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## Press Release — For Immediate Release

### 2011 Saul Bell Design Award Winners Announced

**Dateline:** June, 2011

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Information above is for questions about the press release;  
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### Rio Grande Congratulates Winners of the Eleventh Annual Saul Bell Design Award Competition

At a gala celebration dinner held on June 4 during *JCK Las Vegas*, Rio Grande congratulated the Grand Prize winner and 12 category winners of the eleventh annual Saul Bell Design Award competition. From hundreds of submissions, a panel of judges chose 30 finalists and, from these, 12 winners emerged. More than \$30,000 in prizes and awards was presented at the Saul Bell Design Award presentation and gala. Winning pieces may be viewed online at [www.saulbellaward.com](http://www.saulbellaward.com).

The 2011 competition challenged jewelry designers to push the boundaries of creativity as they created original and innovative pieces in any of six categories. Each designer chose any of six categories as the foundation of their piece and integrated additional stones or materials as they wished, provided that the predominant category material remained at least 75% of the finished, original design.

**Hollowware:** the predominant metal is silver and/or gold; includes vessels that are spun, drawn, forged and/or raised. Decorative fabricated or cast components may be incorporated into the design.

**Gold/Platinum:** the predominant metal is gold or platinum group metals including palladium or a combination. May be cast, fabricated, forged, assembled or created with any combination of techniques. Must be entrant's original design.

## SBDA Winners

**Silver/Argentium® Silver:** the predominant metal is silver or Argentium® Silver or a combination of both. May be cast, fabricated, forged, assembled or created with any combination of techniques. Must be the designer's original design.

**Metal Clay:** the predominant material is either silver, gold, bronze or copper metal clay. Must be the designer's original design.

**Beads:** the predominant elements are beads, pearls or other strung ornaments.  
Beads may be of any material. Must be the designer's original design and assembly.

**Enamel:** the predominant surface material must be enamel. Use glass-based enamels and fire on any type of metal. Must be the designer's original design and construction.

## 2011 Hollowware Category Winners:

**Grand Prize** — \$10,000 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Wayne Meeten** of Hackney, London, United Kingdom

*Description:* "Inner Golden Facets"— Hand-raised completely by hammer using the Japanese technique of shibori, this hollowware form is made from 32 metal layers fused together and hand-forged into a single flat sheet. The sheet was then hand-raised and chased by hammer to bring out the incredible combination of colors and metal. The inside is gilded to reflect "the inner golden facets of the self" representative of the artist's Tai Chi Chuan philosophy. This is the second year in a row Meeten has taken home the grand prize and first place in the Hollowware category.

**Second Place** — \$1000 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Sung Yeoul Lee** of Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA

*Description:* "Hollow"—Sung Yeoul Lee forged this teapot form from sterling silver, copper mesh and stainless steel wire. Much of Lee's work includes mixed media and contemporary designs made possible through traditional metal forming techniques.

## 2011 Gold/Platinum Category Winners:

**First Place** — \$2500 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Robin Waynee** of Chimayo, New Mexico, USA

*Description:* "Green Moonstone Bracelet"— This 18 karat bracelet is made of alternating cast pieces and fabricated bezel mountings that hold 12 green moonstones. The pieces weave together with the help of hand-drawn tubing hinges that remain nearly hidden during wear. The piece is accented with tourmalines, diamonds and a handmade white gold clasp. Waynee won first place for the second year in a row; in 2010 she won the Silver category.

*SBDA Winners*

**Second Place** — \$1000 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Kelly Liddicoat** of Deerfield Beach, Florida, USA

*Description:* “Swirling Spirits”— Inspired by the swirls of grape vines and the whirling motion of a car’s spinning rims, this 18 karat ring has a spinning top consisting of a 9.5mm amethyst encased in delicate gold scrollwork. An Akoya pearl and diamonds accent the rich, grape-colored amethyst within.

**2011 Silver Category Winners:**

**First Place** — \$2500 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Janice Grzyb** of New York, New York, USA

*Description:* “Bird Ring”—This fanciful sterling silver ring was completely hand-fabricated by the artist then sandblasted to give it a sparkling finish. The bird perches atop the ring with folded wings and two ruby-set eyes.

**Second Place** — \$1000 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Eva Martin** of Boston, Massachusetts, USA

*Description:* “The Collider”— When physicists began using the Large Hadron Collider in experiments, jewelry designer Eva Martin saw inspiration for a Mobius-shaped bangle. The Argentium® Silver bracelet was designed using CAD software to look like two intertwined forms, but it is actually one continuous channel with one edge. Inside, three synthetic ruby balls race around the channel colliding with each other. This is the third time Martin has won the Saul Bell Design Award, taking home second place in the Gold/Platinum category in 2009 and winning the grand prize in 2006 for her Silver category entry.

