

# **The Artisan Group: Namayiana**

**An informal cooperative of women artisans in Kenya's Rift Valley who create beaded Maasai jewellery.**

**This group was formed in 1990 and has about 112 artisans creating Christmas ornaments, purses, baskets, and necklaces.**

**Few of the women working with this organization have any formal education, so their employment with this group enables them to earn a stable income and to maintain their human dignity.**

**Ornaments:** red wire & bead star  
gold wire & bead star

**Location:** Nairobi, Kenya

# **The Artisan Group: Bombolulu Workshop**

**This group provides employment for people with physical challenges who would otherwise have no other chance of employment in the mainstream labour market.**

**This group was formed in 1969 and has about 113 artisans creating jewellery, wood carvings, and leather work.**

**Artisans in this group enjoy free housing, health care, help with school fees, retirement benefits, and monthly income.**

**Ornament:** Tin Dove

**Location:** Mombasa, Kenya

# **The Artisan Group: Kisumu Innovation Centre of Kenya (KICK)**

**This group provides employment for people in the Jua Kai sector. This group was formed in 2005 and has 40 artisans with plans to increase to 100 artisans in the near future.**

**Members create whimsical items from recycled wire, wrought iron, papyrus, soda cans and waste paper.**

**They enjoy benefits of shares in the company, loans for school fees, training for more skills, counselling and access to global markets.**

**Item:** Stars & Doves Phone Card Garland

**Location:** Kisumu, Kenya

# **The Artisan Group: MAI Handicrafts**

**This organization provides work for youth who would otherwise be left to survive on the streets of Ho Chi Minh City. They have expanded to now include women and ethnic minority groups.**

**MAI was formed in 1991 and has 1 669 artists creating products and ornaments from recycled items. Members enjoy social and health care insurance benefits and can apply for scholarship funds. Money from sales is used to fund clean water projects, vocational training, equipment purchases and teacher wage subsidies.**

**Ornaments:** Gold Lantern  
Red Lantern  
Coiled Paper Dove  
Coiled Paper Heart

**Location:** Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

# **The Artisan Group: Allpa**

**Allpa is an alternative trading organization the includes artists who have been displaced refugees living in slums on the outskirts of large cities. Allpa is an indigenous word for “earth”. Artists make story boxes called “santero boxes”; it is a genre of folk art rooted in Peruvian history and religion.**

**Allpa was formed in 1982 and represents about 2 000 families and 100 artisan groups and family workshops. Members receive technical help, skills training, tools, equipment, and loans for workshop improvement.**

**Ornaments:** Star Nativity  
Star of Bethlehem - Red  
Star of Bethlehem - Green

**Location:** Lima, Peru

# **The Artisan Group: Manos Amigas**

**The name of this group means “hands joined in friendship” and it works with 10 producer groups, 7 associations, 3 cooperatives, and a variety of family workshops. Artisans make ornaments by hand using river clay and decorate them using chicken feathers and cat hairs as tools for hand painting.**

**It employs anywhere from 290-970 artisans. It was formed in 1991 and 20 percent of surplus sales from the group are used to feed 400 children once a week as well as school uniforms and supplies.**

**Ornament:** Painted Ceramic Nativity

**Location:** Lima, Peru

# **The Artisan Group:**

# Prokritee

This artist company is used to generate income for the poorest people in Bangladesh, mostly rural women who are heads of family households. The company oversees 9 job creation programs for people who own less than ½ acre of land and make less than \$25US a month.

This group makes handmade paper products including note cards, wrapping paper, journals, picture frames, and ornaments. In addition, artists weave grasses and palm leaves to create ornaments and garlands.

**Ornaments:** Silk Paper Stars  
Pathi Grass Stars (various colours)  
Double Tree with Stars  
Peace Flag Garland  
Woodlands Palm Leaf Garland  
Handmade Paper Ornaments  
Carnival Colours Star Garland

**Location:** The Ganges Delta, Bangladesh

**The Artisan Group:**

# **YWCA Craft Centre**

**This organization employs widowed, abandoned and homeless women who live in extreme poverty.**

**They create crafts such as clothing, bags, ropes, carpets, and ornaments from the jute plant known as the “golden fibre” of Bangladesh.**

**This group formed in 1973 and has trained over 1 800 women to sew, read, and write. Women receive subsidized snacks, health care, free legal services, and interest free loans as members of this artisan group.**

**Item:** Jute Angel Tree Topper

**Location:** Dhaka, Bangladesh

## **The Artisan Group:**



# Noah's Ark International

This group is made up of 40 separate artisan organizations. They create crafts using metal and wood such as cutlery, handmade paper, jewellery and textiles.

