

Emerging Artist: J. Adrienne Dienno
Website: www.JAdrienneDienno.com

This letter is a nomination for J. Adrienne Dienno for the Viola Award of Emerging Artist. The exquisite work of this metalsmith was on prominent display at the Crafts Fair at the Coconino Center for the Arts and at the Its Elemental exhibition. She produces beautiful metal jewelry using two or three metals with very fine lightly contrasting inlays. Proud of her craft and a perfectionist, she brings imagination and beauty to complex appealing designs. Her finely detailed work reflects excellence in and commitment to an uncommon art form. It is a pleasure to visit her website.

Artist Bio:

"I grew up in San Diego, the granddaughter of the first Indian (South East Asian) to immigrate to San Diego. My mother is a single parent and fine artists, she instilled in me an appreciation, respect, and love for art. Before moving to Flagstaff six years ago, I worked along side my mother as a professional muralist, but never felt truly passionate about it.

"In the fall of 2008, I took an intro class to jewelry and metalsmithing, and fell in love. I had finally found the medium I was supposed to work in. I quickly set up my own studio at home, and worked hard to learn everything I could about jewelry and metalsmithing.

"About seven years ago, one of the most important people in my life, my grandma, passed away. Most of my designs are inspired by her life and the time I was fortunate enough to spend with her. They are also drawn from Indian culture (primarily henna design), nature, and the jewelry I saw my grandmother and mother wearing when I was a child.

"Losing loved ones is devastating, but I believe that beauty and even joy can come out of such loss. I feel extremely lucky that I have such a rewarding outlet to express the most influential people and meaningful moments in my life."

J. Adrienne has shown at the following places in the last year:

- Sedona Arts Festival at the Sedona Red Rock High School - Sedona, AZ.
- 19th Annual Flagstaff Art in the Park in Wheeler Park Flagstaff, AZ.
- Featured Artist - Artist's Gallery window display - Flagstaff, AZ
- Art in the Park in Wheeler Park Flagstaff, AZ.
- Featured Artist at Shoes and Such First Friday art walk, Downtown Flagstaff, AZ
- It's Elemental Fine Art Exhibition at the Coconino Center for the Arts - Flagstaff, AZ
- Winter Magic Exhibition at Taboo Studio - San Diego, CA

- Featured Artist - Artist's Gallery window display - Flagstaff, AZ
- Summer Art in the Park - Flagstaff, AZ
- It's Elemental Fine Crafts Sale - Flagstaff, AZ
- Fall Art in the Park - Flagstaff, AZ





