role as Vada Sultenfuss in the 1991 movie *My Girl*. In 2002, Chlumsky graduated from the University of Chicago and continues to work on the large and small screen.

**\*Fun Fact:** Chlumsky was the second half of child star Macauley Culkin's first on-screen kiss in *My Girl*.

## Common

**Born:** March 13, 1972 at Chicago Osteopathic Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Hip-hop artist, actor

Lonnie Rashid Lynn, now known as Common, hit the scene with the single “Take it EZ” from his debut album, *Can I Borrow a Dollar?* Common has become a major name in hip-hop and has worked with artists such as Macy Gray, Mos Def, and Mary J. Blige. Critics have called Common the most intelligent lyricist in hip-hop today.

**\*Fun Fact:** Common began his hip-hop career as Common Sense.

## Billy Corgan

**Born:** March 17, 1967 at Columbus Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Musician, singer, producer

Billy Corgan is the front man for the immensely successful and now-reunited alternative band, the Smashing Pumpkins. Corgan is one of the most distinctive vocalists in the music business. He has performed on movie soundtracks and wrote the score for the 1999 film, *Stigmata*. Corgan also wrote a book of poems, *Blinking with Fists*.

**\*Fun Fact:** In a 1994 interview with *Rolling Stone* magazine, Corgan said of Kurt Cobain and himself, “We represented the yin and yang of basically the same thing.”

## Don Cornelius

**Born:** September 27, 1936 at Research and Educational Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Producer

Donald Cornelius is a television producer and impresario, best known for hosting of the ground-breaking musical television program *Soul Train*. He was known for his deep voice and smooth personality. Cornelius is also the creator of the *Soul Train Music Awards* and *Soul Train Comedy Awards*, and still produces *Soul Train*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Before his television career took off, Cornelius sold insurance for Mutual Life.

## John Cusack

**Born:** June 28, 1966 at St. Joseph Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor

John Paul Cusack is an actor whose films include *Say Anything, Con Air* and *Runaway Jury*. Cusack starred in the 2000 film *High Fidelity*, which was set in Chicago and filmed in Lincoln Park, Rogers Park, Wicker Park, Old Town, and New Town. Cusack also founded the Chicago theater company *New Crime Productions*.

**\*Fun Fact:** As children, Cusack and his sister Joan were students at the Piven Theatre Workshop, where John became friends with the co-founders' son, actor Jeremy Piven.

## Brian Doyle-Murray

**Born:** October 31, 1945 at St. Francis Hospital in Evanston

**Occupation:** Actor, screenwriter

Brian Doyle-Murray, eldest brother of the Murray family (including actors Bill and Joel), got his start at Second City Chicago. Doyle-Murray co-wrote the hit comedy *Caddyshack*, in which he played Lou Loomis. He has also appeared with brother Bill in *Groundhog Day* as the mayor of Punxsutawney, PA. Doyle-Murray played Jack Ruby in *JFK*.

**\*Fun Fact:** When trying to identify Doyle-Murray in a voiceover appearance (like *Family Guy*), listen for a friendly, yet gravelly voice.

## Dennis Farina

**Born:** February 28, 1944 at 549 W. North Ave. in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor

Dennis Gabriel Farina, the son of Italian immigrants, grew up in Chicago. Farina was hired by fellow Chicago-native Michael Mann as a consultant on the 1981 film *Thief*. Mann then tapped him for a small part in the picture and his acting career snowballed. Farina's films include *Midnight Run, Get Shorty* and *Snatch*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Farina has never taken an acting class.

## Lupe Fiasco

**Born:** February 16, 1982 at Bethany Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Hip-hop artist

Wasalu Muhammad Jaco, better known as “Lupe Fiasco,” grew up on Chicago’s West Side. The youngest of nine brothers, Fiasco grew up in a cultured home: his father was an expert African drummer and his mother a gourmet chef. The success of Fiasco’s major label debut album, *Lupe Fiasco’s Food & Liquor*, has made him one of the hottest names in hip-hop. He was dubbed *GQ* magazine’s “Breakout Man of the Year” in 2006.

**\*Fun Fact:** Fiasco’s music video for “Kick Push” was filmed all over Chicago, including the loop and Humboldt Park.

## Harrison Ford

**Born:** July 13, 1942 at Swedish Covenant Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor

Harrison Ford is one of the most successful actors of his generation. Ford graduated from Maine East High School in Park Ridge in 1960. He was a carpenter before landing major roles. His film credits include the original *Star Wars* trilogy, *American Graffiti*, *Indiana Jones* movies and *The Fugitive*. He is also an airplane and helicopter pilot and owns several aircraft. Now 65 and a grandfather, Ford stars in the fourth installment of the *Indiana Jones* series, due in 2008.

**\*Fun Fact:** Strongly committed to environmental issues, Ford serves on the Board of Directors of Conservation International. He has donated 389 acres of his property in Wyoming for a conservation easement to the Jackson Hole Land Trust.

## Dennis Franz

**Born:** October 28, 1944 in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor

Dennis Franz served 11 months in an airborne division during the Vietnam War. After returning home and a brief stint as a postman, Franz began acting. He made his big picture debut in 1978 in Brian De Palma’s *The Fury*. Franz’s career became intertwined with producer Steven Bochco’s, with Franz appearing in *Bay City Blues* and *Hill Street Blues*. Franz later won two Emmy Awards for his role as Detective Andy

Sipowicz in Bochco's drama *NYPD Blue*. He has appeared in a number of feature films, including *Popeye* and *City of Angels*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Franz appeared in the 2004 film about Chicago Cubs great Ron Santo, *This Old Cub*.

## **Aaron Freeman**

**Born:** June 8, 1956 at Research and Educational Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Comedian, director, writer, actor, cartoonist and social commentator

Aaron Freeman has been a commentator for NPR, a theatre director, a stand-up comedian, a cartoonist and writer. He is widely known for his satire of the Chicago City Council battles of the 1980s. The sketches, entitled *Council Wars*, compared the City Council's showdowns to the battle between good and evil in the *Star Wars* films. Freeman is now performing one man shows, as well as performing in the Israeli/Palestinian Comedy Tour.

**\*Fun Fact:** Freeman competed in the 2007 Mid-Illinois Bodybuilding, Figure and Fitness Championships.

## **Jeff Garlin**

**Born:** June 5, 1962 at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor

Jeff Garlin is a versatile comedian who does stand-up as well as produces, writes, directs and acts in both television and films. Familiar to viewers as Larry David's manager on *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, Garlin has also directed the show and is one of its executive producers. Garlin has also worked on the hit shows *Mad About You* and *Everybody Loves Raymond*. He co-starred with Eddie Murphy in *Daddy Day Care*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Garlin says that "eating pudding and taking naps" are his primary hobbies.



## Benny Goodman

**Born:** May 31, 1909 at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** June 13, 1986

**Occupation:** Musician

Ben “Benny” Goodman, born to working class parents (his father worked in the stockyards), grew up in the Maxwell Street neighborhood on the Chicago’s South Side. He played in the Hull House boys’ band. Goodman toured the country playing jazz and went on to front big bands and become a leading force in swing music. Goodman died playing his clarinet in 1986.

**\*Fun Fact:** The youngest (at 10 years old) of three brothers enrolled in music classes at a local synagogue, Benny got the clarinet while his brothers played tuba and trombone.

## Jaslene Gonzalez

**Born:** May 29, 1986 at St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Model

Jaslene Marie Gonzalez won the eighth season of the popular show *America’s Next Top Model*. As a child, Gonzalez’s talents and interests were focused on the stage. At 16, she began modeling clothing lines for local fashion designers. In May 2007, she was the first Latina to win *ANTM*. She was also crowned Godmother of the Puerto Rican festivities in both Chicago and New York.

**\*Fun Fact:** Between the ages of five and 16, Gonzalez was part of a Latin dance group called *Viva la Gente* (“Long Live the People”).

## Herbie Hancock

**Born:** April 12, 1940 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Musician

Herbert Jeffrey Hancock is a pianist who has influenced generations of musicians. Hancock began performing with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at the age of 11. In his 20s, he appeared on some of Miles Davis’ greatest albums. Hancock did groundbreaking work in jazz fusion and funk in his 30s. He has never lost his innovative edge, and his musical vision has earned him multiple Grammy Awards and worldwide recognition.

**\*Fun Fact:** Hancock has performed with Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Carlos Santana, Paul Simon, Annie Lennox, John Mayer, Christina Aguilera and Sting.

## Daryl Hannah

**Born:** December 3, 1960 at Chicago Wesley Memorial Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actress

Daryl Christine Hannah began her pursuit of the performing arts as a ballet dancer. Hannah later switched to acting and performed at the Goodman Theatre. She studied under the legendary acting coach Stella Adler. Hannah has turned in memorable performances in *Blade Runner*, *Splash* and *Steel Magnolias*. More recently, Hannah appeared in both of Quentin Tarantino's *Kill Bill* features.

**\*Fun Fact:** Hannah's youthful insomnia, which kept her up late watching movies, helped spur her interest in film.

## Marilu Henner

**Born:** April 6, 1952 at Frank Cuneo Memorial Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actress, TV personality

Marilu Henner has had a three-decade career in show business. She starred in the national touring company of *Grease* in the 1970s before landing a role on the hit TV sitcom *Taxi*. She has also hosted her own talk show and the PBS *American Ballroom Challenge*. Henner has become a health and fitness guru.

**\*Fun Fact:** Henner played herself in *Man on the Moon*, the biopic of *Taxi* costar Andy Kaufman.

## Charlton Heston

**Born:** October 4, 1923 at Evanston Hospital

**Died:** April 5, 2008

**Occupation:** Actor

Born John Charleton Carter, Heston adopted his stepfather's last name. Heston is best known for playing larger-than-life roles such as Moses in *The Ten Commandments* and Judah Ben-Hur in *Ben-Hur*. Early in his career, Heston appeared on Broadway and television in supporting roles. He appeared in CBS's *Studio One*, one of the most

popular dramas in the 1950s, and landed his first movie role in *Dark City*. Heston also starred as Commander George Taylor in *Planet of the Apes*. Heston won an Academy Award for Best Actor as well as Golden Globe, Screen Actors Guild and Jean Hersholt Humanitarian awards.

