

Date: _____

To:

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I am really concerned and shocked that only a week before the Maker Faire, Ovations terminated the contract of Uhuru Foods without any explanation and against the positive working relationship that has existed for 3 years.

The reason I oppose this abrupt turnaround by Ovations is because the resources raised by the volunteers in Uhuru Foods booths support black community programs that have a track record of addressing the dire conditions that face black communities in various parts of the world.

Uhuru Foods supports programs of the African People's Education and Defense Fund (www.apedf.org) to end the disparities in health, healthcare, education and economic development faced by black communities.

Uhuru Foods supports the All African People's Development and Empowerment Project (www.developmentforafrica.org), which in the past 2 years has already built a clinic and fishing project in West Africa, created a rainwater harvesting program that brings 3,000 liters of water today to a Sierra Leone village that had no water just a year ago. It brings together African engineers and scientists from every part of the African world to change actual living conditions of African communities.

Uhuru Foods supports the efforts of the Uhuru Movement that have brought together African people from throughout Africa, Europe, North and South America and the Caribbean to work as one people towards the self-determination and prosperity of African people everywhere.

Uhuru Foods is also winning support for the African Village Survival Initiative, which is urgently needed in these economic times. It is a collective effort of the African community to guarantee their own survival through backyard and community gardens, renewable and sustainable energy programs, rainwater harvesting and institutions for economic development.

Without any explanation from Ovations for the cancellation, I can only assume that they do not support the independent voice and self determination struggle of the black community, They are choosing to exclude African led programs for true sustainability and justice that African people are leading through the Uhuru Movement. Just as during the early 1960s, some opposed the leading struggles of black people in the South who challenged the status quo with such bold actions as the lunch counter sit-ins.

It is urgent that Maker Faire, Ovations and the San Mateo Event Center reverse the decision and allow Uhuru Foods to raise resources that are urgently needed during these dire economic times that impact African people disproportionately. It is unacceptable to exclude Uhuru Foods from the Maker Faire.

I demand that Uhuru Foods booth be reinstated immediately.

Signed _____

Personal statement _____
