

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 16, 2011

**JOHN HANCOCK OBSERVATORY TAKES A TALL STANCE ON SKY HIGH PRIDE MONTH
AND CIVIL UNIONS IN ILLINOIS**

*Global Tourism Leader Celebrates June and New Law with a Social Media
Contest to Win a Civil Union Ceremony More Than 1,000 feet Up*

WHO: John Hancock Observatory

WHAT ...is commemorating Pride month and the recently enacted Illinois Civil Union Act with a new logo, celebrating the first civil union ceremony of its kind 1,000ft up on June 25, and by giving one lucky couple a civil union ceremony of a lifetime.

The Observatory is seeking compelling and enchanting stories of meeting that special someone. [Nominations of stories of friends, siblings, neighbors, etc are also accepted.] Entrants must send a picture of the couple and the happy details to contact@jhochicago.com by 5pm on Saturday, June 18, 2011. John Hancock Observatory will pick the best three, post them to our Facebook page on Monday, June 21 and let the public voting begin! The story with the most votes by Monday, June 27, 2011, will be the lucky couple to celebrate with the person they love high above the city they adore! Prize package also includes "union night" luxury suite accommodations at Chicago's Essex Inn and a \$1,000 gift certificate for Civil Union bands from Holtzmann's Jewelry. The full details can be found online at www.jhochicago.com/skyhighpride

WHEN: New Civil Union Act took effect on June 1, 2011, with ceremonies starting June 2.

First Civil Union at the Observatory takes place June 25, 2011. (Note: this event is not open to press, however, JHO will help coordinate interview requests with members of the Civil Union ceremony accordingly.)

Opportunity for one lucky couple to win a Civil Union Ceremony runs from June 4, 2011 until the call for entries ends June 18, with voting ending June 27.

WHERE: In the heart of The Magnificent Mile – John Hancock Center, 875 N. Michigan Avenue

WHY: "We're thrilled to be hosting a civil union in the Observatory for an amazing couple that was struggling to find a venue," said Daniel Thomas, General Manager of John Hancock Observatory. "The passing of this Act is a true reflection of how diversified Chicago and Illinois are becoming as global tourism destinations. John Hancock Observatory is sky high with pride for the celebration of this historic moment, including the introduction of a new LGBT logo."



Editor's Notes:

Stunning imagery/photos available upon request.

About John Hancock Observatory

Located inside the iconic John Hancock Center, John Hancock Observatory is open every day from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. and, at 875 North Michigan Avenue, stands in the heart of the Magnificent Mile next to hundreds of shops, restaurants, attractions and entertainment venues. Highlights include spectacular 360° views spanning 80 miles and four states and the city's only open-air Sky Walk, all accessed by the fastest elevators in the country. John Hancock Center and John Hancock Observatory are owned and operated by affiliates of Golub & Company. More information at www.hancockobservatory.com. Learn the latest from Chicago's skies by becoming a fan of John Hancock Observatory on Facebook and following its updates on Twitter, [@aThousandFeetUp](https://twitter.com/aThousandFeetUp).

