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Irish Fair of Minnesota Announces Ahern's Irish Pub as Presenting Sponsor

Saint Paul, MN (July 12, 2010) Organizers of Irish Fair of Minnesota have announced that Ahern's Irish Pub has stepped forward as the presenting sponsor for the 2010 festival. Ahern's is an Irish pub with a proud family tradition which will open this fall in downtown Minneapolis across from Target Field near the light rail station. This is the first year that Ahern's has sponsored Irish Fair of Minnesota, which will take place in Saint Paul August 13-15.

"We're proud to welcome Ahern's Irish Pub as a new Irish Fair partner and we're thrilled that they've stepped forward as presenting sponsor in their very first year," said Sarah Van Sickle, executive director for the festival. "Their support will allow us to continue to stage authentic Irish entertainment and cultural exhibits, expand the fair's offerings and most important of all, to continue to offer free admission, so that it is accessible to all Minnesotans."

With a rich history that dates back to 500 B.C. and the arrival of the Celts to Ireland, the Ahern's have a very Irish beginning. Today, Kelly, David and Molly, are at the helm of Ahern's Irish Pub. Set to open this fall, the pub will feature 14,000 square feet of authentic Irish ambiance, constructed entirely in Ireland and reconstructed onsite. Wandering through the pub will be like strolling through the streets of Ireland: a genuine Irish storefront, intimate snugs and a Victorian area to stop off and nosh and be merry with friends and family. With three floors, open window seating, nightly entertainment and a year-round rooftop bar – downtown Minneapolis will be awash in Irish flair and fun.

"We're very excited to be the presenting sponsor of Irish Fair of Minnesota for the next three years," said Kelly Ahern Jaedike. "We've attended the fair for many years as individuals and know how important of a cultural icon this is for Irish Minnesotans and are so happy to be a part of it."

Irish Fair of Minnesota, the largest **FREE** Irish celebration in the upper Midwest, will be held at Saint Paul's Harriet Island Regional Park Friday through Sunday, August 13-15. **The FREE fair**, which draws over 100,000 visitors will run Aug 13-15, Friday from 3-11 pm, Saturday from 10 am to 11 pm and Sunday from 10 am to 8 pm. For information call 952-474-4711 or visit www.irishfair.com.

Irish Fair of Minnesota is sponsored by Ahern's Irish Pub, Cara Irish Pubs, O'Donovan's Pub, Walser, Sun Country Airlines, Guinness, Finnegan's, Summit Brewing, Wayzata and Jameson. For a complete entertainment schedule or to view photos, visit www.irishfair.com.

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