



7500 Bluewater Rd NW · Albuquerque, New Mexico 87121-1962 USA

Press Release — For Immediate Release

2011 Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist Winners Announced

Dateline: June, 2011

For information: Contact Mike Schelle at 505.839.3234 (mschelle@tbg.riogrande.com) or Sharon Christenson at 505.839.3225 (schriste@riogrande.com).

Information above is for questions about the press release; please publish only the information below.

Rio Grande Congratulates Winners of the Fourth Annual Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist Competition

At a gala celebration dinner held on June 4 during *JCK Las Vegas*, Rio Grande congratulated and recognized three young jewelry artists as winners in the fourth year of the Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist competition. A panel of judges chose five finalists and, from these, three winners emerged. The first place winner received an award designed by New Mexico metalsmith Pat Pruitt and all three winners received monetary prizes. Winning pieces may be viewed online at www.saulbellaward.com.

This annual competition celebrates the fresh ideas and creative spark of young, emerging designers. The competition is open to designers 18 years of age and younger.

2011 Emerging Artist Winners:

First Place — \$500 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

Lam Nguyen of Carrollton, Texas, USA

Description: "Mended Heart"— Seeing two quartz stones that looked as if they were two halves of a single piece, Nguyen was inspired to create a necklace to bring them together. Sterling bezels, wire scrollwork and handmade chain complete the piece.

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Second Place — \$250 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

Sam Pollard of Auburn, Washington, USA

Description: “Piecemaker”—This necklace features a hinged locket filled with war-related newspaper clippings and a chain of spent rifle casings. Pollard used a hydraulic press, sawing techniques and acid etching to create a rough aesthetic to match his design’s subject matter.

Third Place — \$100 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

Emily Bennett of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA

Description: “Untitled”—This sterling silver pendant is composed of several contrasting elements brought together into an open oval including bezel-set onyx and paua shell cabochons, a single ruby and unique tree-bark accents that were hand-cast using broom straw.

The finalists in the 2011 Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist competition are:

Lorena Lugo, Carrollton, Texas, USA

Jimmy Nguyen, Carrollton, Texas, USA

For information about the upcoming 2012 Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist competition, designers are invited to call 800.952.6222 or e-mail marketing@riogrande.com.

Visit www.saulbellaward.com for general information about the Saul Bell Design Award.

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2012 Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist Competition

Key Dates

- ◆ December 2, 2011 All renderings/photographs received at Rio Grande by 5 p.m. MST.

- ◆ December 16, 2011 Finalists selected and notified.

- ◆ January 27, 2012 All finalists' completed pieces received at Rio Grande by 5 p.m. MST.

- ◆ June, 2012 Winners announced publicly during *JCK Las Vegas, 2012*.

2012 Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist Competition

Fact Sheet

- Overview:** Rio Grande announces the fifth annual Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist competition, celebrating the fresh ideas, creative spark and unbridled energy of youth. Named for the founder of Rio Grande, the Saul Bell Design Emerging Artist Award competition fosters his legacy of learning, mastering and teaching jewelry arts.
- Entrants:** This competition is open to designers 18 years of age and younger.
- Awards:**
- First Place:*
\$500 Rio Grande gift certificate (plus a matching gift certificate to the mentor/instructor or school)
- Second Place:*
\$250 Rio Grande gift certificate (plus a matching gift certificate to the mentor/instructor or school)
- Third Place:*
\$100 Rio Grande gift certificate (plus a matching gift certificate to the mentor/instructor or school)
- Winners will be publicly announced during *JCK Las Vegas, 2012*. Rio Grande may use photographs of finished pieces in promotions and marketing efforts and for public display on any of Rio Grande's websites. In all cases, credit will be given to the appropriate designer.
- Design:** There are no limitations on design other than the finished piece must be wearable jewelry and be made by the designer.
- Deadlines:** December 2, 2011—renderings or photographs due at Rio Grande (no slides will be accepted). Entries may be submitted via mail or uploaded electronically online.
- Information:** Interested designers may call Rio Grande directly at 800.952.6222, e-mail marketing@riogrande.com or visit www.saulbellaward.com for complete entry guidelines and a brochure.



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Call for Entries Open for Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist Competition

Dateline: June, 2011

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Fifth Annual Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist Competition Invites Entries

Rio Grande invites young jewelry designers to enter their original designs for the fifth annual Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist competition. The Emerging Artist competition celebrates both the future of the jewelry design industry and the fresh ideas and boundless energy of youth. There are no limitations on medium, but all finished pieces entered must be wearable jewelry and must be made by the designer.

A panel of judges, all experts in the jewelry industry, will choose winners based on finalists' innovation and the uniqueness of their design, the successful incorporation of media, and the quality of workmanship in the finished piece.

The Saul Bell Design Emerging Artist Award competition is open to students and young jewelry designers who are 18 years of age or younger. Deadline for entries is December 2, 2011. Participants may submit as many entries as they wish. Instructors interested in having their students participate in this one-of-a-kind competition may call 800.952.6222 or send an e-mail to marketing@riogrande.com for a call for entries. Visit www.saulbellaward.com for more information about the Saul Bell Design Emerging Artist Award and the specific guidelines for the 2012 competition.

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