

CLOTHROADS FACT SHEET

ClothRoads was founded in 2011 by five women who had worked together as the Executive Team at Interweave Press (see “[About Us](#)”). Our website, clothroads.com, is a natural extension of the mission we established in 2006, “Creating Opportunities to Support Indigenous Textile Artisans Worldwide”. Without robust markets textile artisans cannot sustain their families. *ClothRoads.com* is our primary sales venue, although we also hold trunk shows across the country, including exhibiting at textile conferences, and hope to expand these in coming years.

We do more than just sell textiles. Our website is designed to be informative and educational, with blogs about artisans and cultures. It’s a place to meet remarkable artisans from all over the world, learn about different techniques, connect with other textile enthusiasts or just do a little armchair traveling along the cloth road.

Giving Back. We buy directly from the artisans, or through cooperatives that work to improve the lives of people in their communities, so we pay fair wages. And, through our partnership with *Thrums Books*, we fund bilingual publications that directly benefit local artists groups. Our blog shares the stories behind the talented artisans and the global cooperatives that support quality handmade textiles and a fair wage.

Our books and DVDs keep traditional techniques alive. Written by top experts in the field and produced by a team with decades of combined experience in publishing, *Thrums Books* are a crucial educational complement to our textile sales. Our books and DVDs aren’t intended to be commercially successful ventures, but are published as a labor of love to document and preserve traditional techniques and lifestyles.

Thrums Books include:

A Textile Guide to the Highlands of Chiapas by Walter F. Morris Jr, Alfredo Martínez, Janet Schwartz and Carol Karasik (bilingual English/Spanish). January 2012.

Guatemalan Woven Wealth: Preserving a Rich Textile Tradition by Deborah Chandler and Raymond E. Senuk (All proceeds from sales benefit Friendship Bridge’s efforts in Guatemala). August 2009.

Weaving in the Peruvian Highlands: Dreaming Patterns, Weaving Memories by Nilda Callañaupa Alvarez.

Weaving Lives: Traditional Textiles of Cusco by the Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco (bilingual English/Spanish). December 2011.

Textile Traditions of Chinchero: A Living Heritage by Nilda Callañaupa Alvarez (bilingual English/Spanish). Coming June 2012.