



WJA-DC Chapter Newsletter

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703-719-0092

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President's Corner



Dear WJA Members,

Spring is finally here! Don't forget to visit the Cherry Blossoms in DC to get your design juices flowing.

I am happy to bring you the most recent edition of the WJA DC Chapter Newsletter for there has been so many amazing things happening within the WJA

of late.

WJA is continuing to focus on the development of three strategic planks: Member Services, Education and Leadership Development. Please make sure you check out our Website on a regular basis for information on our newest member benefits which will include additional merchant service options, personal banking benefits, as well as other valuable programs and services*.

In other news, a new 'corporate' level to our WJA membership categories has been added. If your corporation is interested in having three or more of your employees join WJA, please contact our administrative director, Nicole Lichwick, (Nicole@womensjewelry.org) for additional information.

The Board is hard at work organizing interesting events for 2011. Please make sure you attend as many as possible to network, make new friends and grow your business. If you have any ideas for events please contact Alexan Cerna at

alexan@alexanfinejewelry.com

*From Kendra Bridel Weinman in the WJA National Newsletter, November 2010

Member Profile : Odaybea Morrow, 2010 WJA DC Chapter Shining Star

Odaybea is a self-taught designer who began creating jewelry as both an outlet for artistic expression and as a means to stay awake during the long nights working in a shelter home for abused and neglected



children after completing her Bachelor of Art's Degree. Creating jewelry remained both a passion and an outlet while completing a Master's degree in Medical Anthropology, and then while in Ethiopia working with underserved women and children on health issues. In Ethiopia, Odaybea gained further appreciation of the fabulous artistry of the local population, in particular, of their intricate gold and silver work. However her experience in Ethiopia also led to a desire to



learn more about the health problems facing underserved populations in developing countries. To this end, Odaybea obtained a PhD in inter-

national health at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. These academic degrees enabled her to live and work Europe, Africa and Central Asia from where she began an extensive collection of antique beads and jewelry and broadened her understanding of culturally specific designs in jewelry. Recently settled in the United States, Odaybea has returned to her passion for creating jewelry. The cultural diversity of her experiences has inspired many of the color



schemes and pieces she uses in her designs today.



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/23814315@N04>

odaybea@odaybea.com

If you would like to be profiled in one of our next newsletters, please send your bio and photos to odaybea@odaybea.com

Mark Your Calendars



March 30th 2011 at 7pm

Glittering Conscience Transparency and Beneficiation in the Jewelry Space - 'wear your conscience' With Wade Watson



Have you ever wondered at the origins of the materials that beautifully form the gorgeous ring or necklace you adore? Only recently have people begun to question the sustainability of their jewelry. It is with great pleasure that we welcome Wade Watson, social entrepreneur. Learn how Wade got started in the socially-responsible jewelry industry with his travels to Sierra Leone, a country that was at the heart of the conflict diamond crisis; learn how his desire to give back led to the creation of Ruff and Cut, a conflict-free jewelry company whose sourcing and manufacturing processes are transparent and that gives 10 percent of its wholesale cost to non-profits working to better the lives of the mining communities in developing nations.

WJA MEMBERS: \$20

Guests: \$30 (If you become a member the night of the event your price will be \$20)

RSVP by March 25th
Alexan at [703-719-0092](tel:703-719-0092) or
alexan@alexanfinejewelry.com

Where:
Jessica Marcotte PhotographyStudio
107 N West Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-548-7900

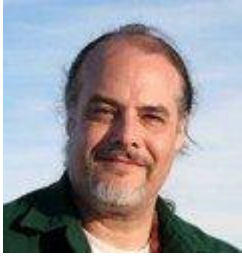
April 21st 2011

Cindy Edelstein

“Social Media 101 for Jewelers”

Cindy Edelstein will give a presentation on everything those in the jewelry industry need to know about social media. Prior to the presentation, Cindy will offer private consultations.

For further information, contact Liz Georges-Emrich at egeorges@cox.net



Coming Soon:

Richard Hoff, of Peace Jewellers, is a widely respected jeweler-designer from Baltimore, MD. He specializes in custom jewelry and antique restoration and will present his wide collection of 19th and 20th jewelry distinguished by unusual organic materials to WJA. Hoff's passion for this specific era in jewelry was sparked twenty years ago, while repairing an antique Shriners' pendant. It contained a worn-out cat's claw that needed replacing. He became intrigued by the wide variety of organic materials used historically in jewelry.

Hair, claws, teeth, and bone were all used in memorial jewelry. A departed loved one's elaborately braided lock of hair becomes part of a necklace. A single tiger claw mounted in gold commemorates a glorious hunting trip. Items such as these became an obsession for Hoff and with careful sleuthing a collection was born. He now owns well over a hundred pieces.

The main themes of his talk will be:

- Common and unusual animal parts found in 19th and early 20th century jewelry.
- The reasons for using them.
- Why most have fallen out of fashion.

Richard Hoff looks forward to sharing this fascinating side of jewelry with you, through slides and hands-on examination.

