

Reading and Writing in Minnesota

By Nicholas Clementi, Sandhill Consulting Group

Minnesota and the Greater Twin Cities area is home to an unusually large number of publishers, as evidenced by their prominence at the recent Book Expo America held in New York City.

Minnesota publishers compete in a number of key book categories. Marianne Richmond Studios, based on the northeast side of Minneapolis ([ww.mariannerichmond.com](http://www.mariannerichmond.com)) and downtown Minneapolis' Lerner Publishing (www.lernerbooks.com) and Minnetonka's Meadowbrook Press (www.meadowbrookpress.com) are all important players in the arena of publishing books for children.

The Quay side Publishing Group headquartered on 1st Ave North in Minneapolis house several imprints, including Creative Publishing International (www.creativepub.com) with a series of how-to books, and books on hunting fishing and crafts, including lines from Black and Decker and Singer. Other Quay side imprints include Motorbooks, and Zenith, with titles on motorcycles, heavy machinery and military history.

Finney Company (www.finneyco.com) launched the Great Outdoors Publishing Company, and Milkweed Editions featured titles included Shopping for Porcupine: A life in Arctic Alaska, I am Death, and A Whaler's Dictionary.

Minneapolis-based Coffee House Press (www.coffeehousepress.org) has been in business for a quarter-century. Two of their features titles at the show were The Cry of the Sloth and Fugue State.

[Freeing the Genie Within: Manifesting Abundance, Creativity & Success in Your Life](#)
by: Debra Lynne Katz was a well-received New Age offering from Llewellyn Worldwide Ltd of Woodbury (www.llewelyn.com). Llewellyn is known for its paranormal and New Age publications.

A Cup of Christmas Tea and other books with emotional messages were popular at the Tristan Publishing display (www.tristanpublishing.com) while University of Minnesota Press and Minnesota Historical Society Press are home to cultural, heritage and historical books.

The Kindle and its competitor Cooler (check the spelling on this) attracted a great deal of attention from show goers as technology is all the buzz. Highbridge Audio, with CDs featuring Garrison Keiler, and Teach Me Tapes of Minnetonka (www.teachmetapes.com) bring the publishing entertainment from Minnesota to the listening public.

Regardless of whether the story is told on the printed page, or through an electronic book, or listened to on CD or MP3 Player, it is the creative genius and marketing acumen of Minnesota publishers that bring the story and message to a receptive public.

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