

NINA BASHAROVA

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PEOPLE & PLACES *Around the Industry*

DIVA Awards Crowns Winners

Sometimes mysterious, sometimes mischievous, the Queen of Hearts is the leader of the pack, the ultimate royal who holds court over change and love, and all others follow suit. The Women's Jewelry Association recently challenged women to depict and capture the essence of the Queen of Hearts for its 10th annual DIVA Awards competition. The following winners were announced during the JCK Las Vegas show.



First place:

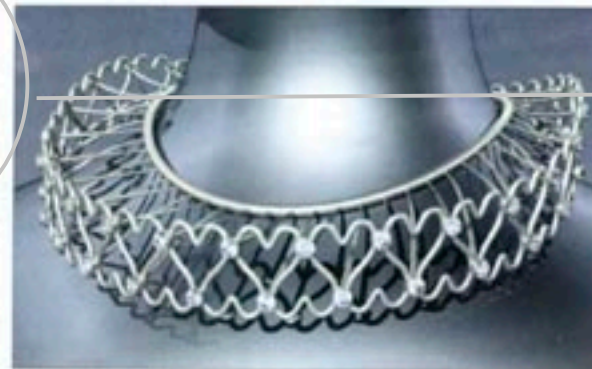
*Nina Basharova
New York City*

"Heart to Heart" necklace design in deep 18k yellow gold with diamonds and a coral drop.

Second place:

*Nadezda Zudina
Vista, California*

"Ruffled Queen's Collar of Hearts" is a white gold and diamond necklace inspired by the traditional costume of 14th and 15th century royalty.



Third place:

*Yoko Murakami
Brooklyn, New York*

"Crown Ring" features an 18k yellow gold, diamond, and ruby heart-shaped crown that acts as a cage to encase a black pearl.



Dates & Deadlines

The National Association of Jewelry Appraisers (NAJA) has announced that its 26TH ANNUAL MID-YEAR CONFERENCE will be held Aug. 21-24 in San Diego. Offering continuing education and networking opportunities for professional appraisers, the conference will include seminars on hallmarks, using AGS cut analysis tools in appraising, and more. Contact: NAJA, P.O. Box 18, Rego Park, NY 11374; 1-718-896-1536; fax 718-997-9057; e-mail naja.appraisers@netzero.net; www.najaappraisers.com.

Entries are now being accepted for the 2007 SAUL BELL DESIGN AWARD competition. Designers should submit ren-



derings or photographs of finished pieces in any of the following five categories: gold/platinum, silver, beads, Precious Metal

Clay (PMC), and hollowware. Deadline: SEPT. 22. Contact: Rio Grande, 7500 Bluewater Road NW, Albuquerque, NM 87121; 1-800-396-9896, ext. 13247; e-mail hideyo@tbg-riogrande.com; www.saulbellaward.com.

GIA is currently offering free DIAMOND CUT GRADING SEMINARS at its campuses and in select cities throughout the U.S. For a complete seminar schedule, visit the GIA Web site, www.gia.edu.

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