Lori Thompson
Medium: Gourds & Pine Needles



What I look for in gourd art?
There are a few things that I look for in gourd art. Unique designs that incorporate creative carvings, colors and interesting embellishments. Finally, I look at the quality of craftsmanship. The design the overall shape of the gourd.

A Little About Me and My Work:
As a native New Mexican, I enjoy adding colors and designs of the beautiful southwest to my artwork. I purchase my gourds from a large gourd farm in Casa Grande, Arizona. These are a hard-shell variety perfect for woodburning and carving. The use of alcohol inks, adding a transparent color, allow for the natural markings on the gourd to peek through. When I want an opaque color I use acrylic or metallic inks. Many of my pieces include pine needle weavings, using the needles from New Mexico ponderosa pines. I clean, strip and dye the needles in a variety of colors to complement each individual piece. I enjoy adding a variety of textures into my pieces using stone in-lay, leather, metal, cactus fibers, beads and feathers just to name a few.

When not in my studio, I love spending time with my children and spoiling my new baby granddaughter. Being outside in the beautiful New Mexico sunshine, working in my garden or playing with my german shepherd are a few of the things I do when not in my studio.