



TEN THOUSAND
VILLAGES



About the Artisans

Saffy Handicrafts

Saffy Handicrafts (which stands for Social Action for Filipino Youth) markets crafts for small artisan workshops and runs its own production unit specializing in capiz shell items. Saffy was founded by Sr. Juliaan Mullie, a Belgian nun, to create alternative sources of livelihood for impoverished women and youth in marginalized areas of Manila. The mission has since expanded to serve communities in need by launching social development programs. Saffy provides employment for more than 1,000 people, including 40 workers in its own production unit. These artisans benefit from educational seminars, vocational training, financial and medical assistance and profit sharing.

In Bloom Capiz Votive - White

Candlelight flickers within the petals of this votive candleholder handcrafted from wafer-thin capiz shell. Capiz is the thin, off-white shell of the windowpane oyster. Filipino divers retrieve the shells from the local sea (holding their breath to complete the task!) then makers wash and soak them. After the shells have dried, they are cut into shapes. A wire edge and a shiny coat of varnish complete this labour-intensive process.



Materials:

capiz, wire

Travel the world with each visit to Ten Thousand Villages.

Learn how Fair Trade really makes a difference. Our goal is to provide vital, fair income to artisans by marketing their handicrafts and telling their stories in North America. Ten Thousand Villages sells product from more than 30 countries, providing work for nearly 60,000 people around the world.

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