

RAS TAFARI INC. · RAINBOW BEACH PARK, 3111 E. 77TH ST., CHICAGO

Full Spectrum 2027

A year of free music, learning and celebration for every generation on Chicago's South Shore.

a · DJ classes
Year-round, Tuesdays 4–6 pm in the fieldhouse; join any week

b · Rainbow Wednesdays
14 free summer nights on the beach, one color each week

c · Stage shows
Young performers open for local and major artists

d · Festival days
Juneteenth, Caribbean independence days and more

e · Holiday parties
Fall and winter family nights, indoors

Proposed calendar · **Rainbow Beach Park, Chicago Park District**

Every part is free · Every date is confirmed with park staff before it is announced

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

Twelve months at Rainbow Beach

This is the full year we would like to build with Rainbow Beach Park: classes in the fieldhouse through the winter and fall, a season of family music nights on the beach in summer, and a celebration for every season in between. Each date below is a proposal until park staff confirm it, and every stage show and festival day gets its own Special Event Permit.

Stephen Henry, President, Ras Tafari Inc. · (872) 255-9333

January — WINTER

- **Jan 9** DJ Lab Open House
- **Tue, Jan 12** Rainbow DJ Lab opens (Tuesdays, 4–6 pm)
- **Jan 18** MLK Day of Service

February — BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- **Wednesdays** four listening nights
- **Saturdays** Remix the Record
- **Feb 13** Lovers Rock Valentine's
- **Feb 27** The Journey Set

March — WOMEN'S HISTORY

- **All month** women DJs lead every class
- **Mar 27** Empress Decks Showcase

April — SPRING

- **Apr 1–30** open call for young performers
- **Apr 10, 17, 24** spring workshops
- **Apr 24** Earth Day Beach Cleanup

May — SPRING

- **May 18** Spring Rainbow Showcase
- **May 22** dress rehearsal on the beach
- **By May 28** June lineups

June — SUMMER

- **Jun 2** Rainbow Wednesdays open
- **Jun 19** Juneteenth
- **Wednesdays** on the beach

July — SUMMER

- **Jul 1** International Reggae Day
- **Jul 24** SelassieFest 2027
- **Wednesdays** on the beach

August — SUMMER

- **Aug 1** Belize Day
- **Aug 6** Jamaica 65
- **Aug 17** Marcus Garvey Festival
- **Aug 31** Trinidad & Tobago

September — FINALE

- **Sep 1** The Rainbow Crown
- **Date TBD** end-of-summer festival
- Season report to the park