**\*Fun Fact:** Heston was a close friend of former actor and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, serving on the Reagan administration's task force on arts and the humanities.

## Terrence Howard

**Born:** March 11, 1969 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor

Terrence Dashon Howard did not begin acting on screen until his 20s. He was discovered on the street by a casting director in New York City while attending The Pratt Institute. After several television roles, Howard appeared in *Mr. Holland's Opus* in 1995, followed by *Dead Presidents* and *The Best Man*. Howard has since established himself as a premiere Hollywood actor with his performances in *Crash*, *Lackawanna Blues*, *Hustle & Flow*, and *Pride*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Howard's grandmother, Minnie Gentry, was a New York stage actress.

## Rock Hudson

**Born:** November 17, 1925 in Winnetka

**Died:** October 2, 1985

**Occupation:** Actor

Rock Hudson became a star in the 1950s and 1960s thanks to his work on the silver screen. He was a masculine icon in films such as *Giant*, in which he starred opposite James Dean and Elizabeth Taylor. Hudson became the first celebrity to publicly acknowledge that he suffered from AIDS, bringing new awareness to the disease.

**\*Fun Fact:** "Rock Hudson" was born Roy Harold Scherer Jr., but assumed his stage name because it sounded manlier.

## Jennifer Hudson

**Born:** September 12, 1981 at Englewood Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Singer, actress

Jennifer Kate Hudson's powerful singing voice and natural charisma were apparent from an early age. At a mere seven-years-old, Hudson brought the members of her small congregation to their feet each week as she led the church's gospel choir. She later became a star of the third season of *American Idol*, which led the producers of the 2006 film *Dream Girls* to cast her in the coveted role of Effie White. Her performance earned her both an Oscar and a Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actress.

**\*Fun Fact:** Hudson's acting career will continue with *Winged Creatures*, based on the novel by Roy Freirich.

## Quincy Jones

**Born:** March 14, 1933 at St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Composer, musician

Quincy Delight Jones, Jr. began playing the trumpet in elementary school. Though he had received a scholarship to attend Boston's Berklee College of Music, Jones dropped out to tour with Lionel Hampton's band. Jones developed his talent as an arranger on the road and began his career as a bandleader in the 1950s. He became a vice-president at Mercury Records in 1964, making him the first African-American executive at a mainstream record company. Jones also became a pioneer for African-American composers, scoring over thirty films. With 67 nominations and 26 Grammy awards, he is the artist most nominated for the honor. Jones produced Michael Jackson's *Thriller* album, which became the best selling recording of all time.

**\*Fun Fact:** As a teenager, Jones, or "Q," formed a jazz combo with Ray Charles.

## Frankie Laine

**Born:** 1913 at 1112 Townsend St. in Chicago

**Died:** February 6, 2007

**Occupation:** Singer

Born Francesco Paolo LoVecchio, the son of Italian immigrants is better known as crooner "Frankie Laine." Laine, who sold more than 100 million records, started off

as a jazz singer but later crossed over into popular music in the 1940s. When rock-n-roll began to dominate the U.S., Laine retained his popularity in Europe and Australia.

**\*Fun Fact:** Laine recorded the memorable theme tracks for the television series *Rawhide* and motion picture *Blazing Saddles*.

## Ramsey Lewis

**Born:** May 27, 1935 at 5223 Calumet Ave. in Chicago

**Occupation:** Musician

Ramsey Emmanuel Lewis began taking piano lessons when he was four years old. He joined his first jazz band at the age of 15, and his love for jazz began to blossom. With hits such as “Hang on Sloopy” and “Wade in the Water,” Lewis has become a jazz legend, earning three Grammy Awards and seven gold records. Lewis continues to tour the country for much of the year.

**\*Fun Fact:** Lewis hosts “The Ramsey Lewis Morning Show” on Chicago’s own WNUA-FM.

## Bernie Mac

**Born:** October 5, 1957 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** August 9, 2008

**Occupation:** Actor, comedian

Bernard Jeffrey McCullough spent his 20s working odd jobs before he hit it big as a comedian in his early 30s. After winning the Miller Lite Comedy Search, Mac began performing to sold-out crowds and acting in major motion pictures. He became a household name after starring in films such as *Ocean’s Eleven* and *The Kings of Comedy*. Mac also starred in his own sitcom, *The Bernie Mac Show*, playing a role which has earned him several Emmy and Golden Globe nominations.

**\*Fun Fact:** During his 20s, Mac worked as a furniture mover and delivery driver.

## Justina Machado

**Born:** September 6, 1972 at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actress



Justina Milagros Machado attended Lane Tech on Chicago's North Side. In her spare time, she acted in school plays and with the Latino Chicago Theater Company. Machado appeared on several television shows, including *NYPD Blue*, *ER*, *Touched by an Angel*, and most memorably as Vanessa Diaz on *Six Feet Under*. She has also acted on stage and in movies such as *Torque*, *Dragonfly* and *Final Destination 2*.

**\*Fun Fact:** In 2003, Machado and the entire *Six Feet Under* cast won a Screen Actors Guild Award for their ensemble performance.

## Michael Mann

**Born:** February 5, 1943 at Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Director, screenwriter and producer

Michael Kenneth Mann grew up Humboldt Park and studied English at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Mann created the enormously successful TV show *Miami Vice*. He also directed the blockbuster films *Heat*, *The Insider*, *Ali*, *Collateral* and *Public Enemies*, and was a producer for the films *The Kingdom* and *Hancock*. He won acclaim for his work on *The Insider*, and was later nominated for a second Oscar for his work as a producer for *The Aviator*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Mann was once a writer for the television show *Starsky and Hutch*.

## Marlee Matlin

**Born:** August 24, 1965 at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge

**Occupation:** Actress

Marlee Beth Matlin achieved instant success in her film debut, winning the Academy Award and Golden Globe Award for Best Actress at age 21 for her role in *Children of a Lesser God*. Matlin, hearing impaired since early childhood, has signed the National Anthem at the Super Bowl and authored the children's novel *Deaf Child Crossing*. Matlin is now the national spokesperson for the American Red Cross and continues to act on Showtime's *The L Word*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Matlin married Kevin Grandalski at the home of Henry "The Fonz" Winkler.

## Curtis Mayfield

**Born:** June 3, 1942 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** December 26, 1999

**Occupation:** Musician

With his social commentary and falsetto voice, Curtis Lee Mayfield helped transform music in the 1960s and 70s. Mayfield's soulful music often touched upon racial and economic issues and influenced artists from Aretha Franklin to Bob Marley. A member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Mayfield has a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award and Grammy Legend Award.

**\*Fun Fact:** Mayfield's most famous album, *Superfly*, was named one of the greatest albums of all time by *Rolling Stone Magazine*.

## Jenny McCarthy

**Born:** November 1, 1972 at Little Company of Mary Hospital in Evergreen Park

**Career:** Model, actress, writer

Jennifer "Jenny" McCarthy is a television and film personality as well as a writer. After co-hosting MTV's *Singled Out*, she appeared in movies such as *BASEketball*, *Scream 3*, and *The Stupids*. McCarthy authored the 2004 book *Belly Laughs: the Naked Truth about Pregnancy and Childbirth*.

**\*Fun Fact:** After *Scream 3*, McCarthy appeared in *Scary Movie 3*, a parody of the *Scream* movies.

## Bill Murray

**Born:** September 21, 1950 at Evanston Hospital

**Occupation:** Actor

Bill Murray grew up in Wilmette and got his start at Chicago's Second City. Murray, like John Belushi, moved on to *Saturday Night Live*, debuting in its third season. An American comedy legend, Murray starred in classics such as *Caddyshack* and *Ghostbusters*. He has also received acclaim for his dramatic roles, including an Oscar nomination for *Lost in Translation*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Bill Murray's famous "Cinderella Story" monologue in *Caddyshack* was improvised.

## Ajay Naidu

**Born:** February 12, 1972 at Evanston Hospital

**Occupation:** Actor, musician

Ajay Kalahastri Naidu was born to Indian immigrants in Evanston and attended Evanston Township High School. Naidu acted in television, movies, and local theatre before attending Harvard's American Repertory Theatre. He appeared in Steppenwolf's *Everyman* and has acted in several films, including *SubUrbia*, *Bad Santa*, *Office Space*, *Pi*, and *Requiem for a Dream*. Naidu also plays in a band, Bhom Shankar.

**\*Fun Fact:** While attending Evanston Township High School, Naidu met his fiancée Heather Burns. Burns is an actress herself, appearing in films such as *Miss Congeniality*.

## Bob Newhart

**Born:** September 5, 1929 at West Suburban Hospital in Oak Park

**Occupation:** Comedian, actor

George Robert "Bob" Newhart attended St. Ignatius College Prep before going on to Chicago's Loyola University, where he graduated with a degree in management. After working as an accountant, Newhart decided it was time for a career change, so he tried comedy. He was a hit, winning three Grammy Awards for his first spoken-word album in 1960. He starred in two sitcoms on CBS: the *Bob Newhart Show* and *Newhart*. Newhart perfected a sketch style in which he played the solitary "straight man" on the telephone, with all his lines in response to the inaudible person on the other end. He has won Emmy, Golden Globe, and Peabody awards.

**\*Fun Fact:** In 2004 Newhart was commemorated with a statue on Michigan Avenue.

## Suze Orman

**Born:** June 5, 1951 at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, IL

**Occupation:** Television personality, financial advisor

Susan Lynn Orman is one of the nation's most well-known financial advisors. She has written five best-selling books, has contributed regularly to *O Magazine* and the *Yahoo Financial Page* while also providing financial advice on her weekly show on CNBC. Orman has also won two daytime Emmys for her work as a PBS fundraiser.

**\*Fun Fact:** Orman’s catch phrases include “People first, then money, then things,” and “Truth creates money. Lies destroy it.”

## **Michael Peña**

**Born:** January 13, 1976 at University of Illinois Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor

Michael Peña grew up on Chicago’s South Side. His parents, though they moved to the city to find steady work, continued to grow corn, tomatoes, and onions in the backyard garden. Peña attended Hubbard High School and worked as a bank teller before he began acting. Peña has appeared in several major Hollywood films, including the *Million Dollar Baby* and *Crash*, both of which won the Academy Award for best film.

**\*Fun Fact:** Peña and his brother, who watched a lot of television together, made up their own TV shows in their spare time while growing up.

