

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Visual:** Photographs available on enclosed CD

**Interview Opportunities:** Yes

**Members of the media are invited to attend a screening of “Strong Coffee” at the SCAA Conference in Atlanta at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 18, 2009 in Room B401, or visit Booth #1246.**

**Cafe Femenino Foundation to Announce Grant Recipients  
for the 2009 *Three Wishes* Campaign**

**Atlanta, GA** – The Cafe Femenino Foundation (CFF) will announce the grant recipients for their 2009 *Three Wishes* campaign on Friday, April 18 at the Specialty Coffee Association of America (SCAA) conference in Atlanta, GA. The announcement will take place at the Atlanta premiere of “Strong Coffee,” a documentary film about the Cafe Femenino Coffee Program and the challenges facing women in coffee growing communities.

The Cafe Femenino Foundation, a non-profit organization based in Vancouver, WA, funds grant requests generated in-country by groups of women coffee-producers who operate small farms in the poorest and least accessible regions of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru. The Foundation is currently working to extend aid to indigent women coffee producers in other developing countries. These grants improve the health, education and living conditions of women coffee growers and their families.

“Even in the worst of economic times, sharing a little can go a long way toward alleviating the poverty and improving the living conditions of women and families in remote coffee growing communities,” states Gay Smith, founder of the Cafe Femenino Foundation. “I feel blessed that we can reach out and be a part of women’s lives around the world.”

The Cafe Femenino Foundation *Three Wishes* Campaign will fund three grants of \$3000 each in 2009:

- In Bolivia, funding will allow the Union Pro-Agro Cooperative to rebuild their coffee nursery and replant a portion of the 450,000 coffee plants destroyed by a storm in December 2008.
- In Peru, a grant will fund formation of “Health Promoters”, a pilot project designed in collaboration with the FACES Foundation to take basic medical assistance and health education into isolated coffee farming communities by training local residents to be first responders and educators.
- In Guatemala, funding will support employment of a librarian to serve the communities of the Nahuala Cooperative where a partnership with Child Aid and Bridge Builders is addressing the problem of illiteracy by constructing a community library and filling it with books.

Any individual or organization may make a tax-deductible contribution to the Cafe Femenino Foundation *Three Wishes* or *Coffee Can* Campaigns. Contact (800) 791-1181 or visit [www.coffeecan.org](http://www.coffeecan.org) for more information.

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