



Kurdish Cultural Center of Illinois (KCCI) 2022 Activities and Events:

We, the Kurdish Cultural Center of Illinois, are very grateful to have many supportive members and dedicated volunteers helping our community grow. We would like to express our appreciation and thank everyone for their sincere efforts. Please see what we accomplished during the past year:

March 5: In celebration of International Women's Day, KCCI hosted an afternoon of short film screenings, discussion, food, and Tea. This gathering highlighted the achievements, resilience, and contributions of Kurdish women throughout history.

March 17: KCCI commemorated the victims of the 1988 Anfal Genocide through "The Symphony of Loss on Anfal Commemoration", a lecture presented by Leila Ghasempour. The event honored the lives lost while educating attendees on the historical impact of the genocide, creating a space for remembrance and justice.

March 27: Members gathered at the Crystal Palace Banquets for KCCI's annual Newroz celebration and art show. Members showcased their various forms of art centering the topic of the significance and history of Newroz alongside traditional food, music, dancing, and festivities celebrating the arrival of spring and strength of the Kurdish community.

April 24: Community members and friends came together for a lively Iftar potluck during the holy month of Ramadan. Through shared meals and conversation, we celebrated the value of generosity and togetherness.

May 8: KCCI celebrated Eid with a joyful picnic at LaBagh Woods, where members enjoyed delicious food, outdoor games, and quality time together. The event gave an opportunity to celebrate the holiday while enjoying friendships and community in a relaxed outdoor setting.

May 28: Charity Gala hosted by Middle Eastern Studies Student Association (MESSA) for KCCI brought together supporters for an evening of culture and entertainment. We enjoyed live performances by Adar Penaber, Livia Gazzolo and Band, and Kamran, while participating in a silent auction to help support KCCI's mission and future on the campus of University of Chicago.

July 10: Members gathered for a summer community picnic celebrating both Eid and the season. The day featured a shared breakfast, a potluck style lunch, and opportunities for families and friends to connect through food, conversation, and outdoor activities.

December 25: KCCI concluded the year by holding its 2023-2024 board member elections, guiding KCCI's future initiatives.

Board Members of 2022

<u>President:</u> Osman Cen	<u>Vice President:</u> Bahadin H Kerborani Betul Serbest <u>Secretary:</u> Ridvan Bolgi
<u>Treasurer:</u> Mustafa Renas Aktas	<u>Members:</u> Dilek Ariya Serbest Ferat Imrak Gonul Duzer Ibrahim Munigu Muhlis Buyukkaya Ramazan Balikci Serhat Yesilmen

If you have any questions or suggestions, please let us know. We will be happy to hear your feedback to strengthen our community together. **Address:** 4217 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60641 **Email:** info@kurdsofillinois.org

* This report was generated by a participant of Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), Suha Kapadia in 2026.