

North Star Jewelry Supply Designers

Angie Olsgard, Owner

Angie earned her undergraduate degree from Colorado State University, and her master's degree from University of San Diego in Marriage and Family Therapy. Angie learned silversmithing with Pauline Warg at Maine Academy of Art. Angie's work is inspired by the simple forms in nature, and funky vintage objects that time forgot.

While studying Play Therapy in California, Angie was using her creative talents to inspire growth and wellness in her clients. After graduating and moving back to native Colorado, Angie had the wonderful opportunity to open Angie Star Jewelry, a handmade local jewelry gallery that specializes in custom design. The gallery has been voted Best of Boulder for jewelry since its conception five years ago.

Angie's newest venture is North Star Jewelry Supply, located in the North Boulder community. North Star Jewelry Supply offers individual and group classes in jewelry making, silver smithing, and a treasure trove of inspirational jewelry making supplies.

ASJI Staff & Instructors

Kirstin Childs

Kirstin Childs has a degree in fine arts from Simmons College and an industrial design degree from Rhode Island School of Design. While at RISD she designed an innovative flexible fabric called lightskins. She would weave a wire mesh based on vein patterns in nature which would inform the movement of the fabric. With this material she created everything from lighting to video installations. Today she is still working with wire, but in a smaller more intimate context. In addition to jewelry she started designing handbags and personalizing them by creating her own findings. In her work she likes to accentuate imperfections rather than hide them in order to emphasize its natural beauty.

Her inspiration comes from her love of travel, food, nature, and dance. "I like to make pieces that can be worn in many ways, are expressive, and are timeless. My hope is to inspire women to express themselves, by giving them "props", thus helping them make art out of their ordinary day to day life." Each piece she creates is ultimately imbued with a love of the creative process and her desire to design meaningful lasting objects.

Miranda Kyger

Miranda Kyger has always had a love for jewelry. As a child she would find shells and treasures on the beach and turn them into necklaces. Today she continues to use spontaneity in her creative process. Her creations are inspired by a love of nature and a playful sense of appreciating life. Her jewelry collections incorporate faceted gemstones as well as whimsical shapes and circles.

Miranda earned her bachelor's degree from Appalachian State University in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains. She also is a graduate of Revere Academy of Jewelry Arts in San Francisco. Since then she has continued to surround herself with gorgeous mountains, first in Missoula, Montana and now in Boulder, Colorado. Miranda sells her jewelry collections all over the country, from Atlanta to Hawaii.

Amy Bixby

Amy Bixby joined the Angie Star team in July 2007 shortly after she moved to Boulder from New Zealand. She is a metalsmith who loves to create visual contrast in her work with the use of texture, dimension and juxtaposing materials such as 18k gold, sterling silver and copper.

Amy enjoys hand fabricating unique and affordable wedding bands from these materials, each custom made for the individual. "I love to create jewelry that holds meaning to the wearer, most of this comes in designing and creating custom work, but every piece I make has me in it, I think that's important in order to be truly satisfied with what you create.

Visually I like my work to stand out from that of a traditional jewelry store; I prefer beaten and matte finishes to the highly polished manufactured look.

Growing up on a farm has given me an appreciation for natural, raw beauty, I think this is the aesthetic I look for in jewelry, it needs to have the essence of hand crafted appeal”.

Education:

Otago School of Art, Dunedin, New Zealand – Bachelor of Fine Arts

Otago School of Art, Dunedin, New Zealand – Diploma in Jewelry & Textiles

Kings College, Dunedin, New Zealand – Certificate in Fine & Visual Arts

Lisa Sprowls

Lisa Sprowls joined the Angie Star team in June 2007 and is a native Colorado artist, from southeast Denver.

She is a detail-oriented artist that strives to create contrasting textures, dynamic forms, strong color awareness and fine craftsmanship in her work. She frequently challenges herself and learns new techniques to bring to her collections.

"I love learning. It's what drives me to be a better artist. I will push myself to learn a new technique and instantly have a hundred ideas of how to apply it and combine it with what I already know. I feel like it's the natural progression of my creative process."

Lisa earned her degree in Industrial Design with a concentration in metalworking at the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, RI. In addition to her design degree, she is currently studying Gemology through the Gemological Institute of America and is an aspiring oil painter.

Lisa is also responsible for designing all of the marketing materials for both Angie Star and North Star.

Katherine Sanz

A second generation artist and Colorado native, Katherine earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Colorado and studied jewelry design under mother, Mary, and at Angie Star Jewelry.

Her designs are inspired by natural rhythms and earth cycles like river currents, ocean tides, and growth patterns in plants. Asymmetric balance and delicate wirework are important elements in her work, letting the natural beauty of the materials take a central focus.

“My art is made to be worn. It is important to me that the work accentuates the beauty of the wearer. I love to do custom work and create harmony between meaning and design.”