**2011 Metal Clay Category Winners:**

**First Place** — \$2500 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Barbara Becker Simon** of Cape Coral, Florida, USA

*Description:* “Mandala”—This hollow-form pendant was hand-fabricated into a mandala shape using fine silver metal clay, and finished with freshwater pearls. In Simon’s artist statement, she says, “An audience or ‘viewer’ is necessary to create a mandala. Where there is no you, there is no mandala.”

**Second Place** — \$1000 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Barbro Eriksdotter Gendell** of Springfield, Virginia, USA

*Description:* “Equilibrium”—Two halves of this PMC3™ pendant are connected by undulating strips of silver and a gold bimetal sphere. Blades of gold keum-boo lend a brilliant contrast to the polished silver. Gendell previously won first place in the same category in the 2003 Saul Bell Design Award Competition.

**2011 Beads Category Winners:**

*SBDA Winners*

**First Place** — \$2500 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Andrea Williams**, Cohasset, Massachusetts, USA

*Description:* “Night Grass Necklace”—This beach stone necklace was inspired by the ethereal nature of moonlight shining on an open field. Reclaimed silver “blades” of grass were inlaid into black beach stones using a variety of lapidary techniques. The beads were then sanded until smooth and pearls were set into the back of each bead.

**Second Place** — \$1000 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Melissa Schmidt** of St. Louis, Missouri, USA

*Description:* “Slices of Life”—Given as a birthday gift to the artist’s 60-year old mother, this unique necklace is strung with glass-blown bubbles filled with pieces of film detailing the life of its wearer. Poignant moments from her childhood, wedding day and life move along the sterling silver neck wire, jostling together in sculptural movement.

**2011 Enamel Category Winners:**

**First Place** — \$2500 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**James Carter** of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

*Description:* “Rebirth”—James Carter has spent the past two years on a series of pieces called “Katrina: Rebirth of a City.” This winning bracelet features enameled panels that each describe a scene from New Orleans, from water pouring into a window to fish swimming in the famed French Quarter to balloons filling the sky in celebration of the reopening of one of the city’s landmarks, Mandina’s Restaurant.

**Second Place** — \$1000 Rio Grande Gift Certificate

**Amy Roper Lyons**, Summit, New Jersey, USA

*Description:* “Speckled Squid Pin/Pendant”—After spending a year living by the ocean on the Ireland coast, Lyon explored marine life such as the speckled squid in a series of jewelry pieces. Building over 20 layers of glass enamel, the cloisonné center piece shimmers in different shades of violet. The squid’s tentacles are made of 18 karat gold sheet, and the base features seven brilliant-cut diamonds bezel-set around the piece. This is Lyons second Saul Bell Design Award after winning the grand prize in the Gold/Platinum category in 2007.

The 2011 panel of judges included Emily Benoist-Ruffin, Mark Gillihan, Mark Nelson, Pat Pruitt, John Sartin, Robly Glover, Victoria Gomelsky, Pam Levine, Robert Liu and Tim McCreight.

*SBDA Winners*

The finalists of the 2011 Saul Bell Design Award competition are:

**Lynn Cobb** of Oakland, California — Metal Clay  
**Patsy Croft** of Orange Beach, Alabama — Enamel  
**Marianne Hunter** of Rancho Palos Verdes, California — Enamel  
**Thomas Ingalls** of Makawao, Hawaii — Hollowware  
**Krishma Jain** of Karnataka, India — Gold/Platinum  
**Wiwat Kamolpornwijit** of Alexandria, Virginia — Beads  
**Sharmen Liao** of San Gabriel, California — Metal Clay  
**Soyoung Park** of Rochester, New York — Silver  
**Julia Rai** of Cornwall, United Kingdom — Metal Clay  
**Jon M. Ryan** of the Republic of Korea — Silver  
**Marie Scarpa** of Petaluma, California — Beads  
**Dan Schatz** of San Diego, California — Silver  
**Scott Schreiber** of Tracy, California — Gold/Platinum  
**Llyn Strong** of Greenville, South Carolina — Hollowware & Beads  
**Andrea Williams** of Cohasset, Massachusetts — Gold/Platinum  
**Tricia Young** of Churchville, Virginia — Enamel

For information about the upcoming 2012 Saul Bell Design Award competition, designers are invited to call 800.952.6222 or e-mail [marketing@riogrande.com](mailto:marketing@riogrande.com).

Visit [www.saulbellaward.com](http://www.saulbellaward.com) for general information about the Saul Bell Design Award.

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