



Award Selection Committee 2022



Committee Leader: analía rodríguez

**Leadership Investment Program Officer
Field Foundation of Illinois, Field Leader '19**

analía rodríguez (they/them/elle) is a longtime community organizer and immediate former executive director of the [Latino Union of Chicago](#), a grassroots community organization that fights wage theft and advocates for improved temporary worker conditions. They live in Little Village. In their role as Leadership Investment Program Officer at Field, rodríguez (who does not capitalize their name) will be primarily responsible for managing Field's signature Leaders for a New Chicago program, an innovative partnership between Field and MacArthur Foundations that recognizes past accomplishments and promotes leaders and their organizations, and whose influence informs decision-making in Chicago.



Committee Leader: Geoffrey Banks

**Senior Program Officer, Chicago Commitment,
[John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation](#)**

Geoffrey works with the Chicago Commitment team on all aspects of the strategy's grantmaking in Chicago. A Chicago native, Geoffrey previously served as Senior Program Officer at the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation. He was responsible for the Foundation's grantmaking program in Investigative Journalism, and he co-managed the MacArthur Funds for Arts and Culture at the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation. During his time at the Driehaus Foundation, Geoffrey served on the Steering Committee for the Arts Work Fund for Organizational Development and as co-chair of Chicago African Americans in Philanthropy (CAAIP).



Aislinn Pulley

Co-executive director, [Chicago Torture Center](#)

Aislinn Pulley is the co-executive director of the [Chicago Torture Center](#) where she connects the work to broader dialogues around reparations and transformative justice. She is also a founding member of Black Lives Matter's local Chicago chapter. She was also part of [We Charge Genocide](#) where she pushed an intergenerational, international dialog around the human rights violations and violent oppression of people of color experienced at the hands of police in Chicago.



Grace Pai

Executive Director, [Asian Americans Advancing Justice/Chicago](#)

Grace Pai (she/her) is the Executive Director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice | Chicago, where she leads strategy for issue-based campaigns and power-building work. Most recently, she led a successful campaign to require Asian American history to be taught in all Illinois public schools. Grace has spent the last eight years organizing in Chicago toward racial, economic, and immigrant justice and has trained hundreds of organizers and community leaders across the country.



Maira Khwaja

Director of Public Strategy, [Invisible Institute](#)

As the director of public strategy at Invisible Institute, Maira Khwaja builds a more robust, informed constituency in Chicago. In addition to her work at Invisible Institute, Maira is the founder and co-organizer of [Market Box](#), coordinating the distribution of grocery deliveries to Black and low-income residents of the South Side. She is also the founder of the podcast platform South Side Weekly Radio. She is centering the voices of those affected by police violence and police torture while enhancing the capacity of citizens to hold public institutions accountable.



Monica Lynne Haslip

Founder and Executive Director, [Little Black Pearl](#)

Monica Lynne Haslip is the founder and executive director of Little Black Pearl Art and Design Center and Academy. She encourages engagement in discovery and innovation as key elements of education. She has created a space in Bronzeville that functions outside of the traditional school model, encouraging an art-centric curriculum. Her vision is to demonstrate the power of art as a social justice tool, privileging observation, imagination and the critical role that the courage to transform plays in meeting the needs of communities.



Tony Alvarado-Rivera

Executive Director, [Chicago Freedom School](#)

Tony Alvarado-Rivera is the executive director of Chicago Freedom School. They are a multi-issue community organizer who prioritizes anti-oppression and harm reduction frameworks in their personal and professional life. They have been recognized as a critical voice in Chicago, bringing a deep political analysis and organizing a framework to issues that affect youth. They lead collectively, bringing youth into decision making and using every opportunity to build the capacity of those around them.

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