

Fairtrade Belfast 2010 Business Award Winners

26 October 2010

The Fairtrade Belfast Committee honoured those businesses and individuals who have championed Fairtrade in the city this evening.

The official awards ceremony took place at Belfast City Hall with a wine and cheese reception, predominately from Fairtrade sourced items.

The event was made possible by the generous support of the Northern Ireland Co-operative, Graham Construction, Fairtrade Mark Ireland, Belfast City Council and the Consulate of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



L-R:
Dr Christopher Stange – Hon. Consul for St. Vincent and the Grenadines in Northern Ireland and Chair of Fairtrade Belfast,
Cllr. Pat Convery - Lord Mayor of Belfast,
Jacqueline Gibson – Graham Construction,
Chris Boyd – Northern Ireland Co-operative

The Lord Mayor opened the awards congratulating those businesses in the City and the work and efforts of the Fairtrade Belfast Committee in making Belfast a Fairtrade City.

Presentations were provided by Dunstan Burke –Fairtrade Mark Ireland and Dr Stange – Chair of Fairtrade Belfast and Hon. Consul for St. Vincent and the Grenadines on the necessity of Fairtrade for developing world producers, highlighting the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) region, marketing and the need for appropriately targeted local and central government procurement to encourage the Fairtrade market to further develop in Northern Ireland.

Fairtrade Belfast in partnership with Belfast City Centre Management are currently conducting a survey of its members to update the retail and catering outlets that supply Fairtrade and those that may be interested in working towards switching to Fairtrade labelled products.

The 2010 Fairtrade Business winners are:

- Best Fairtrade Independent Retailer: Oxfam Ireland (Rosemary Street);
- Best Fairtrade Supermarket: Northern Ireland Co-operative;
- Best Fairtrade Café: Common Grounds;

- Best Fairtrade Employer: Oxfam Ireland;
- Best Fairtrade Bar or Restaurant: The John Hewitt, Donegall Street;
- Outstanding Contribution to Fairtrade: Margaret Carr, Fairtrade and Commercial Products Manager, Oxfam Ireland.

Voting was conducted by the public from May to August 2010 via the Fairtrade Belfast website: www.fairtradebelfast.org and in paper form through Belfast City Council's publication: City Matters.

ENDS

Notes for Editor:

- The Fairtrade Belfast Committee, as a voluntary organisation, includes members of Local and Foreign Government, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) community, supermarkets, educational institutions, business and private individuals.
- In June 2005, Belfast was awarded it's first Fairtrade City status from the UK Fairtrade Foundation and in March 2006, Belfast was awarded it`s second Fairtrade City status from Fairtrade Mark Ireland. Both accreditations have been renewed until Jan 2011. Belfast is the only city to be awarded Fairtrade City status in both the UK and Ireland.
- Additional information can be found on the Fairtrade Belfast Website: www.fairtradebelfast.org