



Inspiring commitment to the Cathedral as a world-class treasure in our community

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Gala fundraiser set to benefit Historic Cathedral of Saint Paul

(Saint Paul, Minn) The Cathedral of Saint Paul is one of the city's greatest civic icons, and justifiably earning its place on the National Register of Historic Places. Preservation of this monumental masterpiece, however, requires a steady influx of funds dedicated to the ongoing maintenance and care of this grand structure. To help raise necessary restoration funding, the Cathedral Heritage Foundation will host its **Third Annual Cathedral Festival of Lights, 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 4, 2013 at the Saint Paul Hotel**, 350 Market Street in downtown Saint Paul.

This gala evening features cocktails, dinner, live and silent auctions and celebrity emcees, with all proceeds directly benefitting the Cathedral's restoration projects and the Foundation's preservation activities. Tickets are \$150 per person, a portion of which is tax deductible.

Well-known Saint Paul philanthropists, Dick and Nancy Nicholson, will serve as this year's Festival of Lights Honorary Co-Chairs. "We support the Cathedral because we believe in helping the community in which we live. We should all be proud of the Cathedral, and Catholics should not have the sole burden of supporting it," said Mr. Nicholson, who also sits on the Cathedral Heritage Foundation Board of Curators. "The Cathedral brings us together as a community," added Mrs. Nicholson, "whether by sound, sight or worship."

Two people, well-known for their work in historic preservation, will serve as co-emcees for the evening. Nicole Curtis is the host of HGTV's top-rated show, *Rehab Addict*, and one the community's strongest advocates for saving historic structures. Duncan Stroik, professor of architecture at the University of Notre Dame, is the designer of the Cathedral's newly completed organ casework. Joining them will be Frank Vascellaro, WCCO TV news anchor and celebrity auctioneer for the evening.

In addition to serving as the mother church for the Archdiocese, this past year the Cathedral hosted internationally acclaimed King's College Choir of Cambridge, and more than 100,000 spectators for the Red Bull Crashed Ice competition. The Cathedral also serves as a popular regional field trip destination for school children as well as for tourists from around the world, welcoming more than 200,000 visitors per year.

For more information about current restoration projects or to register for the Festival of Lights, please visit cathedralheritagefoundaton.org.