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Countdown to Design Chicago: October 3-4, 2017

The Midwest's largest, most immersive residential design conference brings together interior designers, architects and luxury custom homebuilders for a one-of-a-kind, two-day experience

Chicago, IL (August 10, 2017) – Coming Soon! [The Design Center at the Merchandise Mart](#) and [LuxeHome](#) will host [Design Chicago](#), the Midwest's largest residential design conference, on October 3 and 4, 2017, at the iconic Merchandise Mart in downtown Chicago.

The two-day event will showcase 39 featured presentations and 25 CEU programs featuring industry luminaries, 14 strategic media partners and more than a dozen well-respected editors, along with 50 open houses, 56 featured product debuts and newly opened showrooms ready to be explored.

Design Chicago will welcome leading interior design, architecture and luxury custom homebuilding professionals from across the Midwest, as well as coast-to-coast. All programming in the more than 120 showrooms across 600,000 square feet on the Merchandise Mart's 1st, 6th and 14th floors, is complimentary to the trade-only audience.

The conference will feature notable members of the design community including Jonathan Adler (The Shade Store, Suite 105), Christopher Peacock (Christopher Peacock, Suite 148) and Mick De Giulio (de Giulio kitchen design, Suite 121); design expert and TV personality Vern Yip (Fabricut, 6-117); Eva Quateman (deAurora, Suite 1499); author and furniture designer Marshall Watson (Edwards Ferrell + Lewis Mittman, Suite 1483); along with CEU presentations from Joyce Romanoff (Maya Romanoff, Suite 6-167); Chad Stark (STARK, Suite 6-102); Sue Wadden (Sherwin-Williams, 1448 conference center); and award-winning architect Julie Hacker, FAIA (Pella Crafted Luxury, Suite 100).

In addition, Design Chicago will include two exclusive ticketed events:

Chairs for Charity, October 3, 2017, 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM – This signature event from *Splash*, in conjunction with *Chicago* magazine, features the best that Chicago's design community has to offer. The event challenges area designers with the task of bringing a vintage chair back to life – all in the name of charity. Attendees are encouraged to bid on these re-imagined, one-of-a-kind chairs via a silent auction to benefit Designs for Dignity, a non-profit organization that transforms the existing spaces of other nonprofits through pro bono design services.

Chicago VIP Luxury Gala, October 4, 2017, 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM – Design Chicago culminates with the ninth annual Chicago VIP Luxury Gala, where a who's who of the design industry will come together to celebrate the best of Chicago and Midwest design. The event will feature the induction of four, soon-to-be-announced, residential design industry icons into the Merchandise Mart Hall of Fame. The 2017 Chicago VIP Luxury Gala is generously sponsored by exclusive Media Sponsor, *Luxe Interiors + Design*; Platinum Sponsors, Bosch, Gaggenau and Thermador; Gold Sponsors, Pella Crafted Luxury and Sherwin Williams; and Silver Sponsors, Gary Lee, Vicostone and Wood-Mode.

Tickets for both events will go on sale in mid-August 2017.

“Each year, we look forward to Design Chicago bringing together a talented group of design icons, industry leaders and trade professionals to experience the Design Center and LuxeHome, and 2017 looks to be our best event yet,” said Susan McCullough, Senior Vice President at theMART. “Through this year’s jam-packed lineup of featured presentations, CEU-accredited seminars, product debuts and networking events, we intend to provide attendees with a valued and inspiring experience, ensuring they see our showrooms as a vital resource for all of their design projects.”

Design Chicago online registration will open in mid-August 2017 at www.designchicagoevent.com.

About the Design Center at The Merchandise Mart (theMART)

The Design Center, located in Chicago's historic Merchandise Mart, is home to four floors constituting the world's largest and finest design center. As a leader in the \$65 billion residential home furnishings market, the Design Center offers the largest presentation of high-end, customizable, residential and outdoor home furnishings worldwide, all under one roof. Encompassing 750,000 square feet, boasting more than 125 showrooms and featuring more than 2,500 product lines, it is the ultimate resource for designers and design enthusiasts of luxury furniture, fabrics, floor coverings, wall coverings, lighting and much more. For more information, visit designcenter.com. Visit Design Center on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

About LuxeHome®

LuxeHome is the world’s largest collection of premier boutiques for home building and renovation located on the first floor of the Merchandise Mart in Chicago. With more than 125,000 square feet of showroom space featured in over 35 boutiques, LuxeHome is host to the finest products for home building and renovation from the most recognized and respected manufacturers worldwide.

LuxeHome offers discerning homeowners and trade professionals one-stop shopping convenience with access to the finest kitchen, bath, tile, lighting, cabinetry, appliances, countertops and much more. LuxeHome displays the widest selection of products to suit all upscale design styles, from modern European to classic American to traditional English. In addition to the extensive lineup of premier brands, each boutique offers knowledgeable designers who are available to assist with all phases of each design project. LuxeHome's boutiques are open for shopping Monday through Saturday. For more information, visit www.luxehome.com. Follow LuxeHome on [Facebook](#), [Houzz](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

Vornado Realty Trust, owner of the Merchandise Mart, based in New York City, is a fully integrated equity real estate investment trust. Vornado’s common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and are traded under the symbol VNO. www.vno.com

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