

Juan López: Corrales, New Mexico

Filigree Jewelry



Juan began his jewelry-making career with beadwork and silver overlay pieces. After seeing a piece of filigree work at Santa Fe's Museum of International Folk Art, Juan was inspired to learn the art of gold and silver filigree. He was unable to obtain any tools or firsthand information because the filigree work in New Mexico had died out in the 1950's. Undaunted, Juan learned the art by looking at old filigree work and experimenting with silver until he was happy with the results.

Juan's first piece of filigree was a cross. His second effort, a bracelet, won the 1999 Purchase Award at the Indian/Spanish Market at the Taylor Museum in Colorado Springs. Juan has gone on to win numerous awards and accolades, including 1st Place - Jewelry at the 2006 Tesoro Spanish Colonial Market, 1st place Hispanic Crafts at the 2008 Tesoro Market, 2nd place in Hispanic Arts at Tesoro's market in 2009, the Most Exquisite Award at the Spanish Market Artists and Friends Awards Auction, Best of Show at the Fiesta Artística Hispanic Art Show in Old Town, and the Fiesta Artística Purchase Award in 2001. His work is in the permanent collections of the Taylor Museum, the Albuquerque Museum and the Museum of Spanish Colonial Art in Santa Fe.

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