October — FALL

- **Tuesdays** DJ Lab, year-round
- **Late Oct** Kids Kostume Party

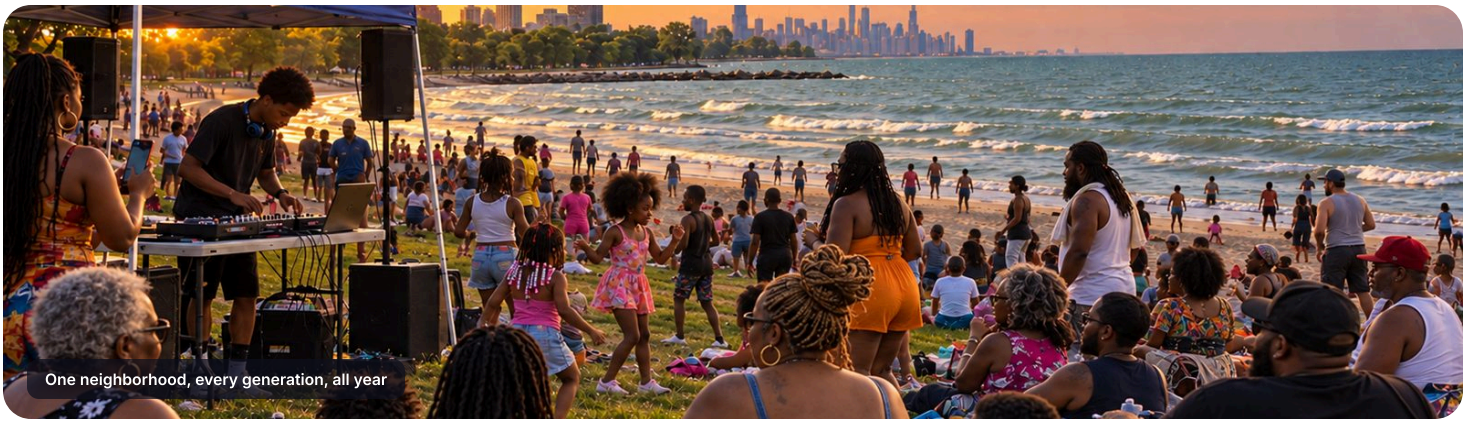
November — FALL

- **Early Nov** Icons Party
- **Before Thanksgiving** Thanks & Giving

December — HOLIDAYS

- Holiday Steppers' Set
- Christmas Party & Grand Market
- Kwanzaa Kuumba Night
- **Dec 31** Noon Year's Eve

Indoors in the fieldhouse: October–May On the beach: June–September All ages · alcohol-free · clean lyrics only



One neighborhood, every generation, all year

WINTER · IN THE FIELDHOUSE

A new year on the decks

JANUARY · FEBRUARY



Rainbow DJ Lab, Tuesdays in the fieldhouse

JANUARY — Open the doors

Sat, Jan 9 1–3 pm	**DJ Lab Open House.** Try the decks, meet the teachers and sign up for the Rainbow DJ Lab. Starter controllers on hand for anyone without equipment.
Tue, Jan 12 Tuesdays, 4–6 pm	**Rainbow DJ Lab opens, year-round.** Every Tuesday in the fieldhouse game room, except federal-holiday weeks and CPS spring break: 39 class dates in 2027. Every child gets their own deck, two lead instructors teach, and a woman guest DJ visits each week. Join any week and work at your own pace through the 42-skill Passport.
Mon, Jan 18	**Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service: Dream Decks.** A morning service project with neighbors, then a family set of freedom songs and Dr. King's words.



FEBRUARY — Black History Month & Valentine's

Four Wednesday listening nights carry the music from spirituals to Afrobeats, while families build their own songs on Saturdays. It all comes together in the Journey Set on February 27.



Wednesday listening nights



Remix the Record, Saturdays

WED Feb 3	**Roots, Spirit & Resistance** Spirituals, gospel, civil rights, early Afro-Latin roots
WED Feb 10	**Soul, Funk & Afrobeat** Chicago soul, Black power anthems, Fela, Black love
WED Feb 17	**The Diaspora Calling** Jamaica, the UK, South Africa, Brazil, Cuba, Haiti
WED Feb 24	**Hip-Hop & the Global Now** Hip-hop, UK rap, Afrobeats, amapiano (clean edits)

Sat, Feb 6 1–3 pm	**Remix the Record, session 1: Find your story.** Black History Month research with AI, led by Albert Harris. Each family team picks one person, place and moment.
Sat, Feb 13 1–3 pm	**Session 2: Check it, then write it.** The two-source rule; two songs per topic, "The Story" and "The Echo."
Sat, Feb 13 evening	**Lovers Rock Valentine's Party.** Lovers rock and Chicago soul love songs for couples, families and elders; kids make valentines for seniors.
Sat, Feb 20 1–3 pm	**Session 3: Make the tracks.** Songs become tracks; DJ students set the running order.
Sat, Feb 27 5–8 pm	**The Journey Set.** DJs mix every team's songs into one set that travels through Black history in order.

All ages. Children under 13 work in a family team with a grown-up at the keyboard. Wednesday listening nights run about 90 minutes in the fieldhouse; every track is a clean edit and every artist is credited on screen with title and country.

SPRING · GETTING READY FOR THE BEACH

Women lead, the city answers

MARCH · APRIL · MAY

MARCH — Women's History Month

All month	**Empress Decks.** Women DJs lead every class in March.
Sat, Mar 27 5–8 pm	**Empress Decks Showcase.** Girls from the DJ Lab play alongside women DJs from Chicago's house, reggae and hip-hop scenes.



APRIL — The open call

Apr 1 – 30	**Open call for Rainbow Wednesdays.** Youth DJs and young instrumentalists (ages 12–24) send a short mix or phone video. Shared through the park, schools, churches, libraries and social media.
Sat, Apr 10, 17, 24 1–3 pm	**Spring workshops 1–3** (free): beatmatching and blending; building a set; live looping and editing.
Sat, Apr 24 10 am – noon	**Earth Day Beach Cleanup.** Neighbors and families clean Rainbow Beach to a youth DJ set.



