

Flint Hills to continue sponsoring children's festival

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After a successful weekend that saw 55,000 people flock to downtown St. Paul for the International Children's Festival, its sponsor has signed on for another five years.

Flint Hills Resources announced Monday it will extend its commitment to the five-day festival until 2018. This past week's festival, which featured 129 performances by Australian, Italian, Chinese and other artists was the best attended in 13 years, officials said.

The annual festival, presented by the Ordway Center for Performing Arts, gives kids and their families a taste of various regional and international arts. Flint Resources, which has sponsored the festival since it first began in 2001.

The festival "is an opportunity for us to be a part of something extraordinary, something unique to Minnesota, and something that inspires young people to be creative and dream big," said Scott Lindemann, vice president of operations and plant manager for Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend Refinery in Rosemount.

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