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Sunday June 12th 12:30 - 4 PM

Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens

Lecture by Curator Ms. Liana Pardes of Ms. Post's Jewelry Collection by
Cartier, Harry Winston and Faberge eggs.

This event includes: Guided House and Garden Tour
Tea at the Hillwood Cafe 3:00 - 4:00

Tea Menu

Assortment of Finger Sandwiches & Mini Quiches:
Vegetarian Mini Quiches, Fresh Fruit & Cucumbers with Tomato Butter
Miniature Pastries
European Macaroon, Fruit Tart, Miniature Éclair
Scones with Crème Fraiche & Strawberry Jam
A Selection of Harney & Sons Teas

FYI ...



The WJA DIVA Design Competition is open for entries.

This year's theme, GREEN DIVA: Responsible Jewels For Today's Conscious Consumer, reflects the competition's focus on recycled, reclaimed, repurposed and ethically mined materials that fits in with the responsible jewelry movement.

Cindy Edelstein, president of Jewelers Resource Bureau and chair of the WJA Diva Design Competition, invites designers to "design a jewel for each category that shines a light on the responsible jewelry movement – materials that are ethically mined, designs that feature recycled or reclaimed materials and carry a message through their theme and/or materials that fine jewelry can be GREEN jewelry. The Green Diva is the consumer who supports her causes and her beliefs with her fine jewelry choices.

Designers are invited to submit entries in each of the New Dawn categories:

- * Daytime Jewel
- * Evening Jewel
- * Men's Jewel

Designers should submit entries electronically no later than April 25 at our online DIVA Design Competition web site – <https://www.callforentry.org> -- and scroll down to WJA listing. Designers can enter up to three designs in any or all of the categories. All designs must incorporate precious materials.

Maryland Institute College of Art Jewelry Center at Meadow Mills still has a few spaces left in the [Studio Tricks and Techniques](#) Workshop with **John Cogswell**. "Any tool that only does one thing is probably not a good tool. Exercise your ingenuity and resourcefulness and explore a variety of alternative uses and applications for many common studio handtools, materials and pieces of equipment. Topics covered include: inventive use of tools and materials; care and maintenance of a flex shaft; soldering aids and set-ups; basic tool-making; helpful hints and bench tips, and more."

http://www.mica.edu/programs_of_study/school_for_professional_and_continuing_studies/continuing_studies/jewelry_courses.html

Check out this website for upcoming juried craft shows:

http://www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=home_new

FYI cont.

Mia Gemma is Looking for a Fine Jewelry Retail Sales Consultant:

Mia Gemma is an exquisite boutique designed for the sophisticated and discerning woman. We offer one-of-a-kind and limited edition fine jewelry that is hand crafted by up-and-coming artists from across the U.S. and Europe. Mia Gemma has been featured in fashion magazines, the Washington Post and other publications. We are located in the exciting Penn Quarter area of Washington DC.

We are seeking a cracker jack part-time sales associate that will embrace our philosophy of customer service, is energetic, and loves working with people. The successful Mia Gemma sales associate should possess the following experience/qualities:

- Prior fine jewelry sales experience with a track record of success (this is a must);
- Excellent customer service skills;
- A love of, and an eye for fashion;
- Good communication skills;
- Strong computer skills;
- A flair for organization and detail; and
- Flexibility to work Saturdays and 20-25 hours a week (a must);

Mia Gemma offers:

- Competitive salary + bonus
- Fun and professional work environment
- Generous employee discount
- Flexible schedule
- Free gym membership

Contact:

Irene Barbieri, Owner (202) 393-4367

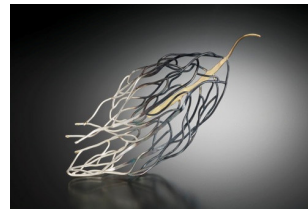
www.miagemma.com



Congratulations to Members:

Tamar Liani is our 2011 WJA grant recipient. Tamar was born in Israel and moved to the US when she was nine years old. She entered the jewelry industry at the age of twenty as a semi precious stone buyer for Goldie Zweibel at Frederika Inc. She subsequently worked for Larry Asch and Eric Grossbardt at Asch/Grossbardt Fine Jewelry and later worked with different manufactures in the diamond industry. In 2007, Tamar started her own sales business and moved to Baltimore where she has been involved in purchasing diamonds. Tamar intends to use her Grant towards a Quickbooks seminar.

Beverly Tadeau was accepted to participate in the Aaron Farber In line/In metal Group Exhibition in October, 2011. Below are examples of some of her new pieces.



About Us:

We are the local chapter of the Women's Jewelry Association for the District of Columbia and the surrounding area. WJA-DC works to support women in all aspects of the jewelry industry.

www.womensjewelry.org/DC

If you are interested in joining us, contact Liz Georges-Emrich at egeorges@cox.net



Note from the Editor

This newsletter continues to be a work in progress and we greatly welcome any feedback that will help us make this a quality newsletter. Please send in any comments, information about upcoming events, funny anecdotes, tips, cartoons and/or information you would like to see/share in future newsletters to Odaybea (odaybea@odaybea.com).

Thank you,

Odaybea