

beatribell *Handcrafted Jewelry*

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For Immediate Release
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Local Designer to Open Gallery in Algiers Point

Beatrixbell Handcrafted Jewelry launches studio and gift shop

New Orleans, LA, March 14, 2017 - Beatrix Bell, jewelry designer, artist and entrepreneur, is bringing her talents and designs to Algiers Point, with a new storefront located at 337 Morgan Street, New Orleans. Located just two blocks from the ferry landing, Beatrixbell Handcrafted Jewelry will be open mid-March to support and promote handcrafted, one-of-a-kind pieces.

A strong community supporter, Bell welcomes other local artists and entrepreneurs to display and sell their pieces as well, including artist Debby Boyd Hageman, ceramicist Jen Blanchard, Cayla Zeek of Mattea's Hand, New Orleans' own Sweet Olive Soapworks among others. With an emphasis on sourcing handmade wares and products made in the USA, Bell has committed herself only selling American made.

"I am so excited to share this space with the many talented artists in this great city and in this neighborhood," says Bell.

Bell has been creating unique pieces with semi-precious stones and quality metals for many years and can be found at several local craft shows and festivals. What started out as a hobby, grew to become a brand that is carried in over 200 stores nationwide. Today, wholesale orders being the mainstay of her income, however, Bell's online retail site continues to grow to also become a major source of revenue for this artist who also travels across the country to attend and participate in many music festivals as well as pop up boutiques at various gift shows. As a result of those travels, Bell has met hundreds of other specialty retailers who have fallen in love with her work, with many of her pieces found in fine gifts shops all over the U.S. Fans of her work can find pieces in Baton Rouge, Lake Charles, Lafayette, Mobile and Jackson, MS.

The celebration of life is something Bell connects with and confides it as something that inspires much of the work she does. "I love the culture of South Louisiana, and have been lucky to combine many of my work days while immersing myself in festival culture - the food, the music, the dance, the dress...I think it has sparked and inspired many of my designs and will always be an integral part of Beatrixbell Jewelry," she says.

For the past ten years, Bell and her family have called Algiers Point home and wanted to stay in the family-friendly neighborhood. Bell's husband, an architect, has designed and built a custom home that will have a storefront below the family living space, something that was imperative to them. The former school teacher defines community as a living space where all kinds of people can share and celebrate life together.

"There's a strong history of local shop owners in Algiers Point who lived and worked in the same neighborhood and sometimes the same space. We wanted to carry on that tradition," says Bell.

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NOTE: Images available for both print and digital media