

MAAP

Master Artist Apprentice Program

FY2019



RENEE FORD



Master Renee Ford | Jewelry

Renee Ford is a full-time studio jeweler and metalsmith living in Franklin. She shows her artwork at fine craft galleries, jewelry stores and online. She has also sold her work at various fine craft shows across the U.S.

Renee graduated from Eastern Illinois University (EIU) in 1991 with a BA in 2-D Studio Art. Her journey with metals began as an undergraduate at EIU when she landed in her first metals class. She went on to graduate studies at Eastern Illinois University in metalsmithing under the guidance of David Griffin, where she was also granted a full scholarship and a teaching apprenticeship.

In 1994, she opened Blue Moon Jewelry Designs, a fine jewelry store in Eugene, Oregon. She was head designer, jeweler and proprietor until the store closed in 2010. While owning a retail business, she also developed a wholesale production line of jewelry that was sold nationwide at fine galleries and jewelry stores.

After closing Blue Moon, she developed courses in marketing and business management for working artists and also taught beginning and intermediate metalsmithing. Further expanding her techniques and skills, she has completed the Graduate Bench Program at New Approach School for Jewelers with Blaine Lewis, Wax Carving with Kate Wolf, Jewelry Rendering with Rémy Rotenier, and Ornamental Hand Engraving with Jason Marchiafava.

Renee currently makes her own hand fabricated and cast jewelry line, teaches a variety of metalsmithing and jewelry techniques around the world and creates high end contract work for several Nashville designers and other jewelers across the country. Renee is pleased to participate in the Master Artist Apprentice Program (MAAP) and hopes to invest in a student eager to absorb all that she has to offer.