

FALL FAVORITES, NEW ITEMS, CAPTIVE BEADS, NATIONAL EYEBROW PIERCING DAY & MORE

# Metal Mafia

**SPOTLIGHTER:  
ARIANA CALDERON  
FROM THE WOLF'S DEN  
IN ELIZABETH CITY, NC**

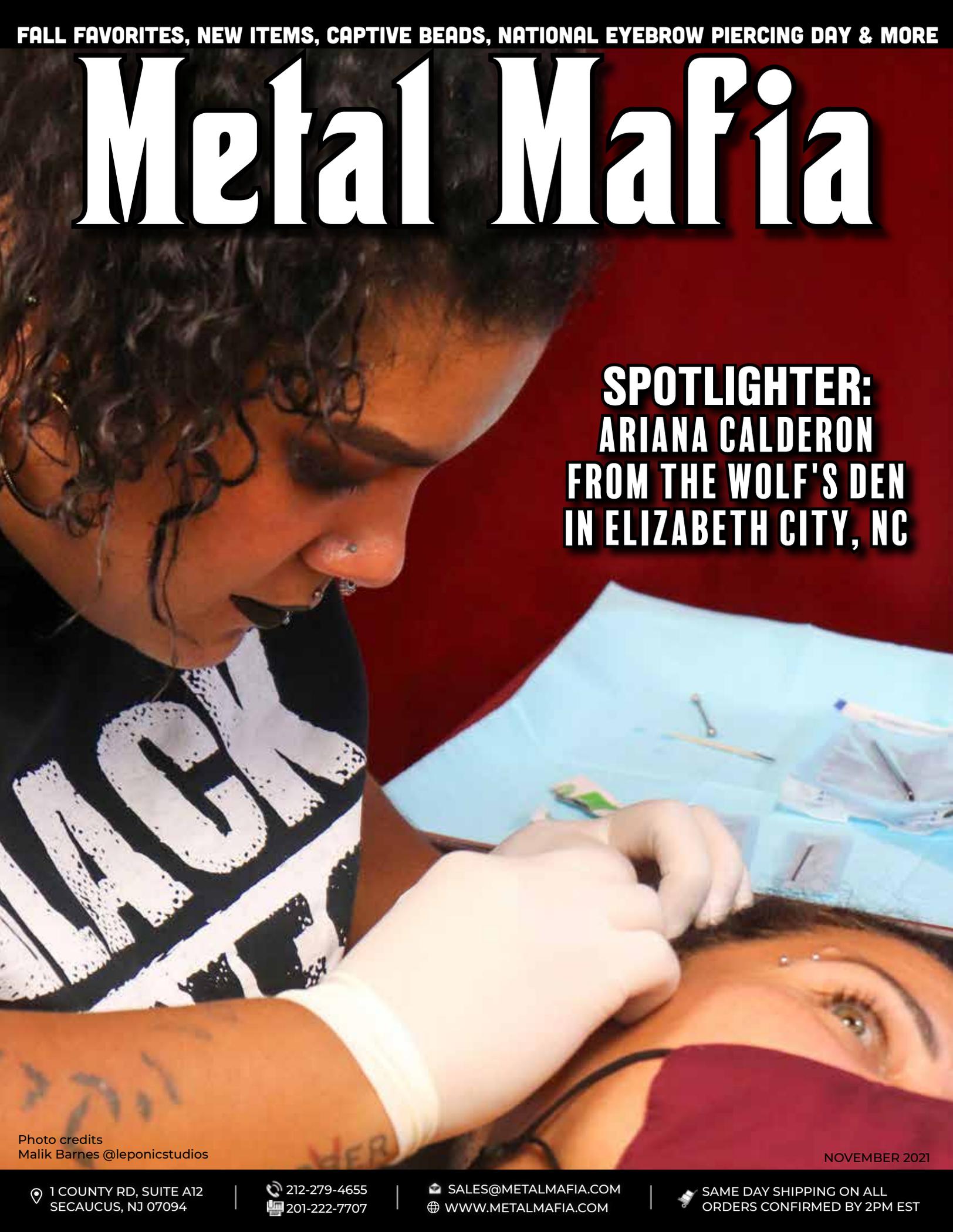


Photo credits  
Malik Barnes @leponicstudios

NOVEMBER 2021

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SECAUCUS, NJ 07094

212-279-4655  
201-222-7707

SALES@METALMAFIA.COM  
WWW.METALMAFIA.COM

SAME DAY SHIPPING ON ALL  
ORDERS CONFIRMED BY 2PM EST

# Champagne & Citrine



SNUGGLE UP TO THE WARMTH OF AMBER HUES. FROM CHAMPAGNE TO CITRINE, THESE TONES WILL CREATE A RELAXED MOOD FOR FALL.

