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## ***Minnesota Quilters Annual Quilt Show Sponsorship Information***

### ***The Organization***

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. (MQ) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization so your sponsorship donation is tax deductible. Formed and incorporated in 1978, the mission of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. is to further the preservation of quilting, to educate, and to document the art and craft of quilting in Minnesota. The charter members were 23 women with varied quilting experience and backgrounds. From that modest beginning, MQ has grown to an organization with approximately 1,200 members.

### ***The Show***

The Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Annual Show and Conference is now one of the premier quilting events in the United States that draws visitors, faculty, and entries from around the world. It is the main fundraising event for Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Proceeds from the show support quilting education, documentation and service projects to educate and inspire quilters. Minnesota Quilters, Inc. gives \$10,000 annually to organizations who support our mission.

In 2007, almost 10,000 visitors came to RiverCentre in Saint Paul, MN to view 415 quilt entries on display, shop 98 vendor booths and 1,245 students attended 91 workshops. The 2008 show has over 600 quilt entries and 98 vendors. The MQ Annual Show and Conference is the largest all-volunteer quilt show in the U.S. 50 to 60 member volunteers plan, prepare and work at the show to make it a huge success. The 2009 show is titled, *Great Lake, Great Quilts*. There will be many special surprises connected with this show that will draw many enthusiastic quilters to Duluth, MN

### ***When and Where***

The Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Annual Show and Conference is traditionally scheduled on the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of June. The show visits four Minnesota locations to make it convenient to all quilters across Minnesota. The next show will be held:

**June 11 – 13, 2009 in Duluth, MN**  
**Classes and Vendor Sneak Preview on Wed. June 10<sup>th</sup>**

Future show dates include:  
June 16 – 19, 2010 in St. Cloud, MN  
June 15 – 18, 2010 in Saint Paul, MN

## ***Sponsorship Opportunities***

Sponsors of the Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Annual Show and Conference contribute a tax-deductible donation of \$500, \$1,000 or \$1,500. Sponsorship donations fund quilt show awards, special events and other quilting activities during the event.

All sponsors have the opportunity to become vendors at the show to sell, demonstrate and promote their product lines to over 10,000 enthusiastic quilters. Sponsors have the option to become vendors at the show without going through the vendor application and selection process. Sponsor booth spaces rent for \$500 for each 10' wide x 8' deep booth space. Sponsors have the option to choose corner booths without paying an additional fee. Each booth comes with back wall and side drape, one topped table, two chairs and a booth ID sign. Sponsors who donate \$500 can rent 1 or 2 exhibit booth spaces. Sponsors who donate \$1,000 can rent 1, 2 or 3 booth spaces. Sponsors who donate \$1,500 can rent 1, 2, 3 or 4 booth spaces. \$1,000 and \$1,500 sponsors have the opportunity to choose their booth placement at the show. All sponsors receive priority placement and priority in choosing load-in times over non-sponsor vendors. Sewing Machine Sponsors provide 25 classroom sewing machines for workshop participants to use during their class times. Sewing Machine sponsors also donate one sewing machine to be used as a door prize.

In return for your sponsorship, your business will receive the following:

- A sponsor acknowledgement letter for your tax deductible donation
- Listing in the 2009 registration book if your commitment is made by October 2008.
- Listing in the 2009 show Book as a sponsor (8,000 books are printed.)
- Sponsor recognition through signage at the show
- Recognition at the winning quilt site or event for your sponsorship
- Recognition at the Awards Banquet Friday evening, including a printed listing on each banquet table or in the banquet program if provided.
- Two (2) complimentary Grand Banquet and Awards Ceremony tickets.
- Sponsor ribbons and name badges for you and your employees to wear throughout the show. MQ will provide you with up to six (6) official name badges; we will require advance notice of the names of your employees
- Listing, with links to your business internet home page, on the MQ show website at: <http://www/mnquilt.org/mq2009>.

Sponsors have the opportunity to become vendors at the show without going through the vendor application process. If you choose to be a vendor at the show, you'll receive the following:

- Premier placement of your business in the merchant mall. \$1,000 and \$1,500 sponsors are placed on the floor plan honoring their preferences if possible.
- A booth sign showing your business name, city and booth number along with a sponsor recognition banner.
- Access to the Mayo Civic Center beginning Tuesday, June 9, 2009, for move-in and set-up in the Merchant Mall. Sponsors receive first choice of move-in times on a first-come, first served basis.
- Security for the Merchant Mall during the show, including non-exhibit hours. However, MQ is not responsible for any loss, such as shoplifting, that may occur during the show, including set-up and take-down.
- Electricity, telephone, and other special booth items are extra. The Sponsor will make arrangements for these items using forms provided by Minnesota Quilters.

If you would like to become a sponsor, call or email Linda Lysdahl, MQ show Consultant. She will need specific information to create a sponsorship contract for you. Your contract will include a sponsorship agreement along with a list of awards and events where you can designate where your money will be used. The sponsorship contract mailing will also include vending information if you're interested in being a vendor at the show.