



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MEDTRONIC TWIN CITIES MARATHON MORE THAN 75% FULL**

*Participants from around the world will make the trip to celebrate the 28<sup>th</sup> running of the Most Beautiful Urban Marathon in America®.*

(Minneapolis, MN) – Participants from all 50 states and 13 countries have registered for the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon, pushing registration totals past the 75% mark. Registration demographics are trending similarly to years past, with the majority of the participants coming from Minnesota, followed by Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the rest from around the nation and the world.

Ludwig Cavallar will travel to the Twin Cities for his fifth Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon from Switzerland again this year. He said a business trip here 10 years ago introduced him to friends and a new found passion for running. And Lutz Stroback will travel from Germany this year, making this trip 15 years after his first visit to see relatives in Minnesota and the second marathon he will have run. He said the beauty of running in “Indian Summer” and the course through the “parks and nature” also motivated his decision to return.

Registration is on track with many recent non-anniversary years, according to race officials. “We are honored that runners continue to come to Minnesota to take part in our marathon,” said Twin Cities Marathon, Inc. executive director Virginia Brophy Achman. “This year we are adding a special opportunity for one registered runner to win the ‘Best Seat in the House’ contest, giving the winner many of the same experiences professional runners are given when they come for the weekend to participate in a championship event here at one of our races. We continue to look for ways to make this marathon an event people look forward to taking part in year after year.”

There are 17 corporate teams registered for the marathon. This year, the ING Neighborhood Cheer Zones will return along the course for spectators to gather and celebrate the race with an “International” theme featuring a special international cheer zone to encourage ethnic communities in the Twin Cities to come out and welcome runners from around the world. The marathon was ranked 9<sup>th</sup> largest in the nation in 2008 based on the number of finishers.

***About Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon Weekend***

The Most Beautiful Urban Marathon in America® is recognized as one of the top marathons and great road races of our time and registration is currently underway. Join us as the tradition continues October 2-4. The three-day weekend celebration of fitness includes a 5K run/walk, children’s fun runs, pasta dinner, health and fitness expo and Medtronic TC 10 Mile, in addition to the marathon. Medtronic is the title sponsor of marathon race weekend events. New this year, the “Best Seat in the House” contest will award one marathon participant the opportunity to experience their run the same as a professional runner in our Championship races. Visit [mtcmarathon.org](http://mtcmarathon.org) for more information.

***About Twin Cities Marathon, Inc.***

Twin Cities Marathon, Inc. is the non-profit organization that organizes running events throughout the year, including the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Medtronic TC 1 Mile, 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon, 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Medtronic TC 10 Mile, 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Medtronic TC Family Events & TC 5K and Medtronic TC Kids Marathon program and related events, as a community service for the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. Visit [mtcmarathon.org](http://mtcmarathon.org) for more information and on our [Twin Cities Marathon, Inc. page](#) on Facebook.

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