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**EMPIRE STATE BUILDING TO COMMEMORATE AIDS WALK NEW YORK**

*Empire State Building's lights to glow red in honor of world's largest AIDS fundraising event.*

New York, NY, May 15, 2008 – Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) and AIDS Walk New York (AWNY) announced today that the Empire State Building's famed floodlights will once again honor AIDS Walk New York, now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year. Tonight, beginning at dusk, the famed spire will glow red to kick-off the AIDS Walk weekend.

"From sunset to midnight tonight, New Yorkers will see the solid red color, synonymous with AIDS awareness, beaming from the building. The red lights will serve as a reminder that the AIDS crisis is still matter of great urgency in New York and the United States," said Dr. Marjorie J. Hill, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer of GMHC, the world's first AIDS organization and AIDS Walk New York's primary beneficiary.

The lighting will also honor hundreds of thousands of walkers and donors who have participated in the AWNY over the event's 23 year history. "As one of the largest, most esteemed, and most diverse public events in New York City, we are so proud to have New York City's most famous and prominent building recognize and promote the vital work of GMHC and AWNY," said Craig R. Miller, President of MZA Events and Founder and Producer of AIDS Walk New York.

**About Empire State Building:** Soaring 1,454 feet above Midtown Manhattan, the Empire State Building is the "World's Most Famous Office Building." With new investments in infrastructure, public areas and amenities, the Empire State Building has attracted first-rate tenants in a diverse array of industries from around the world. The skyscraper's robust broadcasting technology supports all major television and FM radio stations in the New York metropolitan market. The Empire State Building was recently named America's favorite building in a poll conducted by the American Institute of Architects.

**About Gay Men's Health Crisis:** Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) is a not-for-profit, volunteer-supported and community-based organization committed to national leadership in the fight against AIDS. We provide services and programs to over 15,000 men, women and families that are living with or affected by HIV/AIDS in New York City, and outreach and education to hundreds of thousands throughout the world. For more information, please visit [www.gmhc.org](http://www.gmhc.org).

**About AIDS Walk New York:** Since 1986, AIDS Walk New York has raised \$97 million for HIV programs and services in the tri-state area, and has grown into the largest AIDS fundraising event in the world. In 2007 alone, 45,000 participants, many of whom were members of 2,400 corporate and community teams, raised a record sum of more than \$6.8 million for Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) and 60 other tri-state area AIDS service organizations. Since its inception, AWNY has raised more than \$100 million. For more information, visit [www.aidwalk.net](http://www.aidwalk.net).

**About MZA Events:** AIDS Walk New York was founded in 1986 by Craig R. Miller and his organization of activists, MZA Events. Miller is the originator of the AIDS Walk fundraising model and has raised more than \$300 million for leading AIDS charities nationwide. For more information, visit [www.mzaevents.com](http://www.mzaevents.com).

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