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## News Release

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### **EMPHASIS ON CHILDREN AND LEARNING AT 2008 SUMMER KNIT & CROCHET SHOW, JULY 25-27, MANCHESTER, NH**

“Children who accompany adults to the **2008 Summer Knit & Crochet Show, July 25-27, at the Radisson Hotel Center of New Hampshire in Manchester**, can now register for classes designed with youngsters in mind,” says Event Manager Penny Sittler. “So many children are learning to crochet and knit in school, at home or in organizations such as Girl Scouts that the Crochet Guild of America (CGOA) and The Knitting Guild Association (TKGA), which co-sponsor the Knit & Crochet Show, want to encourage and grow their interest.”

Youngsters can sign up for “All the Cool Kids Do It!” with Myra Wood. “Kids of any age will have a blast crocheting their own unique creation, a belt, purse or crocheted jewelry. It’s a crochet party!” says Wood. The class is from 1:30-3:30 on Saturday, July 26. A one-hour class, “Born to Hand-Jive”, is offered on Sunday with Dee Stanziano. “Hand-jive” is finger weaving – crocheting without needles. Students will learn how they can make beautiful and unique purse handles, scarves or trim with just their fingers. A full selection of 89 classes for all ages (including children who are accomplished crocheters and/or knitters) can be viewed online at [www.KnitandCrochetShow.com](http://www.KnitandCrochetShow.com). Teachers include nationally-renowned names: Lily Chin, Joan A. Davis, Valentina Devine, Edie Eckman, Drew Emborsky, Darla Fanton, Margaret Fisher, Jennifer Hansen, Arenda Holladay, Margaret Hubert, Galina Khmeleva, Jenny King, Karen Klemp, Marty Miller, Nancy Nehring, Dora Ohrenstein, Joan Schrouder, Dee Stanziano, Karen Whooley, Nancy Wiseman, Myra Wood and Joyce Wyatt. Classes sell out quickly; pre-registration is strongly encouraged.

Children and adults who do not yet know how to crochet or knit (or who know one art but not the other) are invited to take free 75-minute Teach Me 2 Crochet® or Teach Me to Knit® lessons from yarn manufacturer Coats & Clark in the Activities Area on the Show floor on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Don’t have needles, hooks or yarn? No problem! Coats & Clark provides each student with a complimentary starter kit. Or you can purchase some from approximately 100 booths by vendors

offering crochet and knit supplies for sale from 10-6 Friday and Saturday and 10-3 Sunday.

The shopping floor will feature high-end yarns, pattern books, accessories and more. Meet favorite authors/designers at booth-side book signings. While on the shopping floor, conference-goers can view Crochet Design Contest winning garments – and place their People’s Choice ballot. Bids on Helping Hands Mittens and Gloves Silent Auction items will help provide youngsters across the country with mentors and learning opportunities through the Helping Hands Foundation Inc.’s Needle Arts Mentoring Program<sup>(SM)</sup>. Everyone can: catch some inspiration at the Friday Fashion Parade that features vendor fashions on the Show floor runway, participate in Time Trials to see if they qualify for further competition in the World’s Fastest Crocheter/Knitter Competition, meet and share their designs and ideas with top crochet and knit publishers during Designer Meet & Greet, and visit the CGOA and TKGA booth to learn how to become part of these national associations dedicated to crochet and knitting.

The action doesn’t stop once the Show floor closes! On Friday evening everyone is invited to attend the CGOA Chain Link Annual Member Meeting or the TKGA Mini Member Meeting – both are sponsored by Caron International. CGOA Chapter representatives are encouraged to register to come for updates and idea exchanges at the CGOA Chapter Coffee at 9 pm on Friday night sponsored by Clover Needlecraft Inc. The Knit & Crochet Show gala event is Saturday evening, with the Chic Street Banquet, Fashion Show and Silent Auction Finale. The Fashion Show emcee is Drew Emborsky, The Crochet Dude.

Pre-Show events begin on Wednesday, July 23, with CGOA Professional Development Day. This information-packed, day-long event sponsored by Lion Brand Yarns is open for registration to knitters as well as crocheters and includes a morning panel discussion by Rita Weiss and Jean Leinhauser called “The Dollars and Sense of Being a Published Author”, a lunch topic called “How You Can Participate in Crochetville” by Amy Shelton, and afternoon round table sessions by Vashti Braha, Robyn Chacula, Lily Chin, Edie Eckman, Jennifer Hansen, Susan Lowman, Sharon Mann, Mary Beth Temple, Myra Wood, Vicki Blizzard and Kathleen Sams.

Adding value to just “being there” are the many free items donated by various industry headliners. The first 500 people who pre-register for the Knit & Crochet Show and conference activities will receive a product-filled goody bag from Coats & Clark. An additional number of ready-to-fill shopping bags have been donated by South West Trading Company. Door prizes galore have been provided by vendors and various industry wholesalers and manufacturers – to be handed out at various events throughout the Show.

With so much going on, there's a need to catch your breath once in awhile. The Knit & Crochet Show Lounge will be open 24/7 for gathering with friends, thanks to sponsor Tahki Stacy Charles. The Knit & Crochet Café will be open on the Show floor for relaxation and the purchase of concession items.

Visit [www.KnitandCrochetShow.com](http://www.KnitandCrochetShow.com) for further details, including travel and hotel information. Knit and Crochet Show staff can also be contacted at [KnitandCrochetShow@Offinger.com](mailto:KnitandCrochetShow@Offinger.com), or by phoning 740-452-4541 or faxing 740-452-2552 or writing Knit & Crochet Show, 1100-H Brandywine Blvd, ZanesvilleOH43701-7303.

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Co-sponsored by the Crochet Guild of America (CGOA - [www.crochet.org](http://www.crochet.org)) and The Knitting Guild Association (TKGA - [www.TKGA.com](http://www.TKGA.com) ).

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