

THE CHICAGO MARKET: LIVING AND GIVING™ ANNOUNCES NOT-TO-BE-MISSED SPECIAL EVENTS FOR RETAILERS JANUARY 15-21

CHICAGO – (December 22, 2008) – The Chicago Market: Living and Giving™ continues its mission to keep its buyers informed and enlightened with several not-to-be missed special events this January. Event highlights include a seminar with Robyn Waters, former vice president of Trend, Design & Product Development for Target, a visit from a Domino magazine editor and live window display demonstrations from The Chicago Market's resident interior designer, Mick Santiago. These events can be found only at The Chicago Market: Living and Giving, January 15-21, with Temporaries, including Beckman's Handcrafted Show®, January 17-20.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Robyn Waters Speaking Engagement

Trend/Countertrend – Can you do Good and Make Money in Today's Economy?

Monday, January 19

3 p.m. | The Library, 1520

Join Robyn Waters, *Trend Master* and former vice president of Trend, Design & Product Development at Target as she explains what's important, what's next and how it will be impacted by the economy; can a commodity be a luxury? How can you make something old "brand" new? To be followed by a Meet & Mingle with Robyn and complimentary hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Also, be sure to pick up a copy of Robyn's latest book, *Hummer and The Mini* or *The Trendmaster's Guide from A to Z*. Please R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, January 14th to Carrie Schmitt at cschmitt@mmart.com.

Domino Magazine Event

Monday, January 19

1-2 p.m. | Kenneth Ludwig Home Furnishings, 1510

Join a Domino magazine editor for the unveiling of *Domino: the Book of Decorating*. This beautiful new book cracks the code to creating a beautiful home, bringing together inspiring rooms, how-to advice and insiders' secrets from today's premier tastemakers in an indispensable style manual. The editors take readers room by room, tapping the best ideas from domino magazine and culling insights from their own experiences. With an eye to making design accessible and exciting, this book demystifies the decorating process and provides the tools for making spaces that are personal, functional and fabulous. Complimentary books will be available first come, first served.

The Chicago Market Fashion Show

Sunday, January 18

3 p.m | 8th floor Atrium

Watch as the hottest product to be introduced for 2009 struts down the runway; everything from kid's apparel and toy to home and holiday product.

Signatures Book Signing Events

These author book-signing events featuring exciting personalities and best-selling titles – Complimentary books are available while supplies last.

Saturday, January 17

11 a.m. – 12 p.m. | 13-616

Get a free signed copy of *The Wedding Book: The Big Book For Your Big Day*, and meet author Lisbeth Levine (first come, first served).

Monday, January 19

11 a.m.–Noon | 8-9074A

Get a free signed copy of *eat.shop chicago*, your guide to local restaurants and innovative stores, and meet author Anna H. Blessing. Other city editions are available for purchase (first come, first served).

Power Lunch Seminar Series

Fuel your business and your body through our complimentary Power Lunch Seminar Series. E-mail Carrie Schmitt at cschmitt@mmart.com to R.S.V.P. R.S.V.P. required.

Saturday, January 17

12 –1p.m. | 12-202

Revitalizing Retail

Enjoy a complimentary lunch while Gail Michael explains how La-Z-Boy launched a brand revolution that completely reinvented the look and feel of their company. Michael will discuss the four steps you can take to launch your own revolution.

Sunday, January 18

12 –1p.m. | 12-202

Speed Networking

Network with new-to-market vendors, and get the scoop on the latest in product direct from the source. As you enjoy lunch, each vendor will go from table to table sharing their product news and ideas with you.

Monday, January 19

12–1 p.m. | 12-202

Host the Party!

Learn how to get more customers at store events, show them a better time, and keep them coming back for more.

Store Window Display—set-up LIVE!

Saturday-Monday, January 17-19

9 a.m. | Floor 1, North Lobby

Join Mick Santiago, The Chicago Market's resident interior designer, as he creates three different window display vignettes during the upcoming January Chicago Market. The displays will be created live at 9 a.m. on Saturday-Monday, January 17-19 in The Merchandise Mart's North Lobby and will feature three themes – Holiday, Gift and Lifestyle.

Buyers can talk with Santiago and ask him questions as he creates a themed, life-size window storefront with up to 100 resources from The Chicago Market in under an hour. Each day Santiago will provide buyers with information to replicate the same vignettes in their stores. Santiago will show buyers who to diversify their store's look by using simple, inexpensive elements from a coat of paint and wallpaper to fabric drapery and rugs.

SHOW HOURS

Thursday, January 15

9 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Floors 13, 14, 15

Friday, January 16

9 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Floors 13, 14, 15

Saturday, January 17

Showrooms: 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. | Floors 13, 14, 15

Temporaries and Beckman's Handcrafted Show®: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Floors 8

STYLEMAX™: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Floor 7

Shop Late Night Blowout

6–8 p.m. | Floors 13, 14, 15

Enjoy complimentary food from participating showrooms as you rock out to a different DJ on each floor.

Sunday, January 18

Showrooms: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Floors 13, 14, 15

Temporaries and Beckman's Handcrafted Show®: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Floors 8

STYLEMAX™: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Floor 7

Monday, January 19

Showrooms: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Floors 13, 14, 15

Temporaries and Beckman's Handcrafted Show®: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Floors 8

STYLEMAX™: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Floor 7

Tuesday, January 20

Showrooms: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Floors 13, 14, 15

Temporaries and Beckman's Handcrafted Show®: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. | Floors 8

STYLEMAX™: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. | Floor 7

Wednesday, January 21

Showrooms: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Floors 13, 14, 15

The Chicago Market: Living and Giving will run Thursday, January 15, - Wednesday, January 21, 2009. STYLEMAX will be located on the 7th floor and coincide with The Chicago Market's Market Suites Temporaries, including Beckman's Handcrafted Show®, on the 8th and 12th Floors, Saturday, January 17, - Tuesday, January 20, 2009.

For more information on The Chicago Market: Living and Giving, please visit www.shopchicagomarket.com or call 800.677.6278 (MART).

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Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. (MMPI) is a trade show and property management firm, specializing in managing buildings devoted to wholesale showrooms and commercial office space. MMPI produces more than 300 trade shows, market events and conferences each year. MMPI manages The Merchandise Mart and 350 W. Mart Center in Chicago; Market Square, the Suites at Market Square, Hamilton Market, Plaza Suites, Furniture Plaza and the National Furniture Mart in High Point, N.C.; the Architects & Designers Building and 7 W New York in New York; the L.A. Mart in Los Angeles; and the Washington Design Center and Federal Center Southwest in Washington D.C.

Vornado Realty Trust, owner of MMPI, based in New York City, is a fully integrated real estate investment trust. Vornado's common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and are traded under the symbol VNO.

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