

TAKIN' IT TO THE FIFTIES, POWER LUNCHESES AND SHOWROOM SPECIALS IGNITE THE GIFT & HOME FURNISHINGS MARKET™ AT THE L.A. MART® IN JULY

Market runs from July 15-21, 2008, with Temporaries @ L.A. Mart July 18-21

LOS ANGELES, CA (June 11, 2008) – The biggest lineup of the latest in gift and home furnishings as well as not-to-be missed special events and unparalleled buyer amenities continue the L.A. Mart®'s 50th Anniversary celebration this July with the Gift & Home Furnishings Market™ at the L.A. Mart®, Tuesday, July 15-Monday, July 21, 2008.

Takin' it to the Fifties, the rockin' '50's- style, summer Saturday night party, will keep the party going with '50's style food, drinks, music and other surprises entertaining buyers and other Market guests during this important July Market. World famous Pink's Hot Dogs will be served from 6-8 p.m. in the lobby.

In keeping with its annual tradition of giving, the Saturday night party *Takin' it to the Fifties* will raise much needed funds for Inner-City Arts, a downtown Los Angeles visual and performing arts school that uses art education to positively affect the lives of at-risk children by unlocking their creative potential for a more hopeful and productive future. A Wall of Giving will be located in the party area, encouraging buyers and Market guests to make their tax free donation in different denominations, ranging from \$20-\$100. Several showrooms and their manufacturers have generously offered to contribute gifts at equal retail value to the donation. Inner-City Arts will also stage an exhibit of visual art in the lobby area, illustrating the talent of the children who benefit from an arts education at Inner-City Arts.

Other special events and amenities during the Gift & Home Furnishings Market™ at the L.A. Mart® include:

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS:

POWER LUNCH SEMINAR SERIES

Fresh perspectives and trends by leaders in the industry, exclusively at L.A. Mart in July.

Hot Topics at Retail: Today and Beyond

Thursday, July 17, 12 p.m.

Complimentary boxed lunch served to first 50 attendees

Presented by Jenny Heinzen York, editor in chief, *Home Accents Today*

A lot of issues face the retail industry today — the environment, imports, the Internet, the state of the economy and more. What can retailers do to meet those challenges? Join Jenny Heinzen York and a panel of expert retailers as they explore these pressing issues. The presentation will

include exclusive data from *Home Accents Today* research, as well as insights and strategies for success. Be prepared for a bright future with this thought-provoking forum.

Growing Green: An Industry Leader

Friday, July 18, 2008, 12 p.m.

Complimentary boxed lunch served to first 50 attendees

Presented by Allan H. Palecek, President of PALACEK

Learn how industry leader Allan H. Palecek has explored exotic locales to find materials and inspiration for a collection celebrated for both its "eco-chic" and fashion-setting style. Long before "green" became ultra-fashionable, founder of the Bay Area-based company, PALACEK, recognized the possibilities of mixing and weaving an international palette of natural fibers into furniture, textiles and accessories that were distinctive, elegant and sustainable. Over the last three decades, PALACEK has set the standard for rattan and wicker, as well as pioneered the use of fast-growth hard wood, sea grass and Havana weaves to create handcrafted, ecology-friendly designs. Immediately following, please join PALACEK for an after Power Lunch reception in Suite 1048, light refreshments will be served.

The Ins and Outs of Eco-Luxury

Saturday, July 19, 12 p.m.

Complimentary boxed lunch served.

Presented by Timothy Corrigan

Join acclaimed designer Timothy Corrigan as he discusses current design trends and his signature look of *European Elegance Infused with California Casual*. Learn about his "Eco-Luxury" philosophy, in which environmental consciousness doesn't require sacrificing style, quality or effectiveness. You'll see proof that looking beautiful and taking care of the planet can go hand-in-hand. Noted for his distinctive flair for interior design, architecture and restoration, Timothy has been named by *Architectural Digest* and *The Robb Report* as one of the top designers in the world!

Timothy Corrigan Home, his line of eco-friendly home care products, signature candles, linens, and custom designed furniture and accessories, can be found at JDH, Suite 800.

SHOWROOMS PRESENT

Enjoy complimentary events right inside the showrooms of your favorite companies.

Fine Art's New Product Introduction

Tuesday, July 15

1-2 p.m.

Light refreshments served.

Showroom Host: Architectural Lighting & Design, Suite 1203

Hear about Fine Art's new product introductions and new line to L.A. Mart.

Meet the Designer

Thursday, July 17

1 p.m.

Refreshments and appetizers served.

Showroom Host: Eve Yun Designs, Suite 354

Meet designer and artist, Eve Yun, and learn about her unique, hand-crafted, eco-friendly furniture collections. Eve Yun Designs specializes in organic, comfortable, contemporary furniture that is inspired by the Earth. Learn more about her mission of “bringing the outdoors in” and view her La Vie en Aroma Rose Candle Collection.

Meet Pharoah Sanders

Thursday, July 17

2 p.m.

