



## January 2024 Newsletter

---

### PeaceTrees Vietnam Looks Forward to Another Year



As we step into a new year, PeaceTrees Vietnam is excited to further our commitment to fostering positive change and building a brighter future for the communities affected by the U.S.-Vietnam War. With a steadfast mission to address the legacy of war, we embark on this continuing journey with optimism, hope, and a deep sense of purpose.

**Clearing the Path to Prosperity:** In the upcoming year, our team will continue to collaborate with Vietnamese leadership and communities to safely clear war remnants, creating safe, productive land for communities to thrive.

**Community-Led Development:** PeaceTrees remains unwavering in its belief in community empowerment, supporting projects to provide local communities with resources for safety, education, and economic success.

**Education for a Sustainable Future:** Education is pivotal to our vision for a prosperous Vietnam, and in the coming year, PeaceTrees Vietnam will intensify efforts to support initiatives, equipping the younger generation with tools and knowledge for a sustainable and peaceful future.

**Citizen Diplomacy and Building Bridges:** As citizen diplomats, we foster enduring connections between Vietnamese and American citizens, working towards a future of mutual respect and shared prosperity beyond the impacts of war.

**Gratitude for Your Support:** Our heartfelt gratitude goes to our community, partners, donors, and friends whose unwavering support propels us closer to our mission of a Vietnam cleared of dangerous unexploded ordnance in the coming year.

---

## Updates from Vietnam

### Banana Planting & Goat Project Updates

In Quảng Trị Province, our Revolving Goat Raising Project is thriving, with 15 households in Phase 2 making progress with 30 goats. Across Phases 1 and 2, a total of 36 households are embracing the goat-raising model, aiming for a sustainable future through this initiative.

At Ta Lao village in Đakrông District, the Indigenous Banana Planting Project is yielding results, boasting a flourishing orchard of 2,700 banana trees. Celebrating the harvest season, households have produced 285 bunches of bananas, and three households have ventured into sales, adding 12,500,000 VND (\$508 USD) to their income. Despite some challenges in farming, the community remains committed to sustainable banana farming.



Goat farmers with their livestock in Đakrông District



Thriving banana plants in Hướng Hóa District

### New Pig Breeding Project

August 2023 saw the introduction of a new livestock project at Ta Lao village in Đakrông district, for 10 ethnic minority households. This milestone was marked

by a comprehensive training course on pig-raising for all participants, followed by 20 pig breeds being distributed, 2 per household. Households constructed well-designed pigsties using local materials and utilizing post-harvest banana stems as feed. The active involvement of commune women officers, who regularly monitor and collaborate with local veterinary officers, ensures timely guidance on vaccinations and maintenance. The Pig Breeding Project is not just about pigs; it's a testament to community collaboration and sustainable farming practices.



Community members are guided in pig husbandry and housing in Đakrông District



A new pig farmer gets acquainted with the livestock in Đakrông District

## PeaceTrees Joins Tết in Seattle 2024

A vibrant red poster for the 'Tết in Seattle 2024' event. At the top left is the 'seattlecenter' logo and 'FESTIVAL'. At the top center is the 'HIG HERRMANN LAW GROUP' logo with 'PROUDLY PRESENTS' below it. At the top right is a 'Tết in Seattle' logo featuring a lantern. The main title 'TẾT IN SEATTLE 2024' is in large, bold, white and yellow letters. Below the title are four circular portraits of performers: Crystal Mai, Nancy, Lan Bach, and Leo Tet. The event dates 'FEBRUARY 3RD - 4TH, 2024' and time '11:00 AM - 6:00 PM' are listed. The location is 'SEATTLE CENTER, 305 Harrison St, Seattle WA 98109'. The text 'FREE ADMISSION!' is prominently displayed. Below that, a list of activities includes 'Cultural Village', 'Free Health Fair', 'Live Entertainment', 'Lion Dance', 'Food Vendors', and 'Kids N Tết'. At the bottom, the website 'TETINSEATTLE.ORG' is shown. Two stylized red dragon illustrations are at the bottom corners.

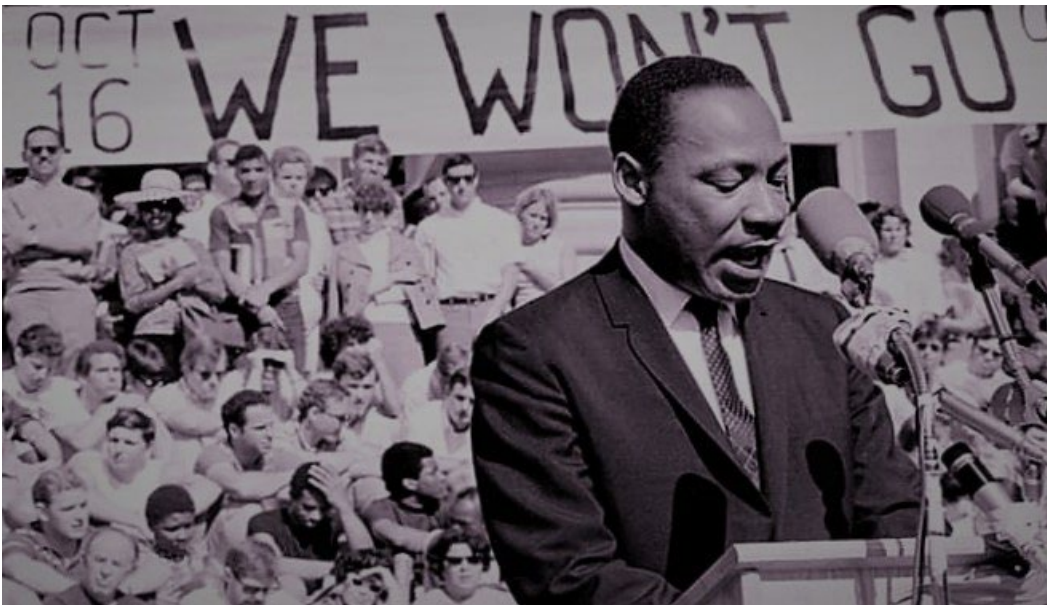
Lunar New Year, also known as Tết or Tết Nguyên Đán in Vietnam, marks the beginning of the year based on the ancient lunar calendar. Celebrate with

PeaceTrees at [Tết in Seattle](#) at the Seattle Center on February 3rd and 4th from 11am to 6pm! Admission is free, and the event will feature 4 headline singers, live entertainment, a kids center, food, and so much more!

[Tết In Seattle](#) is a non-profit organization that annually organizes the Tết Festival, the largest free Tết festival in the PNW, at Seattle Center as part of the Festál world cultural program. Established in 1996 by four Vietnamese organizations, [Tết In Seattle](#) celebrates and preserves traditional Vietnamese culture through arts, music, performances, and food, uniting the community and introducing its unique culture to the greater Seattle metropolitan area. PeaceTrees is delighted and honored to be a part of this wonderful event, so stop by and see us there!

---

### **Honoring Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy of Peacebuilding**



In recognition of Martin Luther King Day this month, PeaceTrees Vietnam honors the profound legacy of peacebuilding left by Martin Luther King Jr.

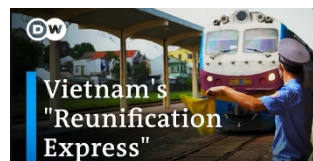
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s peacebuilding efforts have left an indelible mark on the fabric of American society and beyond. His unwavering commitment to nonviolent resistance and civil rights advocacy during the U.S.-Vietnam War era inspired a generation to strive for justice, equality, and peace. Dr. King's dream of a harmonious society, free from discrimination and prejudice, continues to resonate today. His legacy extends beyond the boundaries of his time, serving as a beacon for those dedicated to promoting social justice and fostering understanding among diverse communities. Through his eloquent speeches and courageous actions, Dr. King ignited a movement that transcends generations, reminding us of the enduring power of peaceful activism in the pursuit of a better, more inclusive world.

---

## What We're...

### **Watching: ["By train through Vietnam - From Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City" by DW Documentary](#)**

The "Reunification Express" in Vietnam travels from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City, rebuilt after the Vietnam War to promote reconciliation between North and South Vietnam. The 32-hour journey offers a glimpse of the country's culture, featuring stops at the Trang An Landscape Complex, crossing the historic Ben Hai River, visiting the imperial capital of Hue, and concluding with a scenic ride along the South China Sea to Ho Chi Minh City, symbolizing reconciliation between Vietnam's North and South. A documentary for true travel lovers!



### **Reading: ["Hot Mics and TV Lights" by Marc Phillip Yablonka](#)**

"Hot Mics and TV Lights" vividly explores the untold stories of over 30 military on-air personalities, including iconic figures like Adrian Cronauer and a young Pat Sajak, who brought a slice of home to Vietnam through the American Forces Vietnam Network (AFVN). Spanning from AFVN's humble beginnings in a Saigon hotel supply closet to its last broadcast as troops departed in 1975, the book delves into the challenges, dangers, and unique moments faced by AFVN broadcasters, offering a captivating glimpse into their experiences during the U.S.-Vietnam War.



### **Eating: [Homestyle Vietnamese dishes by pop up restaurant Ba + Mệ](#)**

Ba + Mệ, a pop-up by Lisa Bi, gained popularity in Atlanta for its homestyle Vietnamese comfort food, earning praise from Eater Atlanta and Voyage ATL Magazine. Now located in Seattle, Lisa emphasizes the unique warmth and complexity of Vietnamese homestyle cuisine, distinct from traditional pho and banh mi. Treat yourself to comforting favorites like fragrant rice porridge and banana leaf steamed rice dumplings. Catch the latest dates and locations via their [Instagram!](#)



**Our Contact Information**

PeaceTrees Vietnam  
509 Olive Way Suite 1226  
Seattle, WA 98101  
2064416136

<http://www.peacetreesvietnam.org>

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage email preferences](#)



**Connect with PeaceTrees on social media!**

***Support PeaceTrees Vietnam today!***