

360West

A FULL-CIRCLE VIEW OF WHERE WE LIVE

The Cool Issue



\$3.95 August 2018



0 74470 25496 0 8



Founded by Paula Minnis, GAIA Empowered Women is a Dallas-based brand focused on socially responsible wares. A Burmese refugee inspired the fashion industry veteran to create the nonprofit selling goods made by locally resettled female refugees. Proceeds go to training and salaries. Each piece is tagged with the maker's name and origin. Earrings made by Bothina from Syria, \$110; XOXO Pennsylvania fabric Text Pouch with brass zipper, by Maria from Burma, \$48; brushed brass key ring with handmade tassel and tote clip, \$48. All from Fort Worth stockist You Are Here, 5109 Pershing Ave., youareherew.com, or visit gaiaforwomen.com.

purse and jewelry designer Kori Green — offering design or training assistance.

A year later, Neeley Business School professor Garry Bruton interviewed the Adera-employed moms for a research paper and made the foundation aware of a new course at TCU: Values-Centered Entrepreneurship. Adera executive director Julie Miller invited the students to develop business ideas for the foundation.

Predominantly purple paper beads, created from TCU football programs donated for upcycling in Ethiopia, now sell at the TCU bookstore. The Kimbell, Texas A&M and Baylor universities, American Paint Horse Association, Southwest Christian School and the Fort Worth Stock Show now donate their paper goods for upcycling for the cause, too.

All jewelry proceeds go toward the women artisans' salaries, supplies, rent and marketing. Shop in Fort Worth at Polka Dot Presents, Kimbell Art Museum, Rattikin Title, TCU Bookstore and Winton and Waits, or online at aderadesigns.com. Follow the Adera Foundation on Facebook for news of pop-up sales, new products and mission trips. 2901 Riverglenn Drive, Fort Worth, 817-659-2929, aderafoundation.org.

Tribe Alive

Carly Burson sells hope. Having relocated to Fort Worth from an East Coast fashion industry job, Burson founded Tribe Alive with the mission of helping alleviate poverty among women by employing artisan-producers in developing countries.

In Guatemala, women weave fabric for the company's attractive and wearable fashions and construct bags by hand. In Ethiopia, women for whom scavenging at the city dump was a lifeline now have a safe and supportive environment in which to produce jewelry.

Tribe Alive supplies the designs, tools, materials, equitable pay and a marketplace. Artisans in Haiti, Honduras and India are part of the workshop teams, too, and there are now collaborative relationships with companies in Ghana, Ecuador and Morocco. The online biz launched in November 2014; in early spring this year, Tribe Alive opened a brick-and-mortar shop on Magnolia Avenue.

Burson designed the 900-square-foot space as her team's design studio as well as a micro retail space. "We love when customers are able to get a sneak peek into our creative process, have interactions with our artisan partners and see upcoming collections," she says. Along with Tribe Alive's seasonally updated line of women's apparel, accessories and gift items, you can shop other female-founded lines with a social impact.

Tribe Alive's Easy dress in upcycled denim is made in Guatemala, \$148. Adera Foundation's Blein Ammo, Almaz paper bead and Selamawit Ammunition necklaces, \$28-\$58, online at aderadesigns.com. Find others at Winton and Waits. GAIA's vintage Moroccan textile ring tote, \$220, You Are Here, Fort Worth.

