

Mark Your Calendars! 2019 Fair Trade Holiday Fairs!



MASCP will be selling beautiful items from the embroidery coop in Arcatao as well as Christmas tree ornaments, puzzles and painted boxes from wood workers in Las Palmas and new colorful earrings from the women's coop, Jaragua, in San Salvador. There will also be dozens of other local and international fair trade vendors offering super affordable gifts, fair trade coffee and chocolate, RPCV calendars and much, much more.

We'd love to meet you at the MASCP table so do stop by and say "Hi".
Hasta pronto!

November 24
Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ
1802 Gilbert Road, Madison
9 AM-2 PM

December 7
Monona Terrace & Community Convention Center
1 John Nolen Drive, Madison
8 AM-3 PM

If you have some time to volunteer with us at either fair, please get in touch!

[I would like to volunteer!](#)

Embroidery Lives!

During the civil war in El Salvador, many families from Arcatao fled to refugee camps in Honduras where women gathered with other women to pass the time. In these circles, they learned a unique type of embroidery called "[Colcha](#)"—originally from Spain and used for repairing blankets because it was so strong.

Eventually, the refugee families returned to Arcatao to take on the huge task of rebuilding and women continued perfecting their durable and artistic embroidery. In order to sell their work to visiting international delegates, they branched out into decorative work on everyday items like aprons and t-shirts, which MASCP has been selling at the Fair Trade Holiday Fair for 22 years. Now, there is yet another evolution in their embroidery: poignant story cloths—



free form depictions of issues in their lives. Like many of you, MASCP members had seen the powerful story cloths made by Hmong refugees and encouraged the women in Arcatao to also share their stories with embroidery. Education and anti-gold mining were early topics and now we see migration pictured complete with heavy backpacks, skeletons, border patrol helicopters and looming large—the wall. We will be selling these as framed pieces for \$50 at the upcoming fairs.

Interested in Learning more?

Click [here](#) to learn more about the history of embroidery in Arcatao.

[Get in touch](#) to learn more about getting involved with the Chalate Arts committee of MASCP to help support the women in the embroidery coop and their compelling artistic evolution.

Announcing a \$5,000 matching grant for MASCP!



Great news! Our financial goal in 2020 is to sustain our \$6,500 yearly contributions in Arcatao and Chalatenango and to increase MASCP donations for scholarships and reforestation efforts in Arcatao by \$1,500. To help reach this goal, all contributions in 2019 will be matched up to \$5,000 by a long-time MASCP friend.

[Donate Now!](#)

Your donation is tax deductible and continues Madison's 33 year history of supporting community organizing, higher education, historical memory and sustainability in Arcatao.
¡Muchisimas gracias!