

Museum of

MODERN ICE Chicago

featuring **PAINTINGS BELOW ZERO**
by **GORDON HALLORAN**

FEBRUARY 1 – 29, 2008

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THE McCORMICK TRIBUNE ICE RINK IN MILLENNIUM PARK OPENS FOR THE 2007-08 SEASON ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

****Michigan Avenue Ice Rink Offers Free Admission for Skating****

****During February, Visitors Can Skate on a Spectacular Multicolored
Ice Painting Embedded into the Rink****

The McCormick Tribune Ice Rink in Millennium Park will open for the 2007-08 season on Wednesday, November 14 and will remain open through Sunday, March 16, 2008, weather permitting. This is the seventh skating season for the popular McCormick Tribune Ice Rink, which draws more than 100,000 skaters annually.

The McCormick Tribune Ice Rink is free and open to the public. Skate rental is available for \$9. The ice rink is located on Michigan Avenue between Washington and Madison Streets.

The rink is open daily from 10am until 10pm. On Christmas Day, December 25, and New Year's Day, January 1, the rink will be open from Noon – 8pm. (Please note that the rink will close at 8pm on Thursday, December 27 and Monday, January 7).

During February, visitors have the unique opportunity to skate on an abstract ice painting embedded into the rink by Canadian artist Gordon Halloran. The ice rink art is part of *Museum of Modern Ice*, a new winter festival in the Park which also features Halloran's colossal, site-specific ice wall – 95 feet long and nearly 12 feet tall – of boldly colored, abstract ice paintings on the Park's Chase Promenade Central. On weekends throughout the month-long festival, free family games, crafts, and activities will be offered at the American Express Heated Tent, located adjacent to the ice wall.

The ice rink is just one component of the 24.5-acre Millennium Park, which has welcomed millions of visitors since opening in July 2004. Other attractions in the park include the Frank Gehry-designed Jay Pritzker Pavilion and BP Bridge; the interactive Crown Fountain designed by Jaume Plensa; the contemporary Lurie Garden; and *Cloud Gate*, the 110-ton steel sculpture designed by Anish Kapoor.

Information about Millennium Park and *Museum of Modern Ice* is available by visiting www.millenniumpark.org, or calling 312-742-1168.

(Note to press: The McCormick Tribune Plaza in Millennium Park is operated by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs. For media information on other skating rinks operated by the Chicago Park District, including those at California Park, Daley Bicentennial Park, McKinley Park, Midway Plaisance Park, Mt Greenwood Park, Riis Park, Rowan Park, Warren Park and West Lawn Park, contact 312-742-4786.)

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