MAY — Spring Showcase

Tue, May 18 4–6 pm	**Spring Rainbow Showcase.** Students who have earned their colors play for their families, including the After School Matters teen section; Passport certificates handed out.
Sat, May 1 & 8 1–3 pm	**Spring workshops 4–5:** playing with live instruments; the Theme Clash (wordplay and genre-mixing).
Sat, May 22 1–3 pm	**Spring workshop 6: Dress rehearsal on the beach.** Sound check and a full run-through on the Rainbow Wednesdays spot.
By Fri, May 28	**June lineups announced.** A featured DJ, a neighbor and a music educator choose the Youth Showcase performers.



Spring Rainbow Showcase, May 18

SUMMER · ON THE BEACH

Rainbow Wednesdays

JUNE · JULY · AUGUST · SEPTEMBER

Fourteen free family nights, 6:00–8:30 pm, one color each week. Open Decks for young DJs, a featured Chicago DJ and a Youth Showcase every night. On the first Wednesday of each month the music starts at 7:00 pm.



Rainbow Wednesdays at Rainbow Beach

JUN 2	**Opening Night: Rainbow Rising** Red · 7 pm start	JUN 9	**Chicago House** Orange
JUN 16	**Freedom Sounds: Juneteenth Week** Yellow	JUN 23	**Riddim & Steel** Green · Caribbean-American Heritage Month
JUN 30	**Footwork & Juke** Blue	JUL 7	**Old School / New School** Indigo · 7 pm start
JUL 14	**Afrobeats & Amapiano** Violet	JUL 21	**Roots & Culture: SelassieFest Warm-Up** Red
JUL 28	**Soul & R&B Sing-Along** Orange	AUG 4	**Gospel at Sunset** Yellow · 7 pm start
AUG 11	**Back-to-School Youth Takeover** Green	AUG 18	**Band Meets Booth** Blue
AUG 25	**Theme Clash Semifinals** Indigo	SEP 1	**Season Finale: The Rainbow Crown** Violet + full spectrum · 7 pm start

Live stage shows, June–September. On selected evenings, class graduates and young performers open for local and major artists. Each show has its own date set with park staff and its own Special Event Permit. A girl opens every show.

Every Wednesday: setup from 5:00 pm, cleared by 9:00 pm.



FESTIVAL DAYS · SUMMER

Heritage on the lakefront

JUNE – SEPTEMBER



Festival and heritage days (proposed)

Sat, Jun 19	**Juneteenth**
Thu, Jul 1	**International Reggae Day**
Sat, Jul 24	**SelassieFest 2027** (venue to be confirmed). The July 21 Rainbow Wednesday is its warm-up.
Sun, Aug 1	**Belize Day** (first Sunday in August)
Fri, Aug 6	**Jamaica 65: Jamaican Independence**
Tue, Aug 17 approx.	**Marcus Garvey Festival**
Tue, Aug 31	**Trinidad & Tobago Independence**
September date TBD	**End-of-summer Full Spectrum festival**
Summer date TBD	**SelassieFest community day at Rainbow Beach**

FALL & HOLIDAYS · BACK IN THE FIELDHOUSE

Parties for every season

OCTOBER · NOVEMBER · DECEMBER

Tuesdays 4–6 pm	**DJ Lab continues.** Year-round in the fieldhouse game room; students DJ the holiday parties, and the year-end Rainbow Showcase is Tue, Dec 14.
Late October	**Kids Kostume Party**
Early November	**Icons Party.** Prince, Michael Jackson, Bob Marley and Chicago legends; young DJs remix the classics.
Before Thanksgiving	**Thanks & Giving.** A potluck and food drive honoring elders.
Early December	**Holiday Steppers' Set.** Chicago steppin', a South Side tradition.
Mid-December	**Christmas Party & Grand Market**
Dec 26 – 31	**Kwanzaa Kuumba Night**
Fri, Dec 31 midday	**Noon Year's Eve.** A family countdown to noon, with kid DJs.



WORKING WITH RAINBOW BEACH PARK

How every date comes to life

Full Spectrum is designed to make the park's job easier, not harder. Here is what Ras Tafari Inc. brings to every date.

Confirmed with you first

Nothing is announced until park staff confirm the date and the space. Stage shows and festival days each get their own Special Event Permit.

