



Sault College News Release

For immediate release

Ten Thousand Villages Fair Trade Sale Returns to the Sault

Handmade gifts crafted from around the globe



(Sault Ste. Marie, ON – November 2, 2016) – This season get your holiday shopping done early and give a gift that gives twice. From November 10-12, Sault College will host the fifth annual Ten Thousand Villages fair trade sale in support of the college’s World University Service of Canada (WUSC) Student Refugee Program.

Ten Thousand Villages is the oldest and largest fair trade organization in North America, selling artisan-crafted personal accessories, home decor and gift items from around the globe. Ten Thousand Villages creates opportunities for artisans in developing countries to earn income by bringing their products and stories to markets through long-term, fair trading relationships.

“Our student refugee program helps those students around the world who are living in refugee camps where there are few resources to further their schooling,” says Alison McKeachnie, a lead organizer and volunteer for this year’s event. “Without access to education there are limited options available to youth in their pursuit of living a meaningful life. Sault College has been supporting this great cause for many years and this support will help young refugees achieve their dreams, and provide hope, resources and access to post-secondary education at Canadian universities and Colleges,” she adds.

The sale is open to everyone and admission is free. Join us at Sault College's Essar hall on Thursday, November 10 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, November 11 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, November 12 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. All proceeds of the sale support artisans partnered with Ten Thousand Villages. In addition, ten percent of all proceeds directly support the WUSC Student Refugee Program at Sault College.

Come out and support communities and people around the globe while finding unique, quality hand-made products. For more information about the Sault College Ten Thousand Villages gift sale, please contact Karen Marrocco at karen.marrocco@saultcollege.ca or at 705-759-2554 ext. 2553.

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About Student Refugee Program

For most refugees, there are few or no opportunities to continue post-secondary education. Since 1978, WUSC's Student Refugee Program (SRP) has helped address this shortage by enabling student refugees to pursue their studies at Canadian universities and colleges. From countries of origin as diverse as Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, Rwanda, Burundi, Sudan, Burma and Afghanistan, most have successfully completed their studies and are now active Canadian citizens making valuable contributions to their communities. Others have returned to their home countries and are contributing as nation builders or active community members.

About Ten Thousand Villages

Through a network of 47 stores, as well as through hundreds of Festival Sales and e-shopping, Ten Thousand Villages Canada sells artisan-crafted personal accessories, home decor and gift items from around the globe. Ten Thousand Villages create opportunities for artisans in developing countries to earn income by bringing their products and stories to our markets through long-term, fair trading relationships. Ten Thousand Villages is a non-profit program of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), the relief and development agency of Mennonite and Brethren in Christ churches in North America. Ten Thousand Villages has its roots in the work begun by Edna Ruth Byler in 1946. Ten Thousand Villages is a member of the World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO), a coalition of handicraft and agricultural producer organizations, and Fair Trade organizations from both the North and the South. For more information, please visit our website: www.TenThousandVillages.ca.