

## Northwest Artist to Sell Jewelry to Benefit Pancreatic Cancer Research at CRAB

A Northwest artist will bring some purple cheer to Cancer Research And Biostatistics (CRAB), a Seattle non-profit dedicated to fighting cancer with a team that specializes in pancreatic cancer, on days that are usually reserved for black.

On the Thanksgiving weekend shopping days, from Nov 28 to 30, Valerie Coxon, RN, PhD, owner and artist of AnnieAlta, will display and sell three of her necklaces to benefit CRAB during a unique event known as **Purple** Friday Weekend, to be held in The Alley of Kirkland where gallery and wine shops combine to create an inspiring environment for art.



Dr. Coxon, call her Valerie, creates hand-crafted artisan jewelry featuring glass beads that she creates with melted glass in the flame of a propane and oxygen fed torch. Valerie then uses her beads as the focal point for jewelry such as necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and purse bling and some non-jewelry items like wine stoppers.



According to Valerie, donating the three necklaces that will be for sale at **Purple** Friday Weekend arts and craft show at the Ryan James Fine Arts gallery in Kirkland was inspired by the culmination of three events. First, purple happens to be the color used in campaigns for awareness of pancreatic cancer. Second, a dear friend of the gallery, artist Jara Mohlman, recently lost her brother, Stephen Hal Mohlman, to pancreatic cancer. Third, CRAB has been involved in pancreatic cancer research for more than 10 years and recently become the home to the Pancreatic Cancer Research Team (PCRT), a world-renowned consortium comprised of a team of pancreatic cancer experts committed to improve treatment outcomes for patients with this deadly cancer.

“The ribbon color for pancreatic cancer is purple and the event is Purple Friday Weekend,” Valerie said. “A dear friend of the gallery is mourning the loss of her brother to pancreatic cancer. I love purple necklaces. And CRAB is a home for crucial pancreatic cancer research. This feels like a message from heaven.”

Valerie, a long-time friend of CRAB, will donate the proceeds from the sale of at least one specially-created purple necklace and two other creations to CRAB in honor of Mr. Mohlman. She also said that her donation is meant to acknowledge and recognize the important work that CRAB has done to fight pancreatic and other cancers. The necklaces will be on display at the AnnieAlta table through the weekend or until sold. Any donated necklaces not sold at the show will be listed on the AnnieAlta website, <http://www.anniealta.com>.



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## Purple Friday Weekend: Art and Wine in Kirkland

**Purple** Friday Weekend (<http://bit.ly/11tUR8F>) is a “giftable fine arts and craft show” that is the brainchild of Ryan James who created the three-day event at his Kirkland gallery, Ryan James Fine Arts, to provide a venue for craft artisans to sell their creations in a gallery setting.

Gallery showings are rarely available to those who create giftable art. In its second year, the 2014 version of Purple Friday Weekend will feature 14 local artists who will display their artisan creations on tables inside the Ryan James Fine Arts gallery, located at 11905 124th Ave NE in Kirkland. Three local wineries, Northwest Cellars, Skylite Cellars, and Waving Tree Winery who are neighbors to the gallery in The Alley of Kirkland, join in the event with special wine offers.

### Purple Friday Weekend Details

Nov. 28, 29, and 30

From Noon to 6 pm each day

At the Ryan James Fine Arts Gallery

<http://www.ryanjamesfinearts.com/>

11905 124th Ave NE, Kirkland WA 98034

The Alley of Kirkland

Phone: (425) 814-9500

Google Map: <http://bit.ly/1uhbaM2>

The Alley is located behind the businesses that front on the west side of 124th Ave. Follow the signs for the winery stores.

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### **About CRAB**

Cancer Research And Biostatistics (CRAB) is a Seattle non-profit organization that helps cancer patients by testing and validating new therapy options through quality clinical trials that give patients access to the latest technologies. CRAB has focused much of its work on pancreatic cancer. Since 2003, they have worked closely with the Pancreatic Cancer Research Team (PCRT), a consortium of 40 pancreatic cancer experts and their institutions, to conduct doctor-directed research. Recently PCRT moved to CRAB and they are looking for ways to raise funds to support continued research into pancreatic cancer.

CRAB's website:

<http://www.crab.org>

News of CRAB's assumption of responsibility for PCRT:

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2014/9/prweb12163611.htm>