Free for every family

Every class, Wednesday, festival day and party is free. Starter controllers are lent to anyone who doesn't have equipment.

Family-safe, every time

All ages and alcohol-free, with clean lyrics only (radio edits). Youth programs follow the published Rainbow DJ Lab safety policies.

In and out on time

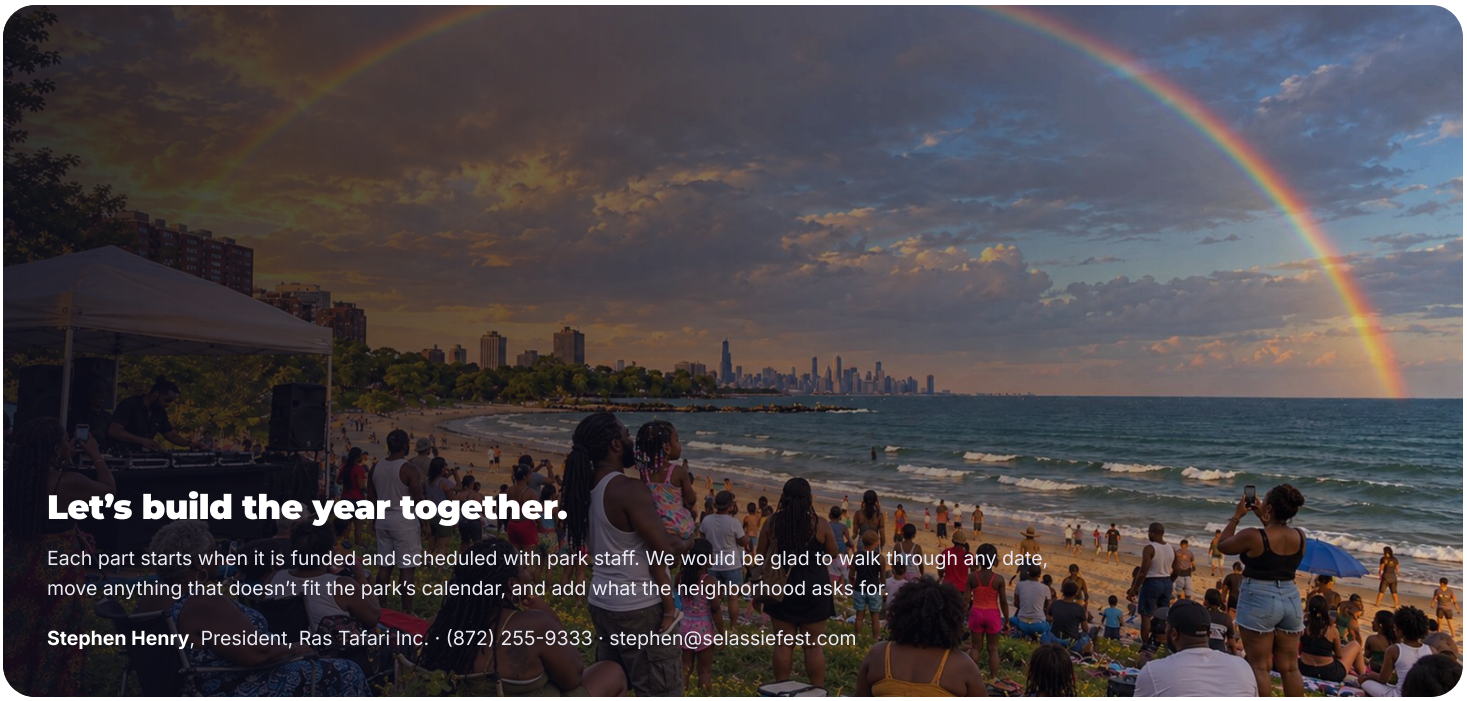
On the beach, setup starts at 5:00 pm and the area is cleared by 9:00 pm. We bring the sound, the crew and the production management.

Girls on every stage

Empress Decks classes are taught by women DJs, and a girl opens every live stage show.

A report back to the park

Each season ends with a written report: attendance, performers, girls' participation and audience reach.



Let's build the year together.

Each part starts when it is funded and scheduled with park staff. We would be glad to walk through any date, move anything that doesn't fit the park's calendar, and add what the neighborhood asks for.

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