## **William Petersen**

**Born:** February 21, 1953 at St. Francis Hospital in Evanston

**Occupation:** Actor, producer

William Louis Peterson became interested in acting while attending Idaho State University on a football scholarship. Peterson initially worked in the Chicago theatre scene and started his own avant-garde company, the Remains Theatre Ensemble in 1979. In the 1980s, Peterson segued into film and television roles, often playing law enforcement officials. However, Peterson didn’t become an international star until 2000 when he signed on to produce and star in *CSI: Las Vegas*. His work on the show has earned him several Golden Globe and Emmy nominations.

**\*Fun Fact:** Petersen testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on increased funding for crime labs.

## Harold Ramis

**Born:** November 21, 1944 at Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Director, screenwriter, actor

Harold Allen Ramis was a member of the Second City comedy troupe that would later launch Bill Murray and Chris Farley. His influence has been noted in American goofball comedies since the 1970s. Though his most memorable acting role might be as Egon in *Ghostbusters*, Ramis also had a hand in *Animal House*, *Caddyshack*, *Stripes* and *Analyze This*.

**\*Fun Fact:** When interviewed by *The New Yorker* about choosing a happy or sad ending Ramis said, “My instinct is to shoot both ways, and, if one is not demonstrably better, to test both.”

## Lou Rawls

**Born:** December 1, 1933 in Chicago

**Died:** January 6, 2006

**Occupation:** Singer

Lou Allen Rawls was a prolific soul singer who released over 60 albums and sold over 40 million records. Rawls, whose career began after he left the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division in 1958, was able to effortlessly transition between gospel, blues, jazz, R&B and soul. Rawls was described by Frank Sinatra as having the “classiest singing and silkiest chops in the singing game.” Rawls has three Grammy Awards and was nominated 13 times.

**\*Fun Fact:** Rawls went to high school with legendary soul singer Sam Cooke.

## John C. Reilly

**Born:** May 24, 1965 at Christ Community Hospital in Oak Lawn

**Occupation:** Actor

John Christopher Reilly has performed in nearly 40 films and become one of his generation’s best known character actors. Alternating between comedy, drama, action and musicals, Reilly built a career around honestly portraying characters weak and powerful, funny and wise. He has starred alongside such stars as Tom Hanks, Sean Penn and Jack Nicholson, and worked for directors such as Martin Scorsese and Robert Altman.

**\*Fun Fact:** In 2002, Reilly appeared in three Oscar-nominated films: *Chicago*, *Gangs of New York* and *The Hours*.

## **Freddy Rodriguez**

**Born:** January 17, 1975 at Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor

As a youth, Freddy Rodriguez began acting with Chicago's Whirlwind Performance Company. He earned a two-year scholarship to the summer arts program at the Chicago Center for the Gifted and starred in a number of local productions before landing television roles on shows like *Party of Five*. In 2001, he joined the cast of HBO's critically-acclaimed *Six Feet Under* and earned kudos for his performance as an ambitious mortician. His filmography includes *Poseidon*, *Lady in the Water*, *Harsh Times*, *Bobby* and *Grindhouse*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Rodriguez has avoided type-casting, playing a variety of roles from Vietnam veteran, mortician and ninja to corrupt cop, high school jock, and drifter.

## **Gary Sinise**

**Born:** March 17, 1955 at Saint Francis Hospital in Blue Island

**Occupation:** Actor, director, musician

Gary Sinise co-founded the Tony Award-winning Steppenwolf Theatre Company in Chicago with friends in the 1970s. He went on to become a major motion picture actor, with roles in *Apollo 13*, *Forrest Gump*, and *Of Mice and Men* (which Sinise also directed). Sinise won a Golden Globe Award for the television mini-series *Truman*. Sinise now stars on *CSI: New York* and is the bassist/front man for the Lieutenant Dan Band, named for his character in *Forrest Gump*.

**\*Fun Fact:** The Lieutenant Dan Band tours internationally, playing U.S.O. shows.

## **Mavis Staples**

**Born:** July 10, 1939 at Harrison and Wood in Chicago

**Occupation:** Singer

Mavis Staples, an inductee into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, began her singing career before she even became a teenager, performing at churches and on local radio

with her family's gospel group. The Staple Singers began touring when Mavis graduated high school in 1957. As Mavis' father, Roebuck "Pops" Staples (the band's guitarist and a legendary musician in his own right) was a close friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Staples' music became the soundtrack to the civil rights movement. The Staples performed spirituals while also covering pop songs such as Stephen Stills' "For What It's Worth." Since beginning her solo recording career in 1969, Mavis Staples has been a fixture in the genres of gospel, soul, and R&B.

**\*Fun Fact:** Prince, who refers to Staples as "the epitome of soul," produced two of her albums: *Time Waits for No One* and *The Voice*.

## Mr. T

**Born:** May 21, 1952 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor

Mr. T began his career working as a bodyguard for celebrities such as Muhammed Ali, Steve McQueen, Michael Jackson, Bruce Lee and Joe Frazier. Sylvester Stallone spotted him and gave him a starring role as Clubber Lang in *Rocky II*. Mr. T then worked in professional wrestling before being cast in the hit TV show *The A-Team*, which made him one of the biggest stars of the 1980s.

**\*Fun Fact:** Though Mr. T was originally named Lawrence Tureaud, he official changed his name to Mr. T.

## Marisol Terrazas

**Born:** January 14, 1976 at University of Illinois Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Recording artist

Marisol Terrazas is one of the two lead singers for the band Los Horoscopos de Durango or "The Horoscopes of Durango." Marisol has helped make Los Horoscopos de Durango one of the most popular bands in the Mexican music genre. The group is iconic within the Duranguense wave.

**Fun Fact:** Duranguense music is fast-paced, great for dancing, and characterized by brass and wind instruments including saxophone, trumpet, and drums.

## Robin Tunney

**Born:** June 19, 1972 at Holy Cross Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actress

Robin Tunney studied acting at the Chicago Academy for the Performing Arts. At 18, she moved to Los Angeles and landed several recurring TV roles on television shows like *Class of '96*, *Law & Order*, *Dream On*, and *Life Goes On*. Her breakthrough role was in the film *Empire Records* before getting cast as a lead in *The Craft*.

**\*Fun Fact:** In 1997, Tunney's starring role in Bob Gosse's *Niagara, Niagara* earned her the Best Actress award at the Venice International Film Festival.

## Twista

**Born:** November, 29, 1973 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Rap artist

Terry Mitchell, better known as Twista, was formerly called Tongue Twista. Twista introduced his swift Chicago flow to the hip-hop scene on his first album "Runnin' Off the Mouth." Though inspired by west coast and east coast artists, he remembers merely "feeding off" of them.

**\*Fun Fact:** In 1992, Twista was recognized as the fastest rapper in the world by the *Guinness Book of World Records*.

## Eddie Vedder

**Born:** December 23, 1964 in Evanston

**Occupation:** Singer, musician

Eddie Vedder had a turbulent childhood which sent him moving back and forth between Chicago and California. When he entered the music scene, he was known as a surfer from San Diego. Vedder's break came when he dubbed his vocals onto a demo tape by some Seattle rockers; this launched the legendary group Pearl Jam. Since their debut album *Ten*, Pearl Jam has been one of the premiere rock bands worldwide. Vedder has also collaborated with music legends such as Neil Young and Pete Townshend.

**\*Fun Fact:** While other bands have let concert ticket prices soar, Vedder has been at the forefront of fights against ticket agents for inflated prices, and for donating profits to charity.

## **Nadine Velazquez**

**Born:** November 20, 1978 at Ravenswood Hospital Medical Center in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actress

Nadine Enid Velazquez is an actress known for her role as Catalina Aruca in the NBC series, *My Name Is Earl*. Raised in Bucktown, Velazquez has realized her dream of becoming a star at an early age. She obtained her degree in marketing at Columbia College before moving to L.A and beginning her career as an actress. She was named as one of the *Five Rising Stars to Watch For* by USA Today Magazine and #39 in *Maxim's* Hot 100 list. Velazquez has also appeared in the FOX series *Prison Break*, while her latest role is in the 2007 movie *War* with Jet Li and Jason Statham.

**\*Fun Fact:** Nadine met her husband, talent agent Marc Provisiero, while she worked as a cocktail waitress in Chicago's Pump Room Restaurant.

## **Raquel Welch**

**Born:** September 5, 1940 at Ravenswood Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actress

Born Jo Raquel Tejada, Welch began her public career in beauty contests as a teenager. She went on to become a Hollywood star. She won a Golden Globe Award for her role in *The Three Musketeers*. Welch has her own line of wigs and beauty products and is a women's rights activist. Other film roles include *Tortilla Soup* and *Legally Blonde*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Before her film career began, Welch worked as a weather girl.

## **George Wendt**

**Born:** October 17, 1948 at Little Company of Mary Hospital in Evergreen Park

**Occupation:** Actor

Born George Robert Wendt III, this actor got his start with the Second City comedy troupe. He went on to become the loveable Norm Peterson on *Cheers* and was one of

the only cast members to appear throughout the entire series. Wendt has also appeared in several films, including *Fletch*, *Guilty by Suspicion*, and *Forever Young*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Wendt is also one of the popular “Superfans” of *Saturday Night Live*, known for their devotion to ‘da Bears and ‘da Bulls.

## **Robin Williams**

**Born:** July 21, 1951 at Wesley Memorial Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Actor, comedian

Robin McLaurin Williams, while he was born in Chicago, was raised in Michigan and California. Achieving widespread fame with the character “Mork from Ork,” Williams has become one of the biggest names in comedy, earning laughs in hits such as *Good Morning Vietnam*, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *Aladdin* and *The Birdcage*. He also won an Academy Award for his dramatic performance in *Good Will Hunting*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Williams played the title role in *Popeye*, his first film.

## **Robert Zemeckis**

**Born:** May 14, 1951 at The Chicago Memorial Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Movie director, producer, screenwriter

Robert Lee Zemeckis is an Academy Award-winning movie director, producer and writer. A protégé of Steven Spielberg, Zemeckis first came to public attention in the 1980s directing films such as *Back to the Future* and *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, and then directed the Oscar-winning *Forrest Gump*. Some of his other films include *The Polar Express*, *Death Becomes Her*, *Romancing the Stone*, *What Lies Beneath*, *Cast Away*, *Matchstick Men*, *Monter House*, *Beowulf* and *The Corrections*.

