

Beautiful things that are 'One of a Kind'

BY LAURA PAVIN | Trend Columnist
Ever wonder what inspired the artist who created your favorite piece of statement jewelry?

At Chicago's 12th annual "One of a Kind Show and Sale," Dec. 6-9, more than 600 artists will be on hand to explain the impetus behind what could become your new favorite fashion or home accessory.

The local angle grew more local than ever this year with year's artists who hail from Barrington, Kildeer, Lake Zurich, and Buffalo Grove as part of the show. Along side artists and crafters from across North America they will exhibit handmade works in a multitude of media.

One is Teresa DeVer of Barrington with her award-winning wire sculpted gold jewelry at booth 7072. The jewelry will also show up on the runway during the fashion show.

"You learn a process, and you learn to create your own personality within that process," DeVer said of the inspiration that goes into her

jewelry line, DeVer Originals (deveroriginals.com).

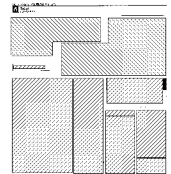
DeVer's passion for creating jewelry began with classes she took more than 10 years ago in wire sculpting and chain maille, both of which were art forms once used by ancient Egyptians and Phoenicians to create functional jewelry and armor.

The market for armor is pretty much extinct these days, so DeVer may craft a rose gold, chain-woven wire necklace with a specific customer or friend in mind, or just because its pleasing to her.

Barrington jeweler and JWP Designs (jwp-designs.com/index.html) owner Jackie Phinney finds that vintage and tribal baubles, buckles, beads and odd trinkets have become her muse.

"I'm also an antique dealer, so I have this huge collection that I've incorporated into my jewelry," Phinney, exhibiting at booth 8061, said. "I use antique findings as the focal piece of my work and then build around it."

Phinney discovered her knack for creating fine jewelry shortly after a friend gave her a prayer strand to commemorate her deceased father. She was inspired to



make two, for her mother and sister, and has gone on to create her signature pieces as hybrids of old and new elements.

Kildeer resident Amy Ikenn (heartfirestudios.com) will be bringing Heartfire Studios' finest glass pieces to booth 3132A at the show. An engineer by day and an artist by night, Ikenn fuses her love of color — her favorite is cobalt blue — with her commitment to functionality to create Heartfire's vibrant glass pieces.

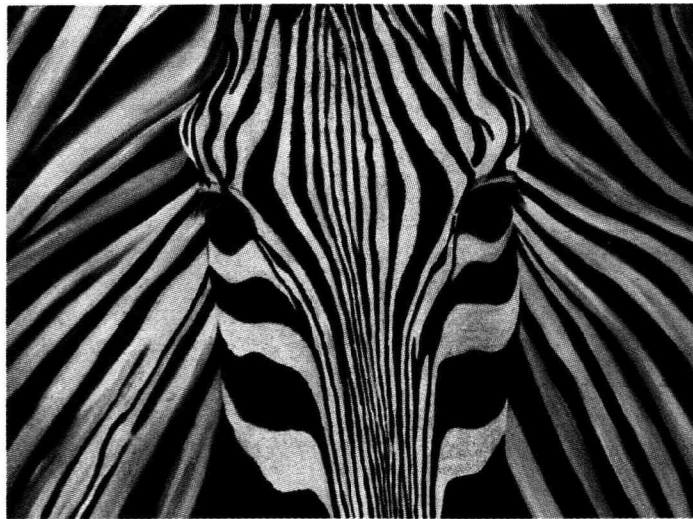
"Glass is all about physics; I'm always trying new things, and I love the results," Ikenn said. "The glass is largely functional, but it's art for the sake of art too." ■

'One of a Kind Show and Sale Chicago'

Merchandise Mart, Chicago

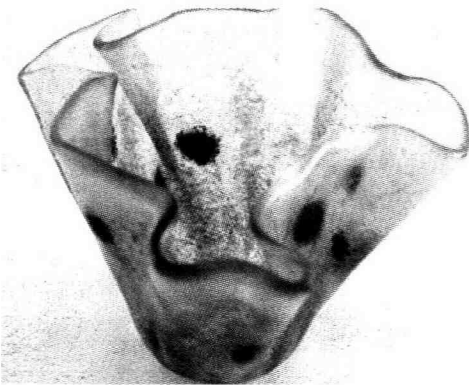
Hours are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday and Friday, Dec. 6-7; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 8; from and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9

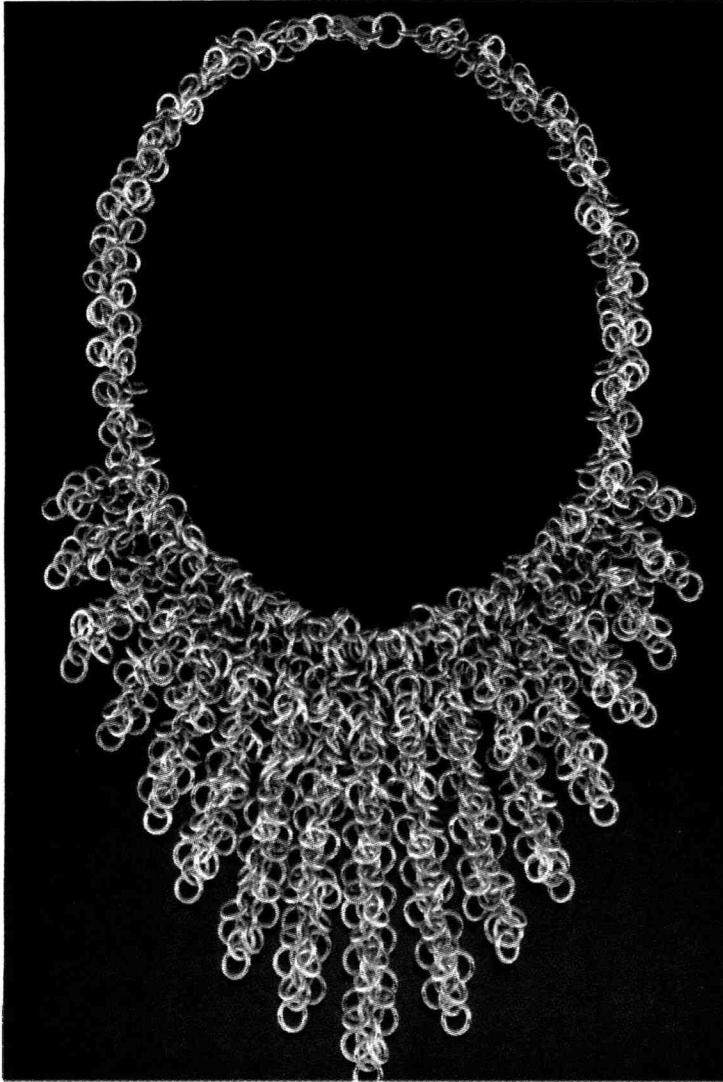
Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$9 for seniors, available at the door or in advance online at www.oneofakindshowchicago.com. A portion of tickets sales will benefit Children's Memorial Hospital.



Animal art by Jenni Erdman of South Barrington.

Left, colorful art glass created by Heartfire Studios in Kildeer.





Gold wire jewelry by Teresa DeVer of Barrington

Distinctive jewelry inspired by antique pieces comes from Jackie Phinny of Barrington's JWP Designs.

