

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Mackenzie Lunde
GdB Pitch
952.797.6970
mlunde@gdbpitch.com

# **Aquatennial Adds Canine Film Fest to This Year's Lineup**

Submit your favorite video & make your dog a star

MINNEAPOLIS (April 28, 2017) – The Minneapolis Aquatennial announced today that it is adding the Candid Canines Film Fest to the 2017 lineup in partnership with Can Do Canines, a local organization dedicated to connecting people with disabilities to specially trained dogs.

The Candid Canines Film Fest, which will take place Thursday, July 20 from 4 pm-9 pm at Target Field Station, is also seeking video submissions from dog lovers showcasing their dog's talents and unique personalities. The clips will be compiled into a 40-minute film.

Candid Canines Film Fest joins more than two dozen events that will take place during the 2017 Aquatennial, which runs from Wednesday, July 19 through Saturday, July 22. This year's Aquatennial is headlined by the CenterPoint Energy Torchlight Parade on July 19 at 8:30 pm and the Target Fireworks on July 22 at 10 pm.

"We are thrilled to add the Candid Canines Film Fest to our Aquatennial lineup. Now our favorite canines can enjoy the spotlight, too," said Leah Wong, vice president of external relations, mpls downtown council. "We invite you to share in the fun with us as we get together for more than two dozen events during Minneapolis' Official Civic Celebration."

Videos of favorite dog moments can be submitted through Thursday, June 15 at Aquatennial.com/participate.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Aquatennial to debut our event in downtown Minneapolis," said Alan Peters, Can Do Canines Founder and Executive Director. "Our goal is to share the Can Do Canines story with a new audience and what better way than through a celebration of dogs."

Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets to Target Field Station. Pets are welcome, and there will be multiple screenings.



Along with the Candid Canines Film Fest submissions, there are several additional ways for people to take part in this year's Aquatennial celebration. Applications for the CenterPoint Energy Torchlight Parade are now available at <a href="mailto:aquatennial.com/register">aquatennial.com/register</a>. You can also participate in several Aquatennial events and activities. Visit <a href="mailto:aquatennial.com/participate">aquatennial.com/participate</a> to learn more.

The Candid Canines Film Fest joins an Aquatennial lineup that perennial favorite such as the Twin Cities River Rats water ski shows, Twin Cities CariFest and more. More information on Aquatennial events is available at <a href="mailto:aquatennial.com/events">aquatennial.com/events</a>. Follow along throughout the coming weeks as more events are announced.

## **About the Minneapolis Aquatennial**

The Official Civic Celebration of the City of Minneapolis offers outstanding entertainment and activities in the City of Lakes for all ages. It is managed and produced by the mpls downtown council. The 2016 Aquatennial was sponsored by Target, CenterPoint Energy, U.S. Bank, Zeus Jones, Life Time Fitness, Xcel Energy, City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, Hennepin County Medical Center, Minnesota Twins, WCCO-TV, CBS Radio, Go 96.3 and K102. For more information, please visit <u>aquatennial.com</u> or call (612) 376-7669.

## About the mpls downtown council

Founded in 1955, and one of the most historic central business associations in the nation, the mpls downtown council (mdc) is a membership-based entity that works to create an extraordinary downtown. The mdc's collaborative development of the *Intersections: Downtown 2025 Plan* is designed to help downtown businesses, community leaders and citizens build on downtown assets and implement future goals. For more information, please visit mplsdowntown.com.

### **About Can Do Canines**

Can Do Canines is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people with disabilities by creating mutually beneficial partnerships with specially trained dogs. Since 1989, Can Do Canines has provided more than 570 assistance dogs to people with disabilities; all free of charge. Our fully trained dogs, often adopted from local animal shelters, are provided to our clients who live with disabilities that involve mobility challenges, hearing loss or deafness, seizure disorders, diabetes complicated by hypoglycemia unawareness or children with autism. Can Do Canines is located at 9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, MN 55428. For more information visit <a href="can-do-canines.org">can-do-canines.org</a>. Candid Canines Film Festival Corporate Partners include Subaru, American Airlines, Metro Dogs Daycare & Boarding, Anchor Bank and The Griff Group.

###