

## **Sandra Borland's Artist Statement**

I'm a native Californian who expressed my artistic nature at an early age through knitting, bead jewelry, sewing, and weaving projects while growing up in the San Diego area.

As a young adult in the '60's in San Francisco, I began the first of several arts and crafts businesses by selling my handmade knit and crocheted clothing to upscale boutiques in San Francisco and Marin County.

I've also owned businesses selling my handmade jewelry in San Diego and the Bay Area, and owned an arts and crafts store in Tucson, Arizona. In Tucson, I focused on macramé and weaving, which turned out to be one of my most lucrative ventures.

As an artist and craftswoman I am self-taught, other than a pottery class I took while earning a degree in nutrition. I fell madly in love with working clay—it would have been so easy to drop everything to focus on this new obsession, but I stuck with my nutrition studies instead, graduating from San Jose State U. in 1995.

Currently, my creative expression has returned to jewelry making. My inspiration comes from the beautiful textures, shapes and colors of the many materials I work with—natural gemstones, glass beads, and a variety of metals, many coming from around the world.

I am also greatly inspired by the natural beauty surrounding my home in Santa Cruz, which is set on a hillside next to an apple orchard, with redwoods, oaks, pines and eucalyptus trees within view from my picture windows.

My goal is to provide well-made high-quality jewelry at affordable prices that fit in to daily life. To this end, I work in sterling silver, gold-filled, copper, natural semi-precious gemstones, glass beads from around the world, and handmade glass beads made by local artisans.

I use techniques that have been tested over the years to create jewelry that will hold up well over time, and can be passed on to future generations.

You can view more of my jewelry designs at [www.TheJewelryBazaar.com](http://www.TheJewelryBazaar.com).