



HISTORIC CHICAGO
BUNGALOW ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Jane DeRonne – MK Communications
312.822.0505 (office); jderonne@mkcpr.com

Historic Chicago Bungalow and Green Home Expo 2009 Draws More Than 8000 *140 exhibitors, 15 workshops, expert advisors share resources and advice to homeowners from across the city and beyond*

CHICAGO – More than 8,000 Chicagoans interested in home restoration, rehab and energy efficiency filled the Merchandise Mart's 8th floor Saturday during the Historic Chicago Bungalow and Green Home Expo 2009, the region's largest homeowner expo, organized by the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association and the City of Chicago's Departments of Environment and Community Development.

Visitors to the event were greeted by more than 140 exhibitors offering everything from arts and crafts furniture and tiles to energy efficient appliances, from restoration services to great deals on financing renovations or fundamental repairs. Most exhibitors are designated as "green exhibitors," offering eco-friendly and energy-saving products and services.

More than 15 workshops throughout the day offered instruction and information on diverse topics of energy conservation, restoration, retrofit and how to finance desired changes. In addition, three design and preservation household names were on hand with advice and tips on topics from preserving your historic home to fresh, eco-friendly, inexpensive design solutions: "The House Doctor" Bob Yapp, Kelly Edwards of HGTV's hit show "Design on a Dime" and Lou Manfredini of HouseSmarts TV and WGN Radio 720.

The "Ask an Architect," where homeowners got free professional consultations on how to achieve their restoration or remodeling goals, was back by popular demand. New this year was the "Mortgage Check-Up" station, providing free one-on-one advice on home financing.

"Restoring a historic home is the most green-friendly rehab project available today – and the Historic Chicago Bungalow and Green Home Expo brings all of the tools necessary directly to homeowners," said Annette Conti, Executive Director of the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association. "The Expo continues to be more and more innovative, providing Chicago residents more resources and know-how to renovate or finance their bungalow or green home projects."

Admission to the Expo is free, street and lot parking are available, and the Merchandise Mart can be easily reached by public transportation, with a Brown Line CTA stop immediately in front of the building.

The Expo was begun in 2002 and was expanded in 2006 to include green home resources. It grows every year, bringing preservation and green resources to more than 8,000 people.

“In Chicago's ongoing effort to be the greenest big city in America, even the smallest environmentally-friendly renovation in the home can pay dividends to your family's wallet and health,” said Commissioner of the Department of Environment Suzanne Malec-McKenna. “We hope the lessons learned today will help Chicagoans make their homes, neighborhoods and city healthier and more energy-efficient.”

Presenting sponsors of the 2009 Expo include Abt Electronics, Bank of America, Christy Webber Landscapes, Comcast, the Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust and Peoples Gas. Other sponsors include Chicago Association of Realtors, DNR Construction, Inc., Harris Bank, Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation, Illinois Housing Development Authority, JL Construction and Park National Bank.

For more information on the 2009 Expo, please visit the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association at www.chicagobungalow.org.

###

Note to editors: Photos of the event are available for download from the following websites.

Photo 1: http://www.mkcpr.com/filebin/Expo2009_Daley.jpg

Suggested caption: Mayor Daley, one of more than 8,000 Chicagoans to attend the Historic Chicago Bungalow and Green Home Expo 2009, pauses for a photo with Deborah Talamantez and her husband, winners of two Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Bungalow Awards.

Photo 2: http://www.mkcpr.com/filebin/Expo2009_BofA.jpg

Suggested caption: Some of the most popular resources at the Historic Chicago Bungalow and Green Home Expo 2009 were the grants and loans available from the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association, the City of Chicago and partner lenders, including Bank of America.

Photo 3: http://www.mkcpr.com/filebin/Expo2009_Yapp.jpg

Suggested caption: “The House Doctor” Bob Yapp, one of the headliners at the Historic Chicago Bungalow and Green Home Expo 2009, spoke to a packed crowd about how historic preservation can save energy and money.

Photo 4: http://www.mkcpr.com/filebin/Expo2009_Abt.jpg

Suggested caption: The more than 8,000 visitors to the Historic Chicago Bungalow and Green Home Expo 2009 accessed the products and services more than 145 exhibitors, including Abt Appliances and Electronics, which showed off an array of energy-saving appliances.

Photo 5: http://www.mkcpr.com/filebin/Expo2009_AIA.jpg

Suggested caption: Architect Joanne Liska of AIA Chicago holds an individual consultation with one of the more than 8,000 visitors to the Historic Chicago Bungalow and Green Home Expo 2009 at the “Ask an Architect” station.

143 – Abt

986 – B of A TIF

078 – Bob Yapp

036 – Mayor Daley/Driehaus winners TIF

139 – AIA architect Joanne Liska