

James Cleland drawing attention with Mons creations

(CREVE COEUR, Mo.) - James Cleland of Designs in Gold was scheduled to display his Japanese inspired designs in eighteen carat gold, sterling, and gemstones at the Japanese Festival, September 1-3, at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

James Cleland's current design line draws inspiration from traditional Japanese emblems, called Mons. They represent family crests, businesses, philosophy, religious concepts, etc. They are seen in traditional dress, sculpture, screens, sword designs, and many other applications. James turns them into jewelry sculpture with three dimensions, movement, color enhancement, and even whimsical designs.

James has been featured on KETC Channel 9, Living St. Louis with Patrick Murphy, has shown his work at the St. Louis Art Museum during Art In Bloom, is a Best of Missouri Hands Artist, and is a member of SNAG, Society of North American Goldsmiths.

James Cleland is a recognized St. Louis artist who is known for his handcrafted nature designs. He has been working in St. Louis since 1988; prior to that he was designing in Southern IL since 1975.



This mon created by James Cleland is a sterling and 18k gold pendant. The front of the pendant (L) showcases three shrimp with ruby eyes and an orange sapphire for the axel. The back is a carp made of 18k with blue sapphire eyes.