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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park is Open

The Holiday Event Opened at Phalen Park and is Turning into a Must-See

Saint Paul, MN - IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park is aglow and people are flocking to the park for an opportunity to give back to their community while enjoying some holiday fun with their families and friends. Visitors are enjoying the lighted tour along St. Paul's beautiful Phalen Park from the comfort of their automobiles.

The event in Phalen Park kicked-off in mid-November as St. Paul Mayor Coleman, local artists from the new holiday CD, "Home for the Holidays: A Minnesota Christmas," and charity recipients from Second Harvest Heartland, Union Gospel Mission, St. Paul Parks Conservancy and UnderConstruction, flipped the master switch on the 50 larger-than-life holiday light sculptures and animated displays.

"Local community members are lining up to enter Phalen Park," said Vicki Sandberg, Marketing Director for IBEW. "The support from the community is what makes this event a success. We are eager to present very large checks to the IBEW Holiday Lights charities this year. Come down to Phalen Park and see the holiday aglow with your families."

IBEW Holiday Lights in the Park will run during Minnesota's winter holiday season, from Nov. 24 through Dec. 31. Daily tours are from 5:30 pm to 10:00 pm. Sightseers will pay a vehicle entrance fee of \$8.00 Sundays – Thursdays and \$10.00 on Fridays, Saturdays and holidays. All net proceeds of the event will be distributed to the following local charities in the Twin Cities:

Second Harvest Heartland: *The Upper Midwest's largest hunger-relief organization, working to end hunger through community partnerships. SHH distributes more than 48 million pounds of food annually to more than 980 member agencies and programs in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Each \$1 donated provides \$9 in grocery products to our neighbors in need.*

Union Gospel Mission: *Working to meet the physical, emotional, spiritual, and educational needs of the economically disadvantaged men, women and children of the Twin Cities, through a variety of life-changing programs and services.*

Saint Paul Parks Conservancy: *Securing resources to enhance parks and recreational opportunities throughout Saint Paul.*

UnderConstruction: *Teaching youth what it takes to be an employable worker. Introducing high school students to the construction trades to explore the possibilities of a construction career.*

“Each dollar donated to enter the event at Phalen Park or to purchase the CD, ‘Home for the Holidays, A Minnesota Christmas,’ goes right back into the coffers of the charities and therefore the community,” said Sandberg.

IBEW, partnering with King of Kings Lutheran Church, Woodbury, will be treating 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. Ice castles with snow drift peaks, a large tunnel of lights and deer leaping high over the cars are only a few examples of the wonderful creations on the tour. All of the displays have new energy efficient LED bulbs providing a greater variety of colors and styles.

Holiday Lights in the Park is located at 1615 Phalen Drive East, St. Paul, Minnesota. For more information about the event or charity recipients, please visit: www.lightsinthepark.org

About The 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 are your neighbors who live in the communities they've worked so hard to build. 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.

About 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

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

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