

BLUE DOOR BEADS ON PIEDMONT AVENUE

By Dorothy Rice

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A great new store has opened on Piedmont Avenue that is chock full of beautiful and interesting beads. You can design your own necklace, bracelet, or earrings, get help, or do it yourself. You can take classes and learn how to make anything made of beads. The choice of beads is overwhelming. The Blue Door Beads is an oasis of beads of all shapes, sizes, and colors. What a fun place!

I discovered the new store shortly after it opened. I walked in and asked if they repaired broken necklaces. Of course they did! So I have had two necklaces and a pair of earrings repaired and new earrings designed and made for me. The owner, Sara Mancini, is a charming, friendly, helpful young woman. She is assisted by Lydia Chapman, an equally charming young woman.

Sara says she always dreamed of owning and managing a bead store. She grew up in Southern California and went to Western State Colorado University, majoring in recreation and photography. She started making jewelry in middle school and high school and loved it. In 2004, Sara married and lived in Queenstown, New Zealand for two years where she worked in a bead store. She moved to California in 2006 and directed sports and events at Holy Names High School Sara has a 14-month old daughter.

Sara began working on a Business Plan, planning to open a Bead Store—her life-long dream. So the amazing Blue Door Bead Store opened its door four months ago. It is located at 4167 Piedmont Ave. next door to Spectator Books on Piedmont Ave. Sara and Lydia conduct classes for all levels of expertise. Their store hours are 11A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Monday to Saturday and 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Sunday.

Sara has invited local artists to work in the back room. There are four artists-in-residence now. Why did Sara name her new store “Blue Door Beads”? She loves to travel and has photographed blue doors all over the world. So it seemed natural to name her new dream bead store—BLUE DOOR BEADS.

Come and browse and while you are there, be sure to look at the back wall. It is made up of doors of many sizes. The wall was designed and built by Sara's husband.

Start and learn a new hobby and make gifts for your friends and loved ones! Learn to do it at the BLUE DOOR BEADS store on Piedmont Avenue.