**\*Fun Fact:** After graduating from Northern Illinois University, Zemeckis worked in the film editing department WMAQ-TV, Chicago’s NBC affiliate.

## Warren Zevon

**Born:** January 24, 1947 at Wesley Memorial Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** September 7, 2003

**Occupation:** Musician

Warren Zevon's major hit song was "Werewolves of London." However, he is considered an artists' artist for his other work and was lauded for his dark sense of humor. Zevon's album *Excitable Boy*, where "Werewolves" appeared, also received critical acclaim. His prolific career as a singer-songwriter spans from the 1960s to his death in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century. He worked with music business legends including Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Jackson Browne, Emmylou Harris, Linda Ronstadt, and Bruce Springsteen.

**\*Fun Fact:** Before his death, Zevon appeared on *The Late Show with David Letterman*. As the only guest that night, Zevon gave the world one piece of advice: "Enjoy every sandwich."

## *JOURNALISTS AND LITERATI*

### Franklin Pierce Adams

**Born:** November 15, 1881 at No. 84, 26<sup>th</sup> Street in Chicago

**Died:** March 23, 1960

**Occupation:** Columnist

Franklin Pierce Adams was a columnist with *Chicago Journal*, *New York Evening Mail*, *New York Tribune*, *New York World*, and *New York Post*. He was also a member of the famed group of literary wits, the Algonquin Round Table. These writers met weekly at the Algonquin Hotel in New York City during the 1920s and 1930s.

**\*Fun Fact:** While writing for the *New York Evening Mail* in 1910, Adams wrote a New York Giants fan's lament about the Chicago Cubs' double play combination entitled "Baseball's Sad Lexicon" or "Tinker to Evers to Chance":

These are the saddest of possible words:  
"Tinker to Evers to Chance."  
Trio of bear cubs, and fleeter than birds,  
Tinker and Evers and Chance.  
Ruthlessly pricking our gonfalon bubble,

Making a Giant hit into a double—  
Words that are heavy with nothing but trouble:  
“Tinker to Evers to Chance.”

## David Breger

**Born:** April 15, 1908

**Died:** January 16, 1970

**Occupation:** Cartoonist

David Breger is responsible for the cartoon character-turned WWII and cultural icon G.I. Joe. However, he started out in the Chicago sausage industry along with his father. The business turned out to be a little rough for the Bregers' tastes, as each was robbed repeatedly (David was also shot at). After trying architecture and medicine, Breger became a reluctant cartoonist. Eventually, the character “Private Breger” caught the editor’s eye at the military magazine *Yank*, where “Private Breger” became “G.I. Joe.”

**\*Fun Fact:** When Breger pitched “G.I. Joe” to *Yank*, the editor asked what “G.I.” stood for. While commonly understood as “government issue,” it can also refer to the makeup of a tool as “galvanized iron.”

## Edgar Rice Burroughs

**Born:** September 1, 1875 at 650 W. Washington St. in Chicago

**Died:** March 19, 1950

**Occupation:** Writer

Edgar Burroughs, author of the “Tarzan” series and other fantasy stories, moved from school to school at an early age to avoid various illness outbreaks. In 1891, Burroughs’s parents shipped him to Idaho to protect him from an influenza epidemic. He attended and later taught at a military school in Michigan before returning to Chicago and his father’s American Battery Company. For many years, Burroughs searched for satisfying work and eventually began sending his stories, including “Tarzan of the Apes,” to *All-Story* magazine.

**\*Fun Fact:** Then frontier country, Idaho exposed Burroughs to a life of riding, herding, and rough saloons.

## John Chancellor

**Born:** July 14, 1927 at Chicago Lying-In Hospital

**Died:** July 12, 1996

**Occupation:** News reporter, anchor, commentator

John William Chancellor was one of the first television news reporters, working at NBC in the 1950s. Chancellor remained at NBC for most of his career, though he worked at the U.S. government radio station, Voice of America, during the mid-1960s. Chancellor anchored *NBC Nightly News* and the *Today Show*, interviewing U.S. presidents and global leaders.

**\*Fun Fact:** Chancellor was in Berlin in 1961, the year that the Berlin Wall was built. He was also there in 1989, the year the wall came down.

## Raymond Chandler

**Born:** July 23, 1888 at 3915 Langley in Chicago

**Died:** March 26, 1959

**Occupation:** Crime writer, novelist

Raymond Thornton Chandler attended college in England, where he also worked as a journalist. A subsequent career in the California oil industry ended with the Great Depression, and Chandler began writing stories. He created an icon of the crime fiction genre, private detective Philip Marlowe, who appeared in all Chandler's novels. His works include *The Big Sleep*, *The Simple Art of Murder*, and *Trouble is My Business*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Though born in Chicago, Chandler served in the Canadian military and the Royal Flying Corps in WWI.

## Sandra Cisneros

**Born:** December 20, 1954 at Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Poet, novelist

Sandra Cisneros is an accomplished writer who has received numerous honors for work, including the prestigious MacArthur Fellowship Grant. Her award-winning book, *The House on Mango Street*, has sold over 2 million copies and is taught in schools across the U.S. Her works, which also include *Bad Boys*, *Carmelo*, *Hair=Pelitos*, *Loose Women*, and *My Wicked Wicked Ways* have been translated into over a dozen languages.

**\*Fun Fact:** Cisneros has six dogs, four cats and a parrot named Augustina.

## James Gould Cozzens

**Born:** August 13, 1903

**Died:** August 8, 1978

**Occupation:** Writer

James Gould Cozzens wrote 14 novels and several short stories. During his two years at Harvard, he published his first novel, *Confusion*. Cozzens then moved to Canada and later Cuba, where he taught children. Over time, he became a celebrated short story writer, winning O. Henry Awards. He also won the 1949 Pulitzer Prize in Fiction for his novel *Guard of Honor*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Cozzens married Sylvia Bernice Baumgarten in 1927, a literary agent who helped steer Cozzens to success.

## Michael Crichton

**Born:** October 23, 1942 at Swedish Covenant Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** November 4, 2008

**Occupation:** Writer, filmmaker

Michael Crichton is the author of the thriller *Jurassic Park* and the creator/executive producer of the TV series *ER*. Crichton, one of the most popular writers in the world, has had his books translated into 36 languages while 13 have been made into films. These include *Twister*, *Sphere*, *13<sup>th</sup> Warrior*, *The Terminal Man*, and *TimeLine*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Crichton graduated from Harvard Medical School and was a fellow at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies before working full-time on film and writing.

## Philip K. Dick

**Born:** December 16, 1928 at 7812 Emerald Ave. in Chicago

**Died:** March 2, 1982

**Occupation:** Writer

Philip K. Dick was a prolific science fiction writer whose work has achieved tremendous attention since his death in 1982. At least eight of Dick's stories and novels have been adapted to the big screen as *Blade Runner*, *Total Recall*, *The Minority Report*, *Paycheck*, *Next* and *A Scanner Darkly*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Dick credited fellow Chicago native and writer James T. Farrell with showing him how to construct a novel.

## Stuart Dybek

**Born:** April 10, 1942 at St. Anthony's Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Writer

Stuart John Dybek, who grew up in Pilsen and Little Village, is an award-winning fiction and nonfiction writer, and poet. Dybek's poetry collections are: *Streets in Their Own Ink* and *Brass Knuckles*. He has earned the PEN/Malamud Prize and an award from the Academy of Arts and Letters. Dybek is currently a Distinguished Writer in Residence at Northwestern University. On September 25, 2007 Dybek won a MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship.

**\*Fun Fact:** Dybek's *The Coast of Chicago* was a "One Book, One Chicago" selection and his collection *I Sailed with Magellan* was staged by Chicago's Victory Gardens Theater Company.

## Stella Foster

**Born:** August 6 at 3848 South LaSalle in Chicago

**Occupation:** Columnist

Stella Foster grew up in Englewood and attended Chicago public schools. In 1969, she was hired by legendary columnist Irv "Kup" Kupcinec as his secretary. Over the next 34 years, all of which Foster remained Kup's assistant, the two stayed close. Foster began her own writing career in the 1980s, contributing to *Sister 2 Sister* magazine and is now a full-time columnist for the *Chicago Sun-Times*

**\*Fun Fact:** Stella Foster was born on her family's kitchen table; the home has since been torn down to make room for the Dan Ryan.

## James T. Farrell

**Born:** February 28, 1904 at 4521 St. Lawrence Ave in Chicago

**Died:** August 22, 1979

**Occupation:** Novelist, poet, journalist

James T. Farrell was born to Irish working-class parents. He attended Mt. Carmel High School and the University of Chicago, where he began his prolific writing career. His enormous oeuvre includes the realist trilogy *Studs Lonigan*, set in Chicago and considered one of the best works of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Farrell was also an avid baseball fan and political activist.

**\*Fun Fact:** Though Farrell was a socialist, he decried Stalin's approach to governance before the leader's human rights abuses were known.

## Jonathan Franzen

**Born:** August 17, 1959 at Community Memorial General Hospital in Lyons Township  
**Occupation:** Writer

Jonathan Franzen is the author of the acclaimed novels *The Twenty-Seventh City*, *Strong Motion*, *The Corrections* as well as a collection of essays, *How to Be Alone*, and a memoir, *The Discomfort Zone*. *The Corrections* earned Franzen the 2001 National Book Award. Before his writing career took off, Franzen studied as a Fulbright Scholar in Berlin and worked at the seismology lab at Harvard University's Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences.

**\*Fun Fact:** Franzen guest starred alongside Michael Chabon, Tom Wolfe, and Gore Vidal in The Simpsons episode "Moe'N'a Lisa," but pulled his book *The Corrections* from Oprah's Book Club.

## Edward Gorey

**Born:** February 22, 1925 at St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago  
**Died:** April 15, 2000  
**Occupation:** Author, illustrator

Edward Gorey stood out at Harvard for his insatiable thirst for the arts. Gorey got a job with a publishing company doing cover illustrations. Though his artwork was vivid and his talents varied (Gorey won a Tony Award for his costume design in *Dracula*), Gorey considered his profession to be writing. He wrote prolifically, not living long enough to illustrate or publish all his manuscripts. Some of his more popular works are *The Doubtful Guest*, *The Curious Sofa*, and *The Loathsome Couple*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Gorey once wore a raccoon skin coat, but later changed his stripes. He willed money to animal foundations and let a family of raccoons live in his attic.

