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LESBIAN TRAVEL COMPANY CREATES GOODWILL WORLDWIDE

Sweet offers luxury lesbian travel with a ‘do-good’ twist

San Francisco, CA (August 26, 2013) – Believing she could change the world for the better by harnessing the energy of lesbian travelers by encouraging them to “do a little, a lot,” Shannon Wentworth founded Sweet in 2008. Over the next five years, Wentworth and her benevolent band of “Sweeties” have left their mark, garnering support for the lesbian community around the globe.

"Views on LGBT rights are changing rapidly," Wentworth said. "We've seen Prop 8 and DOMA defeated here in the United States and many countries around the world are embracing marriage equality. Many challenges remain, but I've seen firsthand how hearts and minds are opened to our cause through personal interaction."

Since Sweet's maiden cruise in November 2009, Sweet patrons, informal lesbian ambassadors affectionately known as "Sweeties," have ventured out on 25 vacations to 12 countries. At each stop, Sweeties participated in community service projects aimed at bettering the lives of local women, children and animals and improving the environment. Through these efforts, Wentworth's vision has been achieved with Sweet travelers planting over 7,000 trees, removing 500 bags of trash from beaches and donating tens of thousands of pens, pencils, crayons and other school supplies. Generous and resourceful vacationers have also made over \$300,000 in cash and in-kind contributions and provided 5,000 hours of community service – creating school libraries; building storage sheds; painting schools; spaying, neutering, and vaccinating dozens of cats and dogs; stocking food pantries; and most recently in conjunction with singer/songwriter Brandi Carlile who matched Sweetie donations during an April 2013 trip to Puerto Vallarta, purchasing 250 water filters for a community with no access to clean water.

"We've visited some traditionally non-gay friendly destinations; Belize on our first cruise comes to mind," Wentworth said. "But ultimately the coverage we received for our work at a local children's hospital and school kept lesbians in the news for three weeks. It was amazing to see the differences the Sweeties were making simply by being themselves and sharing their time and labor with these communities."

With polls indicating that opinions regarding LGBT rights are more favorable among those who personally know someone who is gay, Wentworth and her Sweet ambassadors are making the world a better place for women, children, animals and the environment as well as for gays and lesbians everywhere.

About Sweet

Founded in January 2008, Sweet is a lesbian travel company that merges the best of lesbian travel and entertainment with social consciousness and environmental awareness. Upcoming cruise and resort-based vacations include:

- Playacar Palace Resort, Mexico – September 21-28, 2013;
- Vietnam & Cambodia River Cruise – October 15-30, 2013;
- Western Caribbean Cruise – November 10-17, 2013;
- Mexican Riviera Cruise – March 2-9, 2014;
- Cozumel Palace Resort – May 11-18, 2014;
- South African Safari – September 15-22, 2014; and
- Isla Mujeres Resort – September 28-October 5, 2014.

Sweet is a member of the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association, accredited by the Better Business Bureau, a Registered Seller of Travel in the State of California (CST #2091755-40) and is certified CarbonFree™ by CarbonFund.org.

Sweet's CEO and co-founding partner, Shannon Wentworth, was named one of the "Advocate Magazine's 40 under 40," Go Magazine's "100 Women We Love," "7 LGBT Locals Who Give San Francisco Its Good Gay Name" by 7x7 Magazine, and the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association's "Travel Innovator of 2010."

Press

For more information, please visit <http://discoversweet.com/sweet-media-center>. To schedule an interview with Shannon Wentworth, please contact Candy Parker at candy@lesbian.com or [703.439.4683](tel:703.439.4683).

Photos

Dropbox:

<http://db.tt/jvyUtQ8g>

Photos from Sweet's Puerto Vallarta (April 2013) and Isla Mujeres (September 2011) vacations

Links

Official Sweet website:

<http://discoversweet.com>

Shannon Wentworth TEDx talk:

<http://youtu.be/FgdLQQUx814>