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14G Titanium Navel Rings  
*Left to Right:*  
 Bezel Set Citrine \$6.25 **TBNID14-58CT**  
 Bezel Set Light Colorado Topaz \$6.25 **TBNID14-58LC**  
 Prong Set Flower Champagne \$16.52 **TBNIPGFL14-CH**  
 Prong Set Square Champagne \$18.60 **TBNIPGS14-CH**



Titanium Bezel-Set Opal Replacement Heads  
 Internally Threaded \$6.65 **TRHC516**  
 Threadless \$7.62 **TTRHC5**



18G 316L Steel Daisy Nose Curve  
 5/16" \$3.23/piece **SNC18DABKCT**



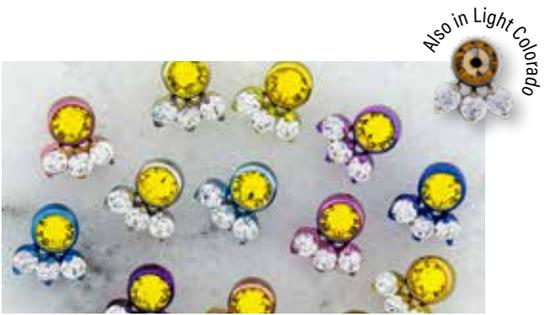
Bezel Set Light Colorado Nose Bone  
 Titanium \$2.70/pc **TNS-LC**  
 Steel \$3.00/6 pc pack **SNS-LC**



16G 316L Steel 3 Gem Clickers  
*Left:*  
 Citrine Rook Clicker \$6.25 **SRC3GSCT**  
*Right:*  
 Citrine Ear Clicker \$6.25 **SEC3GSCT**



Bezel Set Citrine Nose Screw  
 Titanium \$2.70/pc **TNS-CT**  
 Steel \$3.00/6 pc pack **SNS-CT**



Titanium 4 Gem Cluster Replacement End  
 16G or 14G Internally Threaded Starting at \$8.83 **TRHCZ-CT**  
 Threadless Starting at \$6.76 **TTRHCZCT**



16/18G Titanium Honeycomb Replacement End  
 Titanium \$6.05/pc **TRHHC-CT**

# NOVEMBER ISSUE 2021 CONTENTS

CATALOGS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD ON OUR WEBSITE.



Internally threaded and threadless ASTM-F136 titanium, internally and externally threaded 316L steel, borosilicate glass and novelty jewelry.



Ethics matters. In life and in business. Bombshell Accessories/ Metal Mafia trades on that principle. In the era of cutthroat and carelessness, we choose commitment and accountability. No excuses. No slack. No margin for error. Bombshell Accessories/Metal Mafia is the result of three people's dedication to doing it right every time, in a world where things being done wrong has become the norm. We make jewelry, but our company also makes a home for both the people who work here and the people we serve. Our style is as persuasive as our honesty. Our quality is as irreproachable as our integrity. Our designs are as righteous as we are.

**DISCLAIMER:** Piercers and shops appearing in any section may have viewpoints that are not shared by Metal Mafia. Pictures shown may have been taken before COVID-19.

# Fall inspired jewelry

The season of autumn has arrived, which means it's time to replace summer colors with warm, rich earth tones. Here are some jewelry suggestions that your customers are guaranteed to love.



Starting at \$3.90/6 pc pack, captive sold separately



14G 3/8" \$8.51  
SBNACAMEOSUN



Nipple Clicker Shield With Beaded Flower Design  
Starting at \$4.34/piece  
SKU: SNPC20-



Titanium Ear Saddles  
Starting at \$41.60/pair  
SKU: TES-



Borosilicate Glass Lava and Black  
Starting at \$12.66/pair  
SKU: GTSFBKLV-



Titanium Tiger Eye Navel Ring  
High Polish- \$17.17/piece  
SKU: TBNIPC-TE



Gem Bezel Set Crescent End  
16G/18G Internally Threaded:  
Gem \$6.65 per piece, Natural Stone or  
Opal \$9.50 per piece TRHC516-  
Threadless:  
Gem \$7.62 per piece, Natural Stone  
\$9.50 or Opal \$10.65 per piece TTRHC5-



18G 5/16" Nose Curve  
Starting at \$2.50 per piece  
SNC18FT-

\$4.36 per piece  
SNC18CBRGTE

\$3.53 per piece  
SNC18DAGCH

Steel Cast Lotus Flower  
Septum Clicker  
Starting at \$3.75  
SKU: SSC28-



Borosilicate Glass Red  
Shimmer Seahorse Hanger  
Starting at \$28.00/pair  
SKU: GSPSHRS-



16G Tragus Barbell  
\$1.70  
SBRTCT1



Bezel-Set Gem Replacement Heads  
Titanium Internal Starting at \$1.70 TGDI-LG  
Titanium Threadless Starting at \$3.00 TTGD-LG  
Steel Internal Starting at \$1.00 SGDI-LG



Gold Obsidian Stone Plugs  
Start at \$3.12/pair  
SKU: PGOS-



16G 3/8" Left or Right Opal  
Heart Seamless Ring  
\$8.95 per color and side  
SSHROIGO-



Prong-Set Gem Curves  
Steel Internal Starting at \$3.70  
SKU: SCVI-GPR  
Titanium Internal Starting at  
\$5.98 SKU: TCVI-GPR

Model: Shaney  
 @snmmakeupfx



Green Aventurine Stone Tunnels  
Start at \$5.48/pair  
SKU: TDFGA-



Tigers Eye Stone Tunnels  
Start at \$5.48/pair  
SKU: TDFTE-



Green Eyed Jasper Stone Plugs  
Start at \$3.80/pair  
SKU: PGEJ-



Tiger Eye Stone Plugs  
Start at \$3.80/pair  
SKU: PTE-



