

Frozen Tears Preview

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Memorials show the many faces of remembrance

Events planned for Sept. 11 prove creativity still flowers

By Peg Meier

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From big corporate actions to smaller gestures from the faith community, from donating a fire truck to constructing sacred Tibetan art from sand, Minnesotans will commemorate the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorism. Here are some samples.

Frozen tears

Patrick Scully, a Minneapolis performance artist and activist, said he has found himself awaiting the anniversary with some dread. "I didn't want to find myself remembering the day surrounded by flag-waving people wanting to bomb Iraq for revenge," he said.

He said he knows many people who feel as he does — people who want to remember the tragedy but move forward in peace.

"We don't support a war on terrorism with no end in sight," said Scully, 48. "It feels like the McCarthy era, just before my time. Never before in my adult life has it felt more unsafe to be critical of the government than it feels right now."

So Scully is asking people with similar views to participate in what he's calling a public art ritual. At 9:11 p.m. on Sept. 11, they'll meet on the bridge between Boom Island Park and Nicollet Island in Minneapolis to launch "frozen tears" in the Mississippi River. They'll light small candles and float them in tiny boats made of ice. For directions on how to make the ice boats, see <http://www.frozen-tears.org>.

The candles and the river will melt the ice, "symbol of the new cold war, sometimes also called the war on terrorism," Scully said. "We'll release the tears and let them

melt."

He won't guess how many people will participate. Twenty would be fine, he said, and 2,000 would be better.

2002: A LOOK BACK

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Photo by Joey McLeister

On the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, Charlotte Edminster, 9, prepared a small ice boat with a candle in it to launch in the Mississippi River. Photographer's comment: "The New Cold War] was a quiet, poetic memorial to the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001. People came to this bridge on Nicollet Island with... beautiful night and everyone was so kind."