## John Gunther

**Born:** 1901 at 1422 Wellington in Chicago

**Died:** May 29, 1970

**Occupation:** Journalist

John Joseph Guenther attended Chicago public schools before becoming a writer. Gunther traveled to Europe for the *Chicago Daily News*. He wrote that he spent this time immersed in “the whole extraordinary panorama of Europe from 1924 to 1936.” He wrote *Inside Europe*, one in a geography-based *Inside* series, which was an international success. His other subjects included Adolf Hitler, Asia, Latin America, Africa, and several American presidents.

**\*Fun Fact:** While Gunther attended the University of Chicago he was literary editor of the campus newspaper, *The Daily Maroon*.

## Christie Hefner

**Born:** November 8, 1952 at Chicago Lying-in Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Corporate Executive, publisher

Christie Ann Hefner, the daughter of *Playboy* founder Hugh Hefner, attended Brandeis University and graduated summa cum laude with degrees in English and American literature. Hefner began working for *Playboy* in 1975, was named president in 1982, and was elected Chairman and CEO in 1988. She has overseen the expansion of the *Playboy* enterprise into international publication, television, and the World Wide Web. Hefner is the first woman to win the Executive Leadership Award from the National Society of Fundraising Executives. She also received the Humanitarian Award from the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition and the Corporate Leadership Award from the AIDS Pastoral Care Network.

**\*Fun Fact:** Hefner was named one of *Forbes* magazine’s 100 Most Powerful Women in 2005 and 2006.

## Hugh Hefner

**Born:** April 9, 1926 in Chicago

**Occupation:** Editor

Hugh Hefner attended Sayre Elementary School and Steinmetz High School on Chicago’s West Side. At Steinmetz, Hefner founded a student newspaper and served

as president of the student council. After returning home from service in the U.S. Army, Hefner attended the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana, graduating in only two and a half years. Hefner founded *Playboy* magazine in 1953, and it became the best-selling men's magazine in the world. After moving to California in the 1970s, Hefner worked to restore the famed HOLLYWOOD sign in 1980. In recent years, Hefner has handed over the reigns of the *Playboy* consortium to his daughter Christie, though he retains creative editorial authority.

**\*Fun Fact:** In 1950, Hefner worked briefly as an advertising copywriter at the Carson, Pirie, Scott department store.

## Larry Heinemann

**Born:** 1944

**Occupation:** Author

Larry Heinemann is a Vietnam veteran and has mined that experience for his recent memoir, *Black Virgin Mountain*. Heinemann has also written three novels: *Close Quarters*, *Paco's Story*, and *Cooler by the Lake*. Heinemann has won numerous awards, including the National Book Award and the Carl Sandburg Award.

**\*Fun Fact:** Of weapons in Vietnam, Heinemann reported in a 2003 interview in *Logos*, "We used our bayonets to clean our nails and open our mail."

## Ernest Hemingway

**Born:** July 21, 1899 at 439 Oak Park Ave. in Oak Park

**Died:** July 2, 1961

**Occupation:** Author

At 17, Ernest Hemingway started his professional writing career as a reporter for the *Kansas City Star*. He abandoned the job after six months to volunteer in WWI, though he was very disappointed when his poor eyesight kept him from enlisting. Instead, he volunteered for an Italian ambulance army unit. The Italian government gave Hemingway the Silver Medal for Military Valor after he carried a wounded man to safety, though he was injured himself. *A Farewell to Arms* is based on this experience, during which Hemingway fell in love with his nurse, Agnes von Kurowsky. Hemingway became a preeminent American writer, also penning *The Sun Also Rises*, and *For Whom the Bell Tolls*. In 1954, he won the Nobel Prize in Literature for his lifetime achievements thanks in large part to his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *The Old Man and the Sea* (1952). Hemingway was also an avid hunter and angler.

**\*Fun Fact:** Two of Hemingway’s granddaughters, Margaux and Mariel Hemingway, grew up to become Hollywood actresses.

## Amy Hempel

**Born:** December 14, 1951 at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Writer, teacher

Amy Hempel is one of the most important writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Born in Chicago, she was raised in California and later moved to New York where she studied under Gordon Lish. Hempel’s story, “In the Cemetery Where Al Jolson Is Buried,” is one of the most extensively anthologized stories of the last 25 years. Hempel has won or been a finalist for nearly every major writing award, and achieved renewed notoriety when Chuck Palahniuk published articles praising her as his favorite author. Hempel, whose stories range from a single sentence to novella-length, also “socializes” seeing eye dogs.

**\*Fun Fact:** Amy Hempel’s shortest story is the 17-word “Memoir”: “Just once in my life—oh, when have I ever wanted anything just once in my life?”

## Charles R. Johnson

**Born:** 1948 in Evanston

**Occupation:** Writer, scholar, cartoonist

Charles R. Johnson is a scholar and writer whose insatiable curiosity has led him to explore different aspects of American culture through essays, novels and short stories. Much of Johnson’s work has focused on the African-American experience, and he has drawn heavily upon the work of Ralph Ellison and Fredrick Douglass. Johnson received his PhD in philosophy and taught creative writing. He has also written widely-praised novels, screenplays, short stories and essays. His novel *The Middle Passage* received the National Book Award.

**\*Fun Fact:** Johnson began his career writing and illustrating editorial cartoons, eventually publishing two collections, *Black Humor* and *Half-Past Nation Time*.

## Walter Kerr

**Born:** July 8, 1913 in Evanston

**Died:** October 9, 1996

**Occupation:** Theater critic

Walter Francis Kerr was a drama critic for the *New York Herald Tribune* and the *New York Times*. He was also an author, writing books including *How Not to Write a Play* and *The Theater in Spite of Itself*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Francis won a Pulitzer Prize in 1978 for his work in dramatic criticism.

## Adam Langer

**Born:** 1967

**Occupation:** Writer

Adam Langer has worked as a journalist, editor, author, playwright, theater director, and film producer. Langer's novels include *Crossing California*, *The Washington Story*, and *Ellington Boulevard* (to be published in 2008).

**\*Fun Fact:** Adam Langer remembers spending his childhood in West Rogers Park "listening to Miss Kaufmann read stories at Nortown Public Library."

## George Lichty

**Born:** May 16, 1905 at 286 Sedgwick St. in Chicago

**Died:** 1982

**Occupation:** Cartoonist

George "Lichty" Lichtenstein was a talented cartoonist who created the award-winning comic strip *Grin and Bear It* in 1932. The strip often had a political slant and it frequently made fun of both the Soviet government and capitalist excesses. Lichty was awarded the Newspaper Panel Cartoon Award by the Nationalist Cartoonist Society on four separate occasions.

**\*Fun Fact:** While at the University of Michigan, Lichty was editor of the *Gargoyle* humor magazine.

## Archibald MacLeish

**Born:** May 7, 1892 at 459 Longwood Ave in Glencoe

**Died:** April 20, 1982

**Occupation:** Librarian of Congress, lawyer, poet, playwright

Archibald MacLeish practiced law before moving with his family to Paris. There, he began a serious commitment to writing poetry. After moving back to the United States, MacLeish won a 1933 Pulitzer Prize for his story-poem “Conquistador.” He served as Librarian of Congress and later as assistant Secretary of State for Franklin D. Roosevelt.

**\*Fun Fact:** In 1959, MacLeish won a second Pulitzer for his play *JB: a Play in Verse*.

## David Mamet

**Born:** November 30, 1947 at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Writer, filmmaker

David Alan Mamet broke onto the theater scene with his 1974 play, *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*. This was one in a series of dark dramas Mamet wrote in the 1970s. He won a Pulitzer Prize for his 1984 play, *Glengarry Glen Ross*. In the 1980s, Mamet began writing screenplays and directing films, including *State and Main* and *The Winslow Boy*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Mamet’s first major success as a screenwriter came with the Chicago gangster drama, *The Untouchables*—Cue Sean Connery: “If he puts one of your men in the hospital, you put one of his in the morgue. *That’s* the Chicago way!”

## Drew Pearson

**Born:** December 13, 1897 in Evanston

**Died:** September 1, 1969

**Occupation:** Journalist, writer

Andrew Runell Pearson was a prominent newspaper and radio journalist in the early and mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. He worked abroad in Europe, India, South Africa, and Australia. Pearson was famous – and infamous to some – for the gossip-based *Washington Merry-Go-Round*, the title of a book, column, and radio show. He also interviewed notable world figures including Premier Nikita Krushchev and the King and Queen of Greece. Pearson was a major opponent of McCarthyism.

**\*Fun Fact:** Pearson has been called “the greatest muckraker of all time.”

## Mike Royko

**Born:** September 19, 1932 at St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** April 29, 1997

**Occupation:** Journalist, writer

Mitchell “Mike” Royko Jr. was a progressive journalist and columnist who covered Chicago’s political system during his extensive career with the *Chicago Daily News*, *Sun-Times* and *Tribune*. He garnered a Pulitzer Prize for commentary in 1972, a year after he published the famous biography, *Boss: Richard J. Daley of Chicago*. Royko published a number of other books during his career and was awarded the National Press Club Lifetime Achievement Award in 1990.

**\*Fun Fact:** Royko was fervently devoted to 16-inch softball and was inducted into the Chicago 16-inch Softball Hall of Fame shortly after his death.

## Shel Silverstein

**Born:** September 25, 1930 at Grant Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** May 10, 1999

**Occupation:** Poet, songwriter

Shel Silverstein began writing poetry as a young boy, later saying he was grateful that he was not influenced by the “greats” of poetry at this time because it allowed him to develop his own style. In addition to writing poetry and lyrics, Silverstein was a cartoonist and composer. His collection of work remains popular with children today.

