
Buffalo Soldiers Research Museum Newsletter

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Buffalo Soldiers and Education Steppers Join the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk In Indianapolis



THE OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF BIRTHDAYS.®

The American Cancer Society is the leader in the fight to end breast cancer. They have invested more in cutting-edge breast cancer research than any other cancer type - to find, prevent, treat, and cure the disease. Over the past 20 years, they have helped more than 4 million women get potentially lifesaving breast cancer screening tests. One in two women newly diagnosed with breast cancer reaches out to the American Cancer Society for help and support.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States, other than skin cancer. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, after lung cancer. The chance of a woman having invasive breast cancer some time during her life is about 1 in 8. The chance of dying from breast cancer is about 1 in 36. Breast cancer death rates have been going down. This is probably the result of finding the cancer earlier and better treatment. Right now there are more than 2.9 million breast cancer survivors in the United States.



What can you do?

The American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk is the largest network of breast cancer awareness events in the nation. More than 300 communities are united to finish the fight.



The 5k walk will be held on **Saturday, October 26, 2013** at 9 am in Celebration Plaza at the White River State Park in downtown Indianapolis. To learn more, visit www.MakingStridesWalk.org today to find an event near you or join the Education Steppers team in Indianapolis.

Walkers and donations are welcomed.

Going Green

Sustainability and Fair Trade

What is Fair Trade?

Fair Trade is a global trade model and certification allows shoppers to quickly identify products that were produced in an ethical manner.

For consumers, Fair Trade offers a powerful way to reduce poverty through their everyday shopping. For farmers and workers in developing countries, Fair Trade offers better prices, improved terms of trade, and the business skills necessary to produce high-quality products that can compete in the global marketplace. Through vibrant trade, farmers and workers can improve their lives and plan for their futures. Today, Fair Trade benefits more than 1.2 million farming families in 70 developing countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Globally, the Fair Trade network certifies coffee, tea and herbs, cocoa, fresh fruit and vegetables, sugar, beans and grains, flowers, nuts, oils and butters, honey and spices, wine and apparel, and certified ingredients are now used in ready-to-drink beverages, body care products and spirits. In the United States, Fair Trade Certified™ products are available in more than 50,000 retail locations.

Fair Trade principles include:

- **Fair prices and credit:** Democratically organized farming groups receive a guaranteed minimum floor price (or the market price if it's higher) and an additional premium for certified organic products. Farming organizations are also eligible for pre-harvest credit.
- **Fair labor conditions:** Workers on Fair Trade farms enjoy freedom of association, safe working conditions and sustainable wages. Forced child and slave labor are strictly prohibited.
- **Direct trade:** With Fair Trade, importers purchase from Fair Trade producer groups as directly as possible to eliminate unnecessary middlemen and empower farmers to develop the business capacity necessary to compete in the global marketplace.
- **Democratic and transparent organizations:** Fair Trade farmers and workers decide democratically how to invest Fair Trade premiums, which are funds for community development.

- Community development: Fair Trade farmers and farm workers invest Fair Trade premiums in social and business development projects like scholarships, schools, quality improvement and leadership training, and organic certification.
- Environmental sustainability: Harmful agrochemicals and GMOs are strictly prohibited in favor of environmentally sustainable farming methods that protect farmers' health and preserve valuable ecosystems for future generations.

Fair Trade goods are just that. Fair. From far-away farms to your shopping cart, products that bear the logo (pictured at left) come from farmers and workers who are justly compensated. Fair trade organizations (such as Fair Trade USA) help farmers in developing countries build sustainable businesses that positively influence their communities. Most of these organizations are nonprofit; they teach disadvantaged communities how to use the free market to their advantage. With Fair Trade USA, the money you spend on day-to-day goods can improve an entire community's day-to-day lives. For more information, visit www.fairtrade.usa.org .



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT FAIR TRADE -

Are Fair Trade Certified products also certified organic?

Not necessarily, Fair Trade does promote organic farming with training for farmers and by offering a higher price for organic products. Many producers invest their Fair Trade premium funds in organic certification, which has led to outstanding results: nearly half of all Fair Trade Certified imports were also organic.

We believe that in order to improve living and working conditions for farmers and workers that their environment must also be clean and healthy.

Environmental standards are therefore integral to the Fair Trade criteria. These include:

- Protecting water resources and natural vegetation areas
- Promoting agricultural diversification, erosion control, and no slash and burn
- Restricting the use of pesticides and fertilizers
- Banning use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs)
- Requiring proper management of waste, water and energy

Are Fair Trade Certified products also non-GMO (not genetically modified)?

Yes. Fair Trade USA understands the importance of strict environmental standards. Ours include:

- Banning use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs)
- Protecting water resources and natural vegetation areas
- Promoting agricultural diversification, erosion control, and no slash and burn
- Restricting the use of pesticides and fertilizers
- Requiring proper management of waste, water and energy

Do Fair Trade Certified products cost more than conventional products?

Not necessarily. Fair Trade Certified coffees and chocolates are generally priced competitively with other gourmet, specialty coffees and chocolates. They are, though, more expensive than mass-produced, low-quality coffees and chocolates. Fair Trade Certified bananas, on the other hand, can cost much more than conventional bananas because small cooperatives lack the extensive shipping and logistical capabilities of vertically-integrated, multi-national fruit companies and incur higher costs to transport their products to market.

How does Fair Trade USA feel about large-volume retailers like Wal-Mart and McDonald's carrying Fair Trade Certified products?

The expansion of Fair Trade Certified products into thousands of retail outlets across the U.S. means Fair Trade USA is extending the benefits of Fair Trade to a growing number of farming families around the world. And giving Americans the opportunity to purchase Fair Trade products wherever they choose to shop makes it possible for a broader range of consumers to be part of the Fair Trade solution. That's why Fair Trade USA is working to make Fair Trade Certified products available everywhere; at large retailers and national chains as well as small independent stores and cooperatives.

Fair Trade USA understands that consumer confidence in the Fair Trade Certified label is of utmost importance to our model. That's why we never lower our product certification standards for any company, regardless of their size or commitment to Fair Trade. The Fair Trade Certified label on a product package is the consumer's guarantee that the product has met strict social, economic and environmental standards. The same international Fair Trade standards apply to all participating companies and retailers, regardless of their size or business model.

It is important to remember that the Fair Trade Certification model cannot and does not attempt to monitor a company's broader business practices or motives for involvement in Fair Trade. In other words, Fair Trade USA certifies products, not companies.

Fair Trade USA strongly supports "conscious consumerism": we encourage people to educate themselves about the companies from which they buy, the origins of the products they consume, and the business practices of the stores where they shop.

To learn more about Fair Trade USA, visit - www.fairtradeusa.org or other fair trade organizations such as the Fair Trade Federation at www.fairtradefederation.org

Note the upcoming conference...

FAIR TRADE FEDERATION
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014
APRIL 1-3, 2014
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Additional Upcoming Green Events

Green Festival
October 19-20, 2013
Los Angeles Mart
Los Angeles, CA

Green Festival
November 9-10, 2013
Concourse Convention Center
San Francisco, CA

The Green Festivals are a joint project of Global Exchange and Green America. It is the largest sustainability event in the world and continues to grow every year. Events include speakers, discussions and exhibits that explore and share solutions to make our lives healthier - socially, economically, and environmentally.

For details, visit www.globalexchange.org or www.greenamericatoday.org

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