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## KNOXVILLE'S ETSY VENDORS JOIN TOGETHER TO RAISE AWARENESS OF LOCAL CREATIVE PEOPLE, CONNECT SELLERS AND BUYERS OF HANDMADE GOODS AND SUPPORT THE LOCAL ECONOMY

Knoxvillians sell through on-line marketplace Etsy.com, your place to buy and sell all things handmade

*Knoxville, Tennessee – September 22, 2010* - The Knoxville Creative Hands Street Team is comprised of Knoxville-area crafters, artists and creative minds, as well as vendors of vintage goods and craft supplies. While the talents of the Team members lie in many different areas, all members have one thing in common – they offer their goods and services for sale in their individual shops on Etsy.com. What is Etsy? Etsy is your place to buy and sell all things handmade through an easy to navigate online marketplace. Etsy's mission is to connect consumers with independent creators and designers to find the very best in handmade goods, while providing the artists with the technology and information needed to make a living, making things. Etsy is a community that actively supports one another in the shared goal of offering alternatives to mass-produced objects. The Knoxville Creative Hands Street Team is building its own community in which members can share ideas, exchange marketing ideas and learn how to build a successful business from tenured Etsy sellers. Although they sell globally on Etsy.com members of the Knoxville Creative Hands Street Team create the items they sell in their shops locally and spend their Etsy earnings locally as well. The Team's slogan is Shop Local :: Shop Handmade :: Shop Etsy.

Several Knoxville-area Etsy vendors joined together in early 2009 to create Knoxville Creative Hands Street Team. A flurry of recruiting has led to the roster growing to over 125 members in less than two years. Who knew there were so many crafty people in Knoxville? Knoxville Creative Hands Street Team members create in many different media and sell items such as fine art photography, hand-crafted wirewrapped and beaded jewelry, fused glass art, children's clothing, hand-drawn portraits, handmade bookmarks, soy candles, unique handbags, custom vintage baby quilts, goat's milk soap, recycled sweater creations, monogrammed items, stationery, note cards, scarves, recycled and natural products, and much more.

In May 2009 Knoxville Creative Hands Street Team held their first event, the Spring Show & Sale to give the local public the opportunity to meet Knoxville's Etsy vendors, support the local economy and raise awareness for the creative people in their hometown. It was a success and generated enthusiasm for a second Show & Sale to coincide with Holiday shopping.

The Knoxville Creative Hands Street Team Fall | Holiday Show & Sale will feature a variety of unique, quality handmade gifts at affordable prices. The Fall | Holiday Show & Sale will begin with a Preview party on Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 9pm and continue through the weekend on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 9pm and Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 7pm. The event will be held at Merchant Village, 314 Merchant Drive, 1B, Knoxville between Outback Steakhouse and Subway.

Admission is free to this event. Parking is plentiful.

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