**\*Fun Fact:** Silverstein wrote the Johnny Cash hit, “A Boy Named Sue.”

## Scott Turow

**Born:** April 12, 1949 at Edgewater Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Writer, lawyer

Scott Frederick Turow attended New Trier High School and Amherst College. Turow won a fellowship to the Stanford University Writing Center, where he later taught. After finishing up at Harvard Law School, Turow was an assistant United States Attorney in Chicago. While he wrote a book, *One L*, about his experiences as a law student, he began his first mystery bestseller, *Presumed Innocent*, on the train as he

commuted into Chicago from the northern suburbs. It was adapted into an Oscar-nominated film starring fellow Cook County native Harrison Ford. Turow has now written seven best-selling novels.

**\*Fun Fact:** Turow continues his work as an attorney; he won the release of wrongly-convicted death row inmate Alejandro Hernandez.

## Irving Wallace

**Born:** March 19, 1916 at 1850 N. Harrison in Chicago

**Died:** June 29, 1990

**Occupation:** Writer

Irving Wallace, born to Russian immigrants, was a prolific novelist and screenwriter. Books to his credit include *The Fabulous Showman: The Life and Times of P.T. Barnum* and *The Chapman Report*.

**\*Fun Fact:** *The Chapman Report* was also made into a movie starring Jane Fonda and Shelley Winters.

## Michael Wilbon

**Born:** November 19, 1958 at Louis A. Weiss Memorial Hospital in Chicago

**Career:** Sportswriter, columnist

Wilbon is a nationally recognized columnist with the *Washington Post*. He is the co-host of the ESPN popular sports talk show *Pardon the Interruption* and serves the network as an analyst on other programming, including the network's flagship show, *SportsCenter*. Wilbon graduated from St. Ignatius College Prep and received his journalism degree from Northwestern University. In his career, Wilbon has covered 10 different Summer and Winter Olympic Games for *The Post*, every Super Bowl since 1987, nearly every NCAA Final Four since 1982 and every NBA Finals since 1987.

**\*Fun Fact:** Wilbon has contributed to two books with Charles Barkley, including *Who's Afraid of a Large Black Man?*

# COMPETITORS

## Marcelo Balboa

**Born:** August 8, 1967 at Illinois Masonic Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Soccer player, television commentator

Marcelo Balboa was one of the familiar faces from American soccer in the 1990s. A mainstay on the U.S. National Team, Balboa was one of the first Americans to appear in three consecutive World Cups (1990, 1994, and 1998). He was also an original member of the Colorado Rapids in the inaugural year (1996) of Major League Soccer. Balboa led the Rapids in their victory of the MLS Cup the following year. He was inducted into the National Soccer Hall of Fame in 2005.

**\*Fun Fact:** Balboa is famous for his “bicycle kick,” on which he nearly scored a goal in the 1994 World Cup. One of his bicycle kicks won “Goal of the Year” for the 2000 MLS season.

## Dick Butkus

**Born:** December 9, 1942 at Roseland Community Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Football player

Richard Marvin Butkus, born to blue-collar Lithuanian parents from Roseland on Chicago’s South Side, was the youngest of eight children. He attended Chicago Vocational High School and the University of Illinois. He led the Fighting Illini to a Big Ten Championship and Rose Bowl victory while earning All-American honors twice and Heisman Trophy consideration. Butkus was not only inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame, but had a national award for the country’s best linebacker named for him. Butkus spent his entire professional career with his hometown Chicago Bears, made the All-NFL team six times and was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1979.

**\*Fun Fact:** Since his playing days, Butkus has pursued an acting career, appearing on TV shows such as *My Two Dads* and *Hang Time*.

## Maurice Cheeks

**Born:** September 8, 1956 at St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Basketball player, coach

Maurice Cheeks played point guard in the NBA for 15 years. He made four All-Star teams and five NBA All-Defensive teams. He played for the 1983 NBA Champion Philadelphia 76ers, who have since retired his number. Cheeks began his pro coaching career in the CBA, where he only spent one season but led the Quad City Thunder to a CBA Championship. Cheeks went to become an NBA assistant coach with the 76ers before earning his first head coaching chance with the Portland Trailblazers. Cheeks is now the Philadelphia 76ers' head coach and has posted a winning record in his coaching career.

**\*Fun Fact:** While coaching for Portland in 2003, Cheeks assisted a singer who forgot the words to the national anthem by rushing over and singing along with her.

## Chris Chelios

**Born:** January 25, 1962 at Little Company of Mary Hospital in Evergreen Park

**Occupation:** Hockey player, restaurateur

Born Christos Chelios, the National Hockey League star has enjoyed success at every level. After two stellar years at the University of Wisconsin, Chelios played for the United States Junior Team in the World Championships in 1981-82. He fulfilled a lifelong dream when he became an Olympian in 1984. As an NHL rookie with the Montreal Canadiens, Chelios set a record for scoring by a first-year defenseman. After being traded to the Blackhawks, Chelios returned home to Chicago for most of the 1990s. Chelios has won two Stanley Cup and three Norris trophies (awarded to the league's best defenseman).

**\*Fun Fact:** Chelios was the first American player ever named captain of the Montreal Canadiens.

## Shani Davis

**Born:** August 13, 1982 at Chicago Osteopathic Medical Center in Chicago

**Occupation:** Speed skater

Shani Davis grew up on the South Side of Chicago. He spent his spare time in roller rinks where, as early as the age of three, he was scolded by security guards for skating

too fast. Davis joined the Evanston Speedskating Club at six and began winning regional competitions when he was only eight. Davis won Gold and Silver medals at the Torino Olympics in 2006. He is currently a junior at Northern Michigan University.

**\*Fun Fact:** Davis attributes his success to his mother, who moved the two of them from the South Side to the North Side so they could be closer to training facilities at Robert Crown Center in Evanston.

## **Bobby Dotter**

**Born:** July 11, 1960 at Edgewater Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Race car driver

Robert James Dotter drove in the NASCAR Busch and West Series before switching over to the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series. Dotter grew up racing against NASCAR legends Mark Martin and Rusty Wallace.

**\*Fun Fact:** Dotter carried on the family racing tradition as his father was also a driver and won the ARCA national championship three times.

## **Bobby Fischer**

**Born:** March 9, 1943 in Chicago

**Died:** January 1, 2008

**Career:** Chess player

Robert James Fischer was one of the greatest chess players of all time. He learned to play chess at the age of six, became the youngest U.S. national junior chess champion at the age of 13, and was the youngest Senior U.S. Champion at the age of 14. At 15, he became the youngest Grand Master in the history of chess. Fischer was the first American to win the World Championship and is still considered to be one of the most gifted chess players, ever.

**\*Fun Fact:** Fischer won the U.S. championship eight times in eight attempts.

## Cliff Floyd

**Born:** December 5, 1972 at Garfield Park Community Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Major League Baseball player

Cornelius Clifford Floyd, Jr. attended Thornwood High School in South Holland, where he stood out in both baseball and basketball. In 1991, Floyd was named *Chicago Tribune's* Athlete of the Year. That same year, the Montreal Expos drafted Floyd in the first round of the amateur draft. In his 2001 All-Star season, Floyd hit 31 home runs and had 103 RBI. He was also a World Series winner with the Florida Marlins in 1997. Floyd has consistently contributed to several charities over the course of his career and has twice been chosen as his team finalist for the Roberto Clemente Man of the Year Award. Having played for several teams throughout his MLB career, Floyd finally came home to play for the Chicago Cubs in 2007.

**\*Fun Fact:** In Floyd's senior year of high school, his basketball team lost in the Sectional Finals to Proviso East, which was led by the soon-to-be NBA star Michael Finley.

## Curtis Granderson, Jr.

**Born:** March 16, 1981 at St. Francis Hospital in Blue Island

**Occupation:** Major League Baseball player

A multi-talented athlete, Curtis Granderson, Jr. stood out for both his basketball and baseball skills and also ran cross country at Thornton Fractional South High School in Lansing, IL. Granderson attended the University of Illinois at Chicago where he earned degrees in business marketing and business management. Now in his second full season with the Detroit Tigers, Granderson has established himself as one of the premier centerfielders in Major League Baseball. After helping the Tigers to the American League Championship in 2006, Granderson is having a breakout year in 2007, reaching double digits in home runs, steals, and triples. He also founded the Grand Kids Foundation, which tries to bring more opportunities to underprivileged youth through creative and educational initiatives.

**\*Fun Fact:** Though his favorite baseball player is Ken Griffey, Jr., Granderson's heroes are his parents.

## Dorothy Hamill

**Born:** July 26, 1956 at Passavant (now Northwestern) Memorial Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Olympic figure skater

Dorothy Stuart Hamill began ice skating in her brother's hockey skates at the age of eight on a frozen pond. In 1976, she won Olympic Gold Medal in women's figure skating in Innsbruck, Austria. She also won three consecutive World Championships and went on to skate professionally for the Ice Capades, which she later owned and operated. Hamill has been inducted into the World and United States' figure skating halls of fame. She is an advocate for several charitable organizations, including the International Special Olympics.

**\*Fun Fact:** Hamill's wedge haircut was named "one of the most important fashion statements in the last 50 years" by *Life Magazine*.

## Marv Levy

**Born:** August 3, 1925 at Chicago Lying-In Hospital

**Occupation:** Football Coach

Marvin Daniel Levy was one of the most dominant NFL coaches of the 1990's. Between 1988 and 1997 Levy's Buffalo Bills had the highest winning percentage in the AFC and went to the Super Bowl four times. Beloved by his players and widely respected for his intelligence and integrity, Levy was elected to the Pro Bowl Football Hall of Fame in 2001. He is currently the general manager and vice president of football operations for the Bills.

**\*Fun Fact:** At Coe College in Iowa, Levy earned varsity letters in football, track, and basketball.

## Donovan McNabb

**Born:** November 25, 1976 at Ingalls Memorial Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** NFL quarterback

Donovan Jamal McNabb was a star athlete at Mt. Carmel High School, where he excelled on both the football field and the basketball court. He played both sports at Syracuse University, but it was at quarterback that he truly shined, setting numerous school and conference records. He was eventually drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles

in the first round of the NFL draft. He has become the Eagles' franchise player, leading the team to several NFC championship games and one Super Bowl.

**\*Fun Fact:** In 2002, he was named to the Syracuse University Board of Trustees; he is the youngest person ever to be appointed to the position.

