<u>Valda Belyeu</u>

Jewelry maker and teacher

 $W_{\text{ashington, NC}}$



A native Washingtonian, she has also lived in Florida, where she received a degree in photography from Daytona State College. She also studied at East Carolina University and Chowan College. Recently returned to Eastern North Carolina, Valda turned her jewelry art which began with a single class in stringing into a full time business. Mixing wire, beads, and her handcrafted porcelain pendants she creates jewelry that is distinctly her own style.

Gathering inspiration from the sea, and the wind, the love of all sea creatures Valda makes necklaces, bracelets, pendants and rings with a little whimsy, a little style, sometimes a little sparkle and a lot of function; her pieces are a pleasure to wear.

She teaches jewelry-making and wire-wrapping at both Emerge Gallery and Beaufort Community College; encouraging students not simply to recreate her style, but to learn skills and techniques so that they can create their own pieces.

