

## **Voting Begins - 6th Annual 2008 The Ugly Necklace Contest-A Jewelry Design Competition With A Twist**

*10 Jewelry Artists from around the world selected by Center for Beadwork & Jewelry Arts and Land of Odds as Semi-Finalists, 6th Annual 2008 The Ugly Necklace Contest – A Jewelry Design Competition With A Twist. OnLine voting begins May 20th*

**May 19, 2008** - [PRLog](#) -- It's difficult to do Ugly!

So our hats are off, and we offer loud applause to the 10 Semi-Finalists of the 6th Annual 2008 The Ugly Necklace Contest. These 10 beadwork and jewelry artists have demonstrated their talents and design skills. They have been judged by a distinguished panel of four members at The Center for Beadwork & Jewelry Arts in Nashville, Tennessee. Thirty Seven (37) submissions were received from 17 states across America and four other countries from around the Globe between September 2007 and March of this year in response to an international call for submissions announced in the summer of 2007.

The judges reviewed how well each submitted necklace met and then violated a set of ten jewelry design principles. Based on this review, the judges selected the 10 best designed, most hideous, yet still artistically and architecturally functional, Ugly Necklaces for 2008.

Now it's time for America and the rest of the World to vote for the winner – The Ugliest Necklace 2008! The Ugly Necklaces of the 10 Semi-Finalists are on display on-line at <http://www.landofodds.com/store/ugly6contest.htm> . Visitors to the web-site may view the necklaces, read the artists' comments and poems they have written about them, and vote thumbs up or thumbs down for these necklaces between May 20th and July 18th, 2008. The winner will be awarded a \$992.93 shopping spree on the Land of Odds web-site (<http://www.landofodds.com>), and the Runner-Up will receive a prize of a \$399.07 shopping spree on the web-site.

The UGLY NECKLACE CONTEST is a jewelry design contest with a twist. The contest presents a challenge not often tackled -- at least intentionally. The contest draws the jewelry designer into an alternative universe where beautiful artists create ugly necklaces. It's not easy to do.

"Ugly" is more involved than simple surface treatment. It is not just laying out a bunch of ugly parts into a circle. It turns out that "Ugly" is something more than that. "Ugly" is the result of the interplay among Designer, Wearer, and Viewer. "Ugly" is very much a result of how a necklace is designed and constructed. "Ugly" is something the viewer actively tries to avoid and move away from. "Ugly" has deep-rooted psychological, cognitive, perceptual, sociological and anthropological functions and purposes.

As research into color and design has shown, your eye and brain compensate for imbalances in color or in the positioning of pieces and objects – they try to correct and harmonize them. They try to neutralize anything out of place or not quite right. You are pre-wired to subconsciously avoid anything that is disorienting, disturbing or distracting. Your mind and eye won't let you go here. This is considered part of the fear response, where your brain actively attempts to avoid things like snakes and spiders.... and ugly necklaces.

This means that jewelry designers, if they are to create beautiful, wearable art, have to be more deeply involved with their pieces beyond "surface". Or their pieces will be less successful, thus less beautiful, thus more disturbing or distracting or disorienting, thus more Ugly.

Luckily, for the jewelry designer, we are pre-wired to avoid these negative things. This makes it easier to end up with pieces that look good. Beauty, in some sense, then, is very intuitive. On the other hand, it makes it more difficult to end up with pieces that look bad. You see, Ugly goes against our nature. It's hard to do.

The Ugly Necklace Contest is one of the many programs at The Center for Beadwork & Jewelry Arts in Nashville, Tennessee, that encourage beadwork and jewelry makers to test their design skills, have fun, and learn some fundamentals about jewelry design in the process.

So vote.... Go on-line, and surf to <http://www.landofodds.com>. Click on The Ugly Necklace Contest, and show the World its Ugliest Necklace (and thus best jewelry designer) for 2008.

And if you are in the Nashville, Tennessee area, please stop by The Open Windows Gallery (fine art jewelry) at Be Dazzled Beads, where the 10 semi-finalists' Ugly Necklaces are on display through September 15, 2008.