## **Ray Nitschke**

**Born:** December 29, 1936 at 2635 N. 76 Ave. in Elmwood Park

**Died:** March 8, 1998

**Occupation:** Football player

A multi-sport star, Raymond Ernest Nitschke had a chance to sign a professional baseball contract with the St. Louis Browns. Nitschke's choice, however, was to play football at the University of Illinois, where he played fullback and linebacker. Drafted by the Green Bay Packers, he went on to become the preeminent linebacker of the 1960s. Nitschke won All-NFL honors seven times and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1998.

**\*Fun Fact:** In his high school years, Nitschke was all-state quarterback at Proviso (now Proviso East).

## **Isiah Thomas**

**Born:** April 30, 1961 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Basketball Player, coach, executive

Isiah Thomas is currently a coach and executive for the New York Knicks, following his 13-year playing career with the Detroit Pistons. Thomas was enshrined into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2000 and designated in 1996 as one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA history. Thomas was a 12-time NBA All-Star, MVP in 1984 and 1986 and a five-time All-NBA selection. Thomas ranks fifth on the League's all-time career list in assists, and 44<sup>th</sup> in total points. He is still the Pistons' all-time career leader in total points, assists and steals.

**\*Fun Fact:** Many still call Thomas "Zeke," his nickname.

## Dwyane Wade

**Born:** January 17, 1982 at University of Illinois Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Basketball player

Born on the South Side of Chicago, Dwyane Wade attended H.L. Richards High School in Oak Lawn. Wade played his college ball at Marquette and was the fifth overall pick of the Miami Heat in the 2003 NBA Draft. After making the All-Rookie team in his first season and the All-Star team the following three seasons, he led his team to an NBA Championship at the conclusion of his third year. Wade has established himself as one of the most popular players in the league and had the top selling jersey in the NBA for nearly two years. He was named 2006 Sportsman of the Year by *Sports Illustrated*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Wade's favorite show growing up was *Knight Rider*.

## *POLITICIANS AND PUBLIC FIGURES*

### John Ashcroft

**Born:** May 9, 1942 at Swedish Covenant Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Politician, lawyer

John David Ashcroft was an influential politician who eventually became the nation's top law enforcement official. After attending Yale University and the University of Chicago Law School, Ashcroft taught business law before embarking on his political career in Missouri as state auditor, state attorney general, governor and U.S. senator. President George W. Bush appointed Ashcroft U.S. Attorney General in 2001, where he remained until health problems forced him to resign in 2005.

**\*Fun Fact:** While working in the assistant attorney general's office in Missouri, Ashcroft shared an office suite with future Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.

### Rod Blagojevich

**Born:** December 10, 1956 at Augustana Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Governor of Illinois

Rod R. Blagojevich graduated from Northwestern University in 1979 and earned his law degree from Pepperdine in 1983. He served as a Cook County assistant state's

attorney and later in the U.S. House of Representatives as the representative of Illinois' 5<sup>th</sup> district. Blagojevich's efforts as governor are focused on healthcare and education. In 2009 he became the first Illinois governor to be impeached and removed from office after being arrested on federal corruption charges.

**\*Fun Fact:** Blagojevich's father-in-law is longtime Chicago Alderman Richard Mell.

## **Hillary Rodham Clinton**

**Born:** October 26, 1947 at Edgewater Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** First Lady, senator

Hillary Rodham Clinton was born in Chicago and grew up in Park Ridge. She attended Wellesley College, where she was the first student ever chosen by peers to deliver the commencement speech. After attending Yale Law School, she was twice chosen as one of the 100 most influential lawyers in America. She was First Lady of Arkansas for 12 years and of the United States for eight. She became the first First Lady elected to public office, as U.S. Senator. In 2008 Clinton ran for the Democratic nomination in the race for president of the United States but she narrowly lost to Senator Barack Obama. On January 21, 2009 she took the oath of office as Secretary of State and became the first former First Lady to serve in a United States Cabinet.

**\*Fun Fact:** Among her other books, Senator Clinton wrote *Dear Socks, Dear Buddy: Kids' Letters to the First Pets*.

## **John Daley**

**Born:** December 5, 1946 at Mercy Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Cook County Commissioner

John Patrick Daley, brother to Mayor Richard M. Daley, is a former school teacher who received a degree from Loyola University. Daley later became a state representative and state senator. As Cook County Commissioner of the 11<sup>th</sup> District, Daley is now Chair of the Audit and Finance Committees.

**\*Fun Fact:** Commissioner Daley is the Democratic Committeeman for the Bridgeport neighborhood, the lifelong home of his father, Mayor Richard J. Daley.

## **Richard J. Daley**

**Born:** May 15, 1902 at 3602 Lowe Ave. in Chicago

**Died:** December 20, 1976

**Occupation:** Mayor of Chicago

Richard Joseph Daley, an only child, was born to Irish Catholic parents (his father was a sheet metal worker) on the South Side of Chicago. Daley worked in the notoriously brutal Chicago stockyards before earning undergraduate and law degrees from DePaul University and began his political career as a precinct captain. After Daley served as state representative and state senator, Governor Adlai Stevenson appointed him to head the Illinois Department of Finance. Daley won office as Cook County Clerk and chaired the Cook County Democratic Central Committee. As mayor from 1955 to 1976, Daley reorganized and upgraded the police and fire departments. He spearheaded a University of Illinois campus within the city limits and helped the city undergo vast urban renewal.

**\*Fun Fact:** Daley lived his whole life in Bridgeport and attended mass every morning.

## **Richard M. Daley**

**Born:** April 24, 1942 at Mercy Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Mayor of Chicago

Richard Michael Daley is the current mayor of Chicago. He is the fourth of seven children of the late Mayor Richard J. Daley and his wife, Eleanor. Like his father, he earned his undergraduate and law degrees at DePaul University. Daley was elected to the Illinois Constitutional Convention in 1969, his first stint in public service. He went on to serve in the Illinois Senate from 1972 to 1980 before his election to State's Attorney of Cook County in 1980. He championed harsher state enforcement of narcotics violations and updated rape laws. Elected Mayor in 1989, Daley has made rehabilitating Chicago public schools a top priority. Daley's accomplishments include a lower crime rate, constructing Millennium Park, and renovating Navy Pier.

**\*Fun Fact:** Mayor Daley, re-elected in 2007, is on track to break his father's record for longest-serving mayor of Chicago.

## Betty Ford

**Born:** April 8, 1918 at Lakeview Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** First Lady

Elizabeth Anne Bloomer, known today as Betty Ford, was married to the 38<sup>th</sup> U.S. President Gerald Ford. As first lady, she directed her humanitarian efforts toward work with handicapped children. She also drew on her experience as a breast cancer survivor and as a woman to help others, fighting for the Equal Rights Amendment and helping increase awareness about breast cancer. She also co-founded The Betty Ford Center, regarded as the premier drug and alcohol treatment facility in the nation.

**\*Fun Fact:** Ford studied modern dance in college and worked as a fashion model in New York City.

## Elizabeth “Liz” Ann Doody Gorman

**Born:** February 19, 1968 at Englewood Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Cook County Commissioner, business owner

A native of the Chicago’s Beverly neighborhood, Gorman grew up in a working class family. Her father was a Chicago fireman and electrician, and her mother was an Amtrak employee. Gorman attended Mother McAuley High School and received a degree from St. Mary’s College in Winona, Minnesota. Gorman is a successful small businesswoman who created her own insurance agency that she still manages today. A community activist, Gorman is the chairperson of the Cook County Republican Party and is a member of the Orland Park Chamber of Commerce.

**\*Fun Fact:** Commissioner Gorman received a partial athletic scholarship to St. Mary’s College for volleyball and basketball.

## Gregg Goslin

**Born:** September 12, 1953 at Augustana Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Cook County Commissioner

Gregg Robert Goslin is the Cook County Commissioner for the 14<sup>th</sup> District. Goslin received a degree from Southern Illinois University in 1975 and completed postgraduate study in real estate. He is a licensed real estate broker and a certified secondary education teacher in the state of Illinois.

**\*Fun Fact:** Commissioner Goslin is a member of the Optimist Club and Helping Hands.

## **Luis Gutierrez**

**Born:** December 10, 1953 at St. Joseph Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** United States congressman

Luis Gutierrez has been a teacher, social worker, and community activist. Gutierrez became a Chicago alderman in 1986. While on the Chicago City Council, Gutierrez worked on affordable housing, ethics rules, and eradicating discrimination based on sexual orientation. A U.S. Congressman since 1992, Gutierrez has been a major advocate for immigrants' rights.

**\*Fun Fact:** Gutierrez was the first Latino elected to Congress from the Midwest.

## **Henry Hyde**

**Born:** April 18, 1924 at St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** November 29, 2007

**Occupation:** Politician

Henry John Hyde graduated from Georgetown University and obtained his law degree from Loyola University. Hyde served three years in the U.S. Navy and over two decades in the Naval Reserve. He was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives and served as majority leader in 1971 and 1972. He then was elected to Congress and chaired the Committee on the Judiciary. Hyde also served on the Committee on International Relations.

**\*Fun Fact:** In the 1990s, Hyde was known to spend spare moments listening to the original Broadway cast recording of *Man of La Mancha*.

## **Jewel Lafontant-Mankarious**

**Born:** April 28, 1922 at Provident Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** May 30, 1997

**Occupation:** Lawyer

Jewel Stradford, who later became known as Jewel Lafontant-Mankarious, grew up in a middle-class family on the South Side of Chicago. In 1943, she graduated from Oberlin College with a degree in political science. Despite a University of Chicago

admissions counselor's attempt to dissuade her from enrolling at the Law School, Lafontant-Mankarious became the first African-American woman to receive a degree there. The Chicago Bar Association did not let her join, yet she worked as a legal aid until becoming an assistant U.S. attorney, once again the first black woman to do so. A leader in the civil rights movement, Lavontant-Mankarious helped found the Congress for Racial Equality and held office in the Chicago's chapter of the NAACP.

**\*Fun Fact:** Lafontant-Mankarious seconded Richard Nixon's nomination for president at the 1960 Republican National Convention. She was close friends with Nixon and was an ambassador under the first President Bush.

