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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park to Light Up Holiday Season from Saint Paul for Second Year
Mayor Coleman welcomes back new holiday tradition after successful debut

SAINT PAUL – IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park is back for its second year in Saint Paul’s Phalen Park, opening November 24 and continuing through December 31. Last year’s new annual holiday light display attracted more than 40,000 visitors in its first year, raising more than \$50,000 for local charities.

“I am happy to welcome back the IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park, a great addition to the holiday festivities in Saint Paul,” Mayor Chris Coleman said. “The holiday light show cheered so many families from around the region last year, and its mission to raise funds for local charities brings to life the meaning of the season.”

IBEW is partnering with King of Kings Church in Woodbury to treat the public to 50 exceptional life-size displays portraying scenes with a holiday flavor and a winter feel. Several of the scenes along the half-mile tour will be animated. The drive is bordered by Lake Phalen and Phalen Golf Course.

“IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park showcases one of the region’s hidden gems, Saint Paul’s Phalen Park. Together with events throughout the city, Saint Paul is the family destination for the winter holiday season,” Mayor Coleman.

The event will be open seven days a week. Daily tours are from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sightseers will pay a vehicle entrance fee of \$8 Sundays – Thursdays and \$10 on Fridays, Saturdays and holidays.

In addition to the light displays at Phalen Park, IBEW Holiday Lights is introducing a musical element this year. Fifteen of Minnesota’s finest musicians have come together to create a fresh new holiday CD of original mixes to celebrate the season and to help raise funds for Holiday Lights. The CD titled “Home For The Holidays: A Minnesota Christmas” will be on sale for \$10 at Phalen Park during the IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park event, in Twin Cities’ Target Stores and at other IBEW Holiday Lights events.

Musicians for “Home for the Holidays: A Minnesota Christmas” include Tim & Kathy Mahoney, The Blenders, GB Leighton, Patty Peterson, Katie McMahon, Mick Sterling, John Trones, Mary Beth Carlson, Matthew Griswold, Ari Herstand, Roster McCabe, Cate Fierro, Wild Colonial Bhoys, Peter Mayer, and Phil Thompson.

About IBEW Holiday Lights

IBEW Holiday Lights was developed with the sole purpose of creating fun, affordable holiday events in the Twin Cities that pledge 100 percent of net proceeds to local charities. The Holiday Lights project involves two unique holiday experiences in 2009, the Holiday Lights in the Park Light Tour at Lake Phalen in St. Paul, November 24-December 31, and “Home for the Holidays: A Minnesota Christmas” Concert series, November 27 at Mall of America and December 10 at the Pantages Theater. For more information please visit: www.lightsinthepark.org

IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park will be located at 1615 Phalen Drive East, St. Paul, Minnesota. For more information on IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park and musical artists and events.

Event Partners include

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW): The IBEW of the greater Twin Cities is proud to be the “Presenting Sponsor” for the second year. IBEW professional electricians live and work in our community. IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park provides an opportunity to continue their long-standing tradition of giving back. To learn more about the IBEW Power of Professionalism visit www.ibewpros.org.

King of Kings Lutheran Church, Woodbury: Partnering with IBEW to assemble a top-notch event, King of Kings shares leadership in event management, community outreach, and volunteer coordination. For more information, please visit www.kingofkingswoodburymn.org.

City of Saint Paul: Mayor Coleman is excited to see IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park become a holiday tradition in the Twin Cities! The Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Department has been instrumental in getting the event launched.

Hennepin Theatre Trust: Owner of the historic State, Orpheum, and Pantages Theatres, the Hennepin Theatre Trust is devoted to enriching the vibrant cultural atmosphere of the Twin Cities. Producing a show with artists from the IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park CD is a natural fit—engaging theatre goes of all ages and raising the visibility of Minnesota artists. Hennepin Theatre Trust will donate concert net proceeds to IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park charity partners.

Winterland Studios: A recording studio known for having the best producers and engineers bar none. The caliber of artists they work with says it all—Prince, Elvis Costello, Sheryl Crow, Alanis Morissette, The Black Eyed Peas, Lenny Kravitz and Doughty to name a few. Winterland Studios co-produced and handled the mixing and mastering of the IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park CD.

Editor’s note: Interviews with Holiday Lights members, musical artists, sponsors or partners are available by contacting Monique Weiss at 651-307-8194 or mweiss8194@gmail.com

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