LIST OF 2008 6th Annual SEMI-FINALISTS:

1. Mandy Allen, "MindSettings," Portland, Oregon
2. Edith Cheitman, "Venerable Bede", Sarasota, Florida
3. Candace Davis, "Ugly Haiku", Charlotte, North Carolina
4. Lynn Margaret Davy, "I Let Our Love Sing – F(orte)", Dorset, England
5. Alesia DiFederico, "Equus Recyclus," Southbury, Connecticut
6. Kimberly Dods, "Ode", Peralta, New Mexico
7. Wendy Inman, "Junk Drawers Revenge," Ripon, California
8. Jen Muise, "Something for Everyone," Woodlawn, Ontario, Canada
9. Ruwani Thanuja Rathnayaka, "... Recycle Me...", Nugegoda, Sri Lanka
10. Christina Zawadecki, "Toy Soldiers," Orlando, Florida

2007 Winner: Julia Vogl and Maggie Ollove from Oberlin, Ohio

2007 Runner Up: Hillary Schmeichel from Long Beach, California

2006 Winner: Sara Feingold from Rochester, New York

2006 Runner Up: Janine Dunklebarger from Manteo, North Carolina

2005 Winner: Jann Ferris from Vicksburg, Mississippi

2005 Runner Up: Mary Poag, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

2004 Winner: Robert De Luccia from Ridgewood, New Jersey

2004 Runner Up: Bonnie Anderson from Kennesaw, Georgia

2003 Winner: Kathleen Lynam from Franklin, Tennessee

2003 Runner Up: Natalie Zurawski from Springfield, Illinois

Call for Entries – 7th Annual 2009 The Ugly Necklace Contest

A Jewelry Design Competition With A Twist

Read the Contest Rules at [www.landofodds.com/store/uglynecklace.htm](http://www.landofodds.com/store/uglynecklace.htm) . Entries accepted between 9/15/08 and 3/15/09.

To add your name to our email list associated with The Ugly Necklace Contest, send an email to:

[oddsian@landofodds.com](mailto:oddsian@landofodds.com)

and Write "Ugly Necklace Email List" in the subject line.

Sponsors:

Land of Odds [www.landofodds.com](http://www.landofodds.com),

Phone: 615-292-0610; Email :warren@landofodds.com

Land of Odds provides bead and jewelry making artists with virtually all their beads, supplies, books and jewelry findings needs, with over 30,000 products. Retail/Discounts/Wholesale.

Be Dazzled Beads [www.bedazzledbeads.com](http://www.bedazzledbeads.com)

Center for Beadwork & Jewelry Arts [www.landofodds.com/beadschool](http://www.landofodds.com/beadschool)

Open Windows Gallery – Fine Art Jewelry

Other Programs at Land of Odds:

ALL DOLLED UP: Beaded Art Doll Competition

[www.landofodds.com/store/alldolledup.htm](http://www.landofodds.com/store/alldolledup.htm)

Jewelry Design Workshops in Cortona, Italy, with Toscana Americana

<http://www.landofodds.com/store/toscananarrativesynopsis.htm>

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#### ABOUT LAND OF ODDS and CBJA

At Land of Odds on-line, you can find one of the country's largest selections of glass beads, seed beads, delicats, semi-precious stone beads, cords, chains, filigrees, sterling silver components, earring findings, pin findings, clasps, charms, stringing supplies and more.

The Center for Beadwork & Jewelry Arts teaches jewelry making and beading classes from a Design Perspective, in various disciplines, including beadwork, bead stringing, and wire working

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Source	Land of Odds / Be Dazzled Beads
City/Town	Nashville
State/Province	Tennessee
Zip	37204
Country	United States
Industry	<a href="#">Arts</a> , <a href="#">Fashion</a> , <a href="#">Jewelry</a>
Tags	<a href="#">Jewelry Making</a> , <a href="#">Jewelry</a> , <a href="#">Art</a> , <a href="#">Beads</a> , <a href="#">Bead Stringing</a> , <a href="#">Craft</a> , <a href="#">Hobby</a> , <a href="#">Jewelry Design</a> , <a href="#">Necklace</a>
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