



**Landmarks Illinois Statement**  
**Regarding Preliminary Landmark Recommendation for Apollo's 2000**  
**Kendra Parzen, Advocacy Manager, Landmarks Illinois**  
**December 7, 2023**

Good afternoon Commissioners,

My name is Kendra Parzen and I am advocacy manager for Landmarks Illinois. My organization supports preliminary landmark designation of Apollo's 2000, historically known as the Marshall Square Theater.

Constructed in 1917 as the Marshall Square Theatre, this Beaux-Arts theatre building is a rare remaining example of a transitional early twentieth century movie theater in Chicago. Its beautifully ornamented exterior and interior spaces communicate its historic and architectural worth. It is also equally deserving of recognition for its more recent history as a venue for Latin music and other programming tailored to the Latino community in Little Village.

The current owners, the Galindo family, have been excellent stewards of this building since 1988. Granting landmark designation will give them assurance that their stewardship of this building will continue even if ownership changes in the future. It can also facilitate new

financial opportunities to help them continue to care for the building and grow their focus of providing a venue for cultural diversity in the Little Village neighborhood.

We commend the Galindo family for voluntarily seeking landmark designation and hope that they will serve as an example to other private owners of community anchor buildings across the city. Thank you for considering my comments.