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**TreePeople Selected to Receive
Starbucks™ Youth Action Grant**

*Supporting the planting of a 5,000 square foot native butterfly and hummingbird
garden at Telfair Elementary School in Pacoima
Saturday, September 15th*



PACOIMA, CA – SEPTEMBER 15, 2012 - TreePeople was selected as a Starbucks Youth Action Grant recipient in support of an exciting school greening project at Telfair Elementary School in Pacoima. On Saturday, September 15th, students and volunteers of all ages from the school and community will put in a 5,000 square foot native butterfly and hummingbird garden – bringing nature to a part of campus where there was once only plain lawn.

This garden is expected to do more than beautify the schoolyard. It will be a living outdoor laboratory for students to study natural science, providing important green space. Research shows that access to nature increases students' critical thinking abilities, attention to detail, and social development. In addition, studies show a strong correlation to better cognitive function, self-discipline, impulse control.

As part of Starbucks company-wide commitment to helping communities thrive wherever it does business, the Youth Action Grant engages young people around the world to innovate and take action in their communities.

“By mobilizing young people to be change makers in their communities, we’re tapping into a generation eager to be a force for good in their own neighborhoods,” said Cecilia Carter, Starbucks vice president of Global Diversity and Community Affairs. “We hope our Youth Action Grants will enable a new generation of creative problem-solvers to make a meaningful impact in their communities while gaining valuable life skills.”

(more)

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“The butterfly garden will provide our students with opportunities to witness the different stages of a butterfly's life cycle from an egg to a butterfly. It will also enhance the beauty of the school's quad area,” says Principal Alfonso Jimenez.

“It’s a delight to see the excitement of the students, teachers and families who have been planning this garden to replace what was a hot, sealed schoolyard,” says TreePeople Regional Forestry Manager, Pam Gibson. “This area is going to come to life.”

Since 2008, Starbucks has awarded more than \$8 million in Youth Action Grants to a multitude of non-profit organizations that have engaged more than 120,000 young people in community activities. Additional details about Starbucks community initiatives are available at Starbucks.com/Responsibility/Community.

About TreePeople

TreePeople is an environmental nonprofit that unites the power of trees, people and nature-based solutions to grow a sustainable future for Los Angeles. For nearly forty years, TreePeople has worked with communities to plant and care for trees and has provided environmental education for an estimated two million LA area children. For further information on this project, contact TreePeople Regional Manager Pam Gibson, (310)228-8430. For more information on TreePeople, visit www.treepeople.org.

Other partners in the Telfair project include Los Angeles Unified School District Board member Nury Martinez (District 6), Pacoima Beautiful, and the teachers and administration of Telfair Elementary.

About Starbucks

Since 1971, Starbucks Coffee Company has been committed to ethically sourcing and roasting the highest quality *arabica* coffee in the world. Today, with stores around the globe, the company is the premier roaster and retailer of specialty coffee in the world. Through our unwavering commitment to excellence and our guiding principles, we bring the unique *Starbucks Experience* to life for every customer through every cup. To share in the experience, please visit us in our stores or online at www.starbucks.com

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