## **Carol Moseley-Braun**

**Born:** August 16, 1947 at Lewis Memorial Maternity Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Senator, ambassador, entrepreneur

Carol Moseley-Braun is the first and only black woman ever elected to the U.S. Senate. Moseley-Braun attended Chicago public schools, graduated from the University of Illinois in 1969 and from the University of Chicago School of Law in 1972. Moseley-Braun was a prosecutor in the United States Attorney's office from 1973 through 1977. She served as a member and assistant majority leader in the Illinois House of Representatives from 1978 to 1988 and as Cook County recorder of deeds from 1988 to 1992. In 1993, Moseley-Braun was elected to the United States Senate and served until 1999. She was ambassador to New Zealand and Samoa from 1999 to 2001. Moseley-Braun founded and serves as president of Good Food Organics, Inc.

**\*Fun Fact:** In 2001, the Carol Moseley-Braun Elementary School in Calumet City was named for her.

## **Donald Rumsfeld**

**Born:** July 9, 1932 at St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Politician, corporate executive

Donald Henry Rumsfeld played a significant role in shaping America's foreign policy over the last 40 years. Rumsfeld served four terms in Congress, representing Chicago's north shore suburbs, before becoming President Ford's Chief of Staff and later, Secretary of Defense. Rumsfeld was CEO of two Fortune 500 companies before joining President George W. Bush's cabinet as Secretary of Defense in 2001.

**\*Fun Fact:** Rumsfeld was awarded the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award by the Boy Scouts of America.

## **Deborah Sims**

**Born:** March 29, 1954 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Cook County Commissioner

Deborah Sims graduated from Chicago's John M. Harlan High School and attended Chicago city colleges, including Olive Harvey College and Harold Washington College. Sims worked in Chicago's Credit and Collection Department and later with the Cook County Chief Judge's office as well as Chicago's Youth Delinquency Prevention Program. As Cook County Commissioner of the 5<sup>th</sup> District, she is the Chairperson of Oak Forest Hospital and Vice-Chair of the county's Finance Committee.

**\*Fun Fact:** Commissioner Sims is President of the National Association of Black County Officials.

## **Robert Steele**

**Born:** June 29, 1961 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Cook County Commissioner

Robert Steele, son of former Cook County Commissioner and Board President Bobbie Steele, graduated with a degree from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Md. Steele worked as a Community Outreach Manager in Chicago's Park District and as Executive Director of the Lawndale Business & Local Development Corporation. As Commissioner of Cook County's 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Steele works on committees such as Construction, Contract Compliance, Human Relations, and Rules & Administration.

**\*Fun Fact:** Commissioner Steele is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, which provides community service and scholarship programs. Other members include Bill Cosby, Jesse Jackson, and Michael Jordan.

## **John Paul Stevens**

**Born:** April 20, 1920 at 5887 Blackstone Ave. in Chicago

**Occupation:** Supreme Court Justice

John Paul Stevens attended high school at the University of Chicago laboratory school and continued there for his undergraduate career, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. Stevens was a naval officer in WWII and was part of a code-breaking team. He earned the Bronze Star and went on to study law at Northwestern University. He graduated first in his class and set a school record for the best grades ever. President Gerald Ford appointed Stevens to the high court, thinking that a competent moderate with an impeccable reputation would help defuse mistrust after the Watergate scandal.

**\*Fun Fact:** Stevens, an amateur pilot, can be easily singled out from the other Supreme Court Justices by his signature bowties.

## **Todd Stroger**

**Born:** January 14, 1963 at Illinois Masonic Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Cook County Board President

Todd H. Stroger grew up on the South Side of Chicago and attended St Felicitas Elementary School before going on to St. Ignatius High School. Stroger attended Xavier University of Louisiana, the alma mater of his father, former Cook County Board President John Stroger, Jr. He then began his career of public service in the office of Cook County's chief judge. Stroger worked as an investment banker at SBK Brooks before serving as a state representative from 1992 to 2001 and as alderman of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward from 2001 until 2006. He is now Cook County Board President.

**\*Fun Fact:** When he ran for state representative, Stroger's friend and fellow Xavier alumna Jeanine volunteered for his campaign. They have since married and have two children.



## Larry Suffredin

**Born:** October 5, 1947 at Little Company of Mary Hospital in Evergreen Park

**Occupation:** Cook County Commissioner

Lawrence Joseph Suffredin is the Cook County Commissioner for the 13th District. He was elected in November 2002 and re-elected in November 2006. Suffredin earned a degree from Loyola University Chicago and his law degree from Georgetown University. In addition to his government work in Illinois, Suffredin has also worked in Michigan and Missouri. He has extensive experience as a defense attorney.

**\*Fun Fact:** Suffredin served as a captain in the United States Air Force Reserves.

## Harold Washington

**Born:** April 15, 1922 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** November 25, 1987

**Occupation:** Congressman, Mayor of Chicago

Harold Washington was one of the nation's leading African-American politicians and one of Chicago's most influential mayors. A graduate of Roosevelt College (now Roosevelt University) and Northwestern University School of Law, he was a lawyer before entering politics. He served as a state representative, state senator, U.S. congressman and mayor of Chicago. As mayor, he fought for minority rights, opened the city's budget process to public input, led the movement for Illinois' Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Bill and created an ethics commission. These accomplishments came in spite of fierce opponents in the city council.

**\*Fun Fact:** Both the former Loop College in downtown Chicago and the main branch of the Chicago Public Library are named for Harold Washington.

## Sam Zell

**Born:** September 28, 1941 at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Entrepreneur

Samuel Zell was born into an immigrant Jewish family. He is co-founder and chairman of Equity Group Investments. According to *Forbes*, he was the 52nd richest American as of September 2006. Zell made his first appearance on the Forbes 400 list

of the richest Americans in 1986, with a net worth of \$200 million. Twenty years later, he's worth \$4.5 billion. In March 2007, Zell bought the Tribune Corporation, which owns the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Los Angeles Times* and the Chicago Cubs.

**\*Fun Fact:** At 65, Zell is far from slowing down. He is quoted as saying, "I could be on a beach, but I can't wait to get to the office every day. Risk-taking is like a giant jigsaw puzzle."

## ***INVENTORS***

### **Marvin Camras**

**Born:** January 1, 1916 at 1459 W. Roosevelt in Chicago

**Died:** June 23, 1995

**Occupation:** Inventor

Marvin Camras, who secured over 500 patents, received his B.S., M.S., and Honorary Doctorate from the Illinois Institute of Technology. He was a senior scientific advisor at the IIT Research Institute. With more than 500 patents to his credit, Camras's inventions are still used today in wire and magnetic recorders. Camras was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1985.

**\*Fun Fact:** Camras' wire recorders were used in WWII to train pilots and spread false strategic information to the Germans on D-Day.

### **Stanley Mazor**

**Born:** 1941 at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Inventor

Stanley Mazor, inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1996, helped design the technology that made computers practical with the use of processing chips. While working at Intel, Mazor was involved with the design of the first computer chip microprocessors.

**\*Fun Fact:** Microprocessors, which Mazor helped develop, are now found in automobiles, computers, and medical equipment all over the world.

# ARTISTS

## Judy Chicago

**Born:** July 20, 1939 at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Artist, writer

Judith Cohen, now known throughout the art world as Judy Chicago, earned her Bachelor's and Master's in Art at UCLA in the 1960s. Chicago's feminist art has garnered international recognition. Her most famous work is *The Dinner Party*, a multimedia installation that illustrates the history of women in Western Civilization. For her *Birth Project*, Chicago employed needle workers around the country to explore the birth process. Other major projects by Chicago include *The Holocaust Project* and *A Stitch in Time*. She is also the author of several books, including *Through the Flower: My Struggle as a Woman Artist*.

**\*Fun Fact:** Beginning in 2007, *The Dinner Party* is to be housed permanently at the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art of the Brooklyn Museum.

## Tony Fitzpatrick

**Born:** November 24, 1958 at Evangelical Hospital in Chicago

**Occupation:** Artist, actor

Tony Fitzpatrick's gritty collages are often seen as his interpretation of Chicago. *The Wonder* is an ongoing multimedia series. It incorporates drawings, texts, and items such as matchbooks, postcards, and baseball game ticket stubs. Fitzpatrick has published two volumes of *The Wonder*, the second with a foreword by acclaimed writer Alex Kotlowitz. In addition to his prints, Fitzpatrick's artwork has appeared in *The Reader*, on book and album covers, and as a mural at the Old Town School of Folk Music.

**\*Fun Fact:** Fitzpatrick is also an actor and appeared in Lookingglass Theatre's production of Studs Terkel's *Race*.

## Ed Paschke

**Born:** June 22, 1939 at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Chicago

**Died:** November 25, 2004

**Occupation:** Artist

Ed Paschke was a renowned painter who continued to evolve and experiment throughout his career. While he was a Chicagoan, Paschke had great international success. Paschke was one of a 1960s group of Chicago artists called the Imagists, whose fantastical artwork had roots in various movements, including surrealism and pop art. He incorporated comic book techniques and experimented with computer-generated images. Paschke was noted by fellow artists for his generosity and for helping them secure venues for their art.

**\*Fun Fact:** Paschke once appeared with Michael Jordan on a mural beside the expressway for a menswear store.

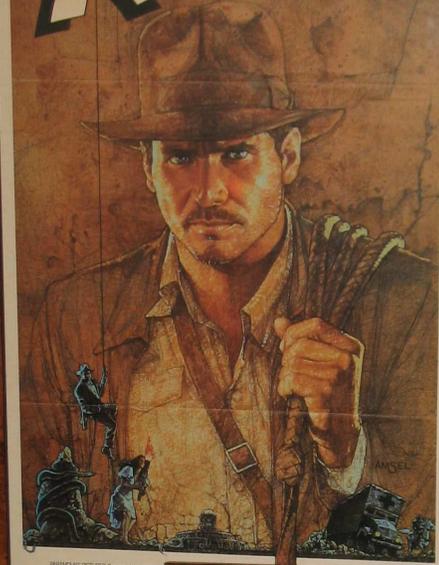
Thanks to Central Services' Duplicating Section for producing this book.



The creators of **JAWS** and **STAR WARS**  
now bring you the ultimate hero  
in the ultimate adventure.

# RAIDERS

of the  
LOST ARK



PARAMOUNT PICTURES Presents A LUCASFILM  
KAREN ALLEN PAUL FREEMAN  
Music by JOHN WILLIAMS  
Directed by LAWRENCE  
Produced by FRANK  
MUSIC BY JOHN WILLIAMS  
ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE

