



Press Contact:

Carrie Kabat

617-239-7446

ckabat@meridameridian.com

MERIDA ANNOUNCES FIRST FREE RUG WINNER; INTRODUCES NEW CONTEST

BOSTON (August 4, 2009) – The grand prize winner of the first Merida [free area rug](#) is Tanga Winstead of New Orleans, Louisiana. Tanga was randomly selected from a pool of thousands of entrants as the winner of one of Merida's sustainable [area rugs](#). Her prize is a beautiful, handwoven Abaca rug made from undyed, rapidly renewable materials.

To keep the excitement about sustainable design going strong, Merida will give away another of their [natural fiber rugs](#) in August. One person will be randomly selected to win a 5'x8' area rug made from rapidly renewable sisal fibers and woven into an organic, rippling pattern called Turkana. The retail value of this rug is more than \$1,600.

Merida has been designing sustainable and stylish area rugs for more than 30 years. The Free Area Rug Contest is designed to educate consumers and designers about the sustainable aspects of our area rugs, such as the rapidly renewable fibers, environmentally friendly backing materials, and partnerships with cooperative farming and weaving communities around the world.

The contest is open to anyone who registers on the Merida web site using valid contact information. The winner of this month's contest will be announced on August 31, and will be notified via email.

To sign up for the contest, visit <http://www.meridameridian.com/free-area-rug/>

To view more of Merida's sustainable area rugs, visit <http://www.meridameridian.com/area-rugs/>

About Merida Meridian

Merida Meridian is a design-driven company, passionate about creating innovative and fashionable floor coverings that help solve interior design challenges. Inspired by the textures and aesthetics of natural fibers, Merida uniquely customizes its products through sizing, colors and patterns and a selection of over 300 different edge finishes. Merida area rugs can be created in sizes and shapes to fit most room décors. We are committed to a tradition of integrating the finest quality natural fibers with innovative textile design and floor covering style. Merida is headquartered in Boston, Mass., maintains a manufacturing facility in Fall River, Mass. and partners with leading manufacturers and suppliers around the world. For more information, please visit <http://www.meridameridian.com>.

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