

OUR WORLD HAS NO BORDERS

Ours is the first truly global age in the history of mankind. Every corner of the Earth is connected in some way. The potential to bring people together is greater than ever. We, at The Mission Marketplace, respect the unique traditions of people of all cultures, and we do not accept them as barriers to our mutual understanding or friendship. In the end, we are all the same. We all have rights.

Through our work we help people envision a better future, and support them as they create that future. Our satisfaction comes from witnessing the movement when people who once had no hope suddenly discover the boundless possibilities of their own existence.

WE CAN DO MORE TOGETHER THAN APART

The Mission Marketplace represents a diverse group of worldwide artisans and their families. We endorse fair market wages, sustainability, dignity, cooperation and honest dialogue. Our efforts are powered by the synergy that happens when people come together: ideas merge, respect grows and positive things invariably happen. Every individual has something to offer, but in our experience the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Bringing people together is a major part of what we do.

ALL PEOPLE NEED A CHANCE

Time and time again we see it. Those who have nothing, or have lost everything are the ones who make the most of opportunities they get to start over. We stand in awe of the resilience of the human spirit, and are continually humbled by what people are able to overcome. We work to assist and inspire individuals to use their own gifts, talents and aspirations. We are active locally and globally as supporter and advocate for all people struggling to make a better way of life. And no matter how bleak the situation, it is the very people we seek to help who constantly renew us by reminding us of the power of hope.



THE MISSION MARKETPLACE'S ROLE

Incorporated in 2005, The Mission Marketplace is a 501C3 Tax Exempt Organization. Our support comes from the sales of these fine crafted products and from contributions from individuals and organizations such as you. Friends and supporters of The Mission Marketplace help us reach out into the Chelsea and surrounding communities in order to strengthen the global and local connections. Building people-to-people ties is not just a Mission Marketplace slogan, this year you will find us out in the local community promoting, dignity, justice and Fair Trade. More than ever, it is up to all of us to build the world that we want.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Consider a one-time tax-exempt gift or pledge to The Mission Marketplace. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE A CLEAR AND POWERFUL STATEMENT

They speak eloquently of your commitment to a better world for each and every global citizen.

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Hours

Sunday 12-4 PM

Mon-Wed 10-6

Thurs-Sat 10-8

The Mission Marketplace Charitable Giving Campaign



Shop
Locally...
...Help
Globally

The Mission Marketplace

Yes, I wish to support The Mission Marketplace in helping artisans in lesser developed countries earn a living wage by marketing their hand crafted items and by sharing stories of their lives. A living wage helps provide sustained ongoing employment, food, shelter, education and healthcare for the artisans and their extended families.

Credit Card, VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express,

Card Number _____, Expiration Date: _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

My Pledge is for \$ _____, date due _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Please make your donation payable to: The Mission Marketplace

The Mission Marketplace is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) Non-Profit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by the IRS. Tax ID# 75-3185499

I DO NOT want my name published in The Mission Marketplace donor listing.

The women use a drop spindle to weave the wool, which is dyed using vegetable colors from carrot tops, herbs and walnuts. Each piece of work is an individual creation, and many are signed, bringing producer and purchaser closer together. There are centers in La Paz, El Alto and Sorata, with the products finding a market both locally and overseas. The artisans involved have found a new sense of dignity and renewed pride in their traditions and culture. There are literacy programs, classes on women's issues and health education, and support work with homeless children.

Artesania Sorata has grown a lot since it began as a small, communal, effort to help the women of Sorata find alternate sources of income. The growth is due, in part, to its ability to exist as both a social and an economic institution. The women are invested in the program because they are a part of it. Health programs and educational opportunities have provided stability in the lives of these people.

In order to find new members, Artesania Sorata employs a credit program. Since the producers do not have the working capital to increase their capacity, a source of credit can bring them financial freedom. New members have a member of the Artesania as the guarantor of the loan to be eligible. The money is often given for items like electric spinning wheels. They loans are repaid with spun and finished wool. This holistic program has empowered members of the collective and given them upward mobility without forcing them out of their traditional homes.



WHAT YOUR DONATIONS TO THE MISSION MARKETPLACE SUPPORTS

- Ongoing Educational Programs for The Adult Learners Institute,
- Super Saturday Programming for our Youth
- Geography Night,
- Community Outreach Programs
- Support of Civic Endeavors,
- Diversity and Cultural Understanding Programs within our Schools
- The ability to keep costs down and provide extra Customer Service at the store.

ARTISAN STORY

The continued westernization of the South has caused indigenous crafts and traditions to be lost. Twenty-five years ago, in Sorata, Bolivia, the Aymara men were working away from home for little pay in the gold mines. There were few opportunities for the women to earn extra money other than by baking bread and exchanging it in town for potatoes. The weaving skills that their ancestors employed, were almost forgotten. In addition, there was little education, health care was mistrusted and people had no awareness of their rights.

A westerner wishing to live simply with the Aymarans, started a textile workshop with the women, helping them to develop lost skills and abilities. Wall hangings and rag dolls from wool and antique fabrics were the first products to be made. More craftspeople became involved, skills developed and Artesania Sorata now produce knitwear, incorporating symbols from their culture and designs mirroring their surroundings.