

PRESS RELEASE

June 25, 2022 | Chicago, IL

h+h americas launches successful premiere

- First offspring of the world's leading trade fair "h+h cologne"
- Hosting various soft crafts industries under one roof
- 195 exhibitors and more than 2,000 attendees
- 35 + conference sessions
- Digital After Show - the week after show closing

Many smiles and happy faces were seen during the first edition of h+h americas which took place from June 22-24, 2022 at the **Donald E. Stephens Convention & Conference Center in Rosemont/Chicago**. Right off the bat this trade show and conference gathered 195 exhibitors and more than 2,000 attendees during 2 ½ days of activities on the show floor and extensive conference sessions.

"We are very encouraged by the strong response we received among the handicraft community. We had buyers from all major retailers as well as store owners from all across North America, Europe and as far as Australia coming to our event. Many attendees praised the diverse product range and appreciated the exposure to international product lines from 39 countries normally not seen in the US. Because of strong demand, we are planning to integrate even more categories for our event next year such as beading, scrap booking, cake decoration and many others," said Mette Petersen, President and Managing Director of Koelnmesse Inc.

"A big compliment to our North American team as well as to our conference partner, Craft Industry Alliance, for successfully bringing the h+h brand from Germany to the US. This first-time event on US soil will mark the start of many future editions in the coming years and we look forward to seeing exhibitors and attendees travelling to our trade shows in Cologne and Rosemont next year," said Gerald Boese, CEO of Koelnmesse GmbH.

"We were thrilled to have been the strategic partner for such a fantastic inaugural event," said Craft Industry Alliance President Abby Glassenberg. "The turnout was incredible and the expertise and skill of the conference teachers was impressive. We came away with new ideas, fresh inspiration, and invaluable business connections. We're so grateful for our partnership with Koelnmesse and the h+h team. We look forward to the Digital After Show and seeing everyone in Rosemont next June!"

"Leading up to our event we built strong relationships with organizations and supporting partners who either support buyers and sellers in this industry or are



h+h americas
Uniting the soft crafts
industries in North
America
June 22-24, 2022
www.hh-americas.com

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engaged in diversity and charity causes within this industry. A big thank you to the Creative Industry Association, Prime Publishing, Knitty, Surface Design Association, Indie Untangled, Women Create, American Quilt Retailer, The National Needlearts Association, Golden Peak, American Crochet Association, Road 2 California, the Handweavers Guild of America as well as Knit the Rainbow and Help Heal Veterans Group dedicated to the advancement of social causes connected to our industry,” added Darrin Stern, Show Manager of h+h americas.

3 days after show closing, h+h americas will be followed by a “Digital After Show” directed to those who wish to continue to follow up or were unable to travel to Rosemont. The dates of the Digital After Show are June 27-July 1st, 2022. The virtual event offers video-based meetings, instant messaging, and access to all pre-recorded educational sessions.

Future Show Dates:

h+h cologne - March 31 - April 2, 2023 - Cologne, Germany - www.hh-cologne.com

h+h americas - June 22-24, 2023 - Rosemont, USA - www.hh-americas.com
(now full 3-day trade show & conference from Thursday - Saturday)

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About Koelnmesse GmbH:

Koelnmesse is the number 1 trade fair location for numerous industries with some 1,000 employees and representatives worldwide. Cologne, Germany is centrally located in Europe and the Koelnmesse fairgrounds with 400,000 square meters ranks in the top 3 within Germany and top 10 worldwide. Every year, Koelnmesse organizes and conducts more than 80 trade fairs, exhibitions, guest events and special events in Cologne and in the world’s most important markets connecting 54,000 exhibitors from 122 countries with more than 3 million visitors from 200 countries.

Koelnmesse Picture Material:

<https://www.koelnmesse.de/news/bilddatenbank/bilddatenbank.php>

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Koelnmesse Inc., located in Chicago, IL for the past 20 years, is **the North American subsidiary and marketing arm of the Koelnmesse Group, one of the world's leading organizers of international trade shows. Their experienced team of marketing and sales professionals organizes trade shows and events in North America as well as North American Pavilions for US, Canadian and Mexican companies at more than 25 trade shows around the world.**

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