Showroom Host: Jazz It Up, Suite 316A/318

Join Jazz It Up for a very special appearance by Jazz legend and Grammy Award winner, Pharoah Sanders, and hear about his long history in jazz and music production. While he made his name with expressionistic, nearly anarchic free jazz in John Coltrane's late ensembles of the mid-'60s, Sanders' later music is guided by more graceful concerns. A dinner for two at Catalina Bar and Grill, including a live performance by Pharoah Sanders himself, will be raffled off. Autographed posters will be available for purchase, while supplies last. Stop by for more details.

Schonbek Crystal Seminar

Friday, July 18

11-12 p.m.

Showroom Host: Architectural Lighting & Design, Suite 1203

Enjoy a very exciting Schonbek Crystal and Lighting seminar.

Wine and Cheese Tasting

Friday, July 18 – Saturday, July 19

1-5 p.m.

Wine and cheese served.

Showroom Host: R.E.P.S., Suite 840

Join R.E.P.S for a special wine and cheese tasting and get an exclusive look at all their new wine-related lines.

Book Signing

Friday, July 18

2-4 p.m.

Mimosas and cappuccinos will be served.

Showroom Host: Entertaining Creative & Fun, Inc., Suite 438

Meet author Vicki Caruana and get your copy of her best-selling book *Apples & Chalkdust* signed. Both a teacher and founder of Teachers in Prayer, her book has ministered more than 325,000 teachers. Vicki also serves the needs of homeschool families with *The ABCs of Homeschooling* and *The Organized Homeschooler*.

Book Signing

Saturday, July 19

1-3 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served.

Showroom Host: Entertaining Creative & Fun, Inc., Suite 438

Despise Mondays? Meet authors Matthew Emerzian and Kelly Bozza and receive a free, autographed copy of their book, *Every Monday Matters: 52 Ways to Make a Difference*. In the book, the pair “do a total makeover on the bad image of Mondays and make that day mean something amazing, something incredible — something unbelievable. It’s a perfect way to have a positive impact, get others involved and make a difference in your life and the lives of others.” First 250 visitors get a free copy of their book while supplies last.

MARKET WEEK AMENITIES:

Late Nite Shopping

Friday, July 18 until 8 p.m.

Shop all the L.A. Mart has to offer on Friday, July 18. Enjoy, as always, two additional hours of your shopping experience accompanied by complimentary hors d'oeuvres on floors 1-10.

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2nd floor, July 18-21, 2 p.m.

Be sure to stop on the Temps floor for complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cocktails...California style!

Infinity Spa

Open daily during Market

12-6 p.m.

Suite 652

Rejuvenate tired feet or freshen up your manicure at the elegant Infinity Spa. A popular break between schedules and appointments, the elegant Infinity Spa will pamper and relax you with treatments such as a massage or foot treatment. Mini-manicure available by appointment only. Walk-ins welcome, appointments preferred.

Lounge. At the L.A. Mart.

Open daily during Market

9 a.m.–6 p.m.

Suite 744

The luxurious Lounge. At The L.A. Mart offers buyers a place to relax, regroup and refresh amid a busy Market day. With a convenient on-site business center, including computers, Internet access, fax and copy machine, you can also take care of business while you are away. Now featuring the Snack Spot, Lounge. is yours to work or just relax and enjoy complimentary refreshments and snacks everyday during Market.

Transportation

In keeping with L.A. Mart's goal of providing an overall seamless, convenient buyer experience during the Gift & Home Furnishings Market, there will be free intervenue shuttles between the L.A. Mart and the California Gift Show at the L.A. Convention Center from Friday, July 18-Monday, July 21. There is also free buyer and designer parking in the south and east

parking lots while space permits and free taxi rides to and from Union Station. Morning and evening shuttle service will be provided from Tuesday, July 15-Monday, July 21 between the L.A. Mart and all downtown host hotels.

Welcome Station

Daily During Market

Main Lobby

8:30 a.m.

Start the day of shopping with complimentary coffee, water and goodies.

SHOW HOURS:

9 a.m.–6 p.m. Tuesday, July 15–Thursday, July 17

9 a.m.–8 p.m. Friday, July 18 **LATE NITE!**

9 a.m.–6 p.m. Saturday, July 19–Monday, July 21

LOCATION:

1933 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90007

For more information, visit www.lamart.com.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Claire Weingarden Nancy Joseph

Public Relations Manager N. Joseph Marketing Communications

Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. Phone: 310.305.0230

Phone: 312.527.7790 E-mail: nancy@njoseph.com

E-mail: cweingarden@mmart.com

About Inner-City Arts

Founded in 1989, Inner-City Arts uses arts education to positively affect the lives of at-risk children by unlocking their creative potential for a more hopeful and productive future. Located in the heart of Los Angeles' Skid Row area, Inner-City Arts provides the highest quality instruction in visual arts, music, dance, drama, animation and ceramics to 8,000 children every year. www.inner-cityarts.org.

The **L.A. Mart** is a registered trademark of Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. (MMPI). The **Gift & Home Furnishings Market** is a trademark of MMPI.

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 Boston Design Center in Boston; 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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