As each organization within Noah's Ark becomes self-sufficient, new families are taken on to start new businesses.

This larger organization was formed in 1986 and represents 300 full-time artisans. It provides free nutrition, medical services, and basic education for artisans and their families.

**Ornaments:** Silver Angels  
Brass Lantern  
Brass word "Peace"  
Copper snowflake

**Location:** Moradabad, India

## The Artisan Group:

# Tara Projects

The Trade Alternative Reform Action (TARA) Projects provide jobs for “untouchables” in India and have expanded to advocate an end to child labour and unfair trade practices. It was formed in 1973 in Delhi and has expanded to nearby states in North India.

Elected representatives from all parts of the projects design and market crafts that have been hand embroidered, or created from metal and glass. So far, almost 1 000 artisan families from 35 community-based groups and workshops make up TARA.

**Ornaments:** Stuffed Tree Cloth Ornament  
Bronze Stuffed Star  
Red Zari Star  
Beaded Wire Sphere

**Location:** Delhi, India

## The Artisan Group:

# **Asha Handicrafts Association**

**Asha is a Sanskrit word meaning “hope” and this association helps poor families gain independence. It was formed in 1975 to work against the exploitation of artisans and the disappearance of traditional crafts.**

**Asha works with over 6 500 artists in 19 towns/villages of India. These artists create objects such as pictures frames, ornaments, and boxes using the traditional art form of papier mache, woodworking, and stone cutting.**

**Asha devotes money to ensure safe drinking water, safe electrical wiring, and clean air for stonecutters and woodworkers.**

**Ornaments:** Floral Sphere  
Floral Star  
Gold Spheres  
Bell

**Location:** 10 states of India

# **The Artisan Group: Ashirwad**

**Ashirwad is made up of 15 women and their group's name means "blessings". They work towards a better future through the blessing of earning an income.**

**This small group meets once each week to create ornaments and garlands from raw materials they collect and to provide support for each other. They receive vocational training and money for their children's school expenses in addition to their income from product sales.**

**Item:** Red Mirrored Garland

**Location:** Kolkata, India

# **The Artisan Group: Pekerti Nusantara**

**This organization works to supplement the incomes of subsistence farmers and rural people to help them be self-reliant.**

**Pekerti works with 55 groups and represents 3 500 artists and produce crafts using only sustainable raw materials. Members benefit from training in small business management, group marketing, interest-free loans, school scholarships, and help with medical expenses and emergency aid in disasters.**

**Ornament:**     **Silver Filigree Snowflake**

**Location:**   **provinces of Indonesia**

# **The Artisan Group: Saffy Handicrafts**

**The term “Saffy” stands for Social Action for Filipino Youth and this group works with women and youth to create sustainable income.**

**Artists in this group specialize in making capiz shell items. They were formed in 1966 and are made up of more than 1 000 people. Members benefit from educational seminars, vocational training, financial and medical help, and profit sharing from sales of crafts.**

**Ornaments:** Smoked Capiz Snowflake  
Purple Capiz Star  
Turquoise Capiz Star  
White Capiz Star  
Capiz Bird of Peace

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

# **Display made possible by: Dion Leclair**

**A special expression of thanks is forwarded to Mr. Leclair who works right here in our school. Mr. Leclair donated a Christmas rocking horse that he made to a school fundraising draw. This wooden horse won the grand prize at the Annual Harvest Festival and ticket sales generated over \$560.00. Proceeds from the draw were used to purchase all of the items seen in this display from Ten Thousand Villages.**

**Mr. Leclair is a woodworking artist who has supported fellow artists from around the world. This one person has helped people in the countries of Kenya, Vietnam, Peru, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, and the Philippines.**

**Mother Teresa once stated: “Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do... but how much love we put in that action.” It is out of Mr. Leclair’s love for our school that he donated the rocking horse and it is through his love that artists from around the world have been supported in a very humble gesture.**

**Thank you Mr. Leclair.**