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## BLJ: Hodgson Russ hosts West Side Bazaar

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While the West Side Bazaar is located on Grant Street, participants recently set up shop for an afternoon at Hodgson Russ to give employees a chance to sample ethnic foods and see exotic wares without having to leave the office.

It's the second year the law firm brought in the West Side Bazaar, said Joseph Brown, a Hodgson partner on the Committee on Attorney Recruiting, Development and Diversity. The idea is to expose employees to different cultures.

"Nothing gets people together like good food," Brown said. "It's a way to open ourselves up to new opportunities."

The response from attorneys and employees was good, he said.

Employees were able to sample foods ranging from Ethiopian to Asian while vendors sold jewelry and clothing. For instance, Raine Manuel of Zigma Naturals sold items from Burma with the help of her son Richard. She said she enjoyed the experience.

"It's been good," Manuel said.

Robert Doyle, manager of the bazaar, said the law firm setup offered vendors additional exposure.

"It's great to bring (the bazaar) to people and share our passion for food," he said.

Brown added, "As a nation, our biggest strength is our diversity. At our best, we interact with other people and cultures. Events like this are a good reminder of that."

### Michael Canfield

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Ethnic food was front and center at the event as law firm employees got in line for a taste.

