

Ten Thousand Villages  
Cameron Village  
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## *News Release*

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Learn How to Wrap the Summer in Cool Style at Ten Thousand Villages**

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**RALEIGH, N.C., June 1, 2006** – [Ten Thousand Villages of Raleigh](http://www.villagesofraleigh.org), a non-profit, fair trade retail store in Cameron Village, will host a “Summer Sarong Styles” event at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, June 17, 2006, featuring sarong tying demonstrations and lessons. Attendees of the event will be invited to enter a free drawing for a colorful beach tote bag.

The vibrantly colored sarongs, hand-batiked by a Bali, Indonesian artisan group called Blue Hand, are cool and comfortable attire for lazing around on hot summer days and also stylish for warm summer evenings about town. The sarongs also can be used as creative home décor pieces, such as wall hangings or table coverings.

All of the fabric designs are Blue Hand originals, 100% rayon that can be washed and dried with no fading or shrinking. The fabrics are created through the traditional Indonesian art of batik, which involves applying hot wax to the fabric, dyeing the fabric and finally boiling the wax off to reveal the images underneath. The finished fabric dries in the sun. Each color represents a separate dyeing and waxing process. A book provided by Blue Hand for the demonstration will provide illustrations of the entire process.

Refreshments of tropical fruits will be served to complement the Pacific Island experience.

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## Sarong Tying Event at Ten Thousand Villages

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**Drawing Prize: colorful tote from Kenya to accessorize any beach outing**



**Sample of sarong**

### About Ten Thousand Villages of Raleigh

[Ten Thousand Villages of Raleigh](#) is a non-profit, fair trade retail store located in the Cameron Village Shopping Center. Opened in 1995, the store is part of a network of nearly 100 fair trade stores across North America. The Raleigh store's principal wholesaler, [Ten Thousand Villages-U.S.](#), is the oldest and largest fair trade home décor and gift retailer in the United States, and a founding member of the [International Federation of Alternative Trade \(IFAT\)](#) and member of the [Fair Trade Federation \(FTF\)](#), both of which aim to improve the livelihood of disadvantaged people in developing countries and to change unfair structures of international trade. Ten Thousand Villages of Raleigh purchases products only from carefully chosen organizations that are members of the IFAT and FTF.

In 2005, Ten Thousand Villages-US received [Co-op America's People's Choice Award for Green Business of the Year](#). The award recognizes Ten Thousand Villages as a leader among businesses across the country committed to social and environmental responsibility.

### About Fair Trade

Fair Trade contributes to the alleviation of poverty in developing regions of the world by establishing a system of trade that allows marginalized producers to gain access to developed markets. This system of trade builds on artisans'/producers' skills, enabling communities to play an active part in their own development and at the same time satisfying consumer demand in developed markets.

### About Blue Hand

Blue Hand was founded in 1994 by husband and wife team Tracy Tang and Arnie Cullipher while backpacking in Indonesia. For the first few years, Tracy and Arnie lived in Bali, working daily with artisans to build Blue Hand's production capabilities. The couple team now travels to Indonesia as necessary to oversee production and develop new designs.

Blue Hand joined the International Federation of Alternative Trade (IFAT) in 1996 to ensure its commitment to fair trade practices. In 2004, Blue Hand was among the initial companies to be accredited by IFAT as a Fair Trade Organization. Blue Hand's artisans and subcontractors are paid a fair salary, enjoy profit sharing, and work regular business hours with paid holidays. Their facilities are open for inspection to both Ten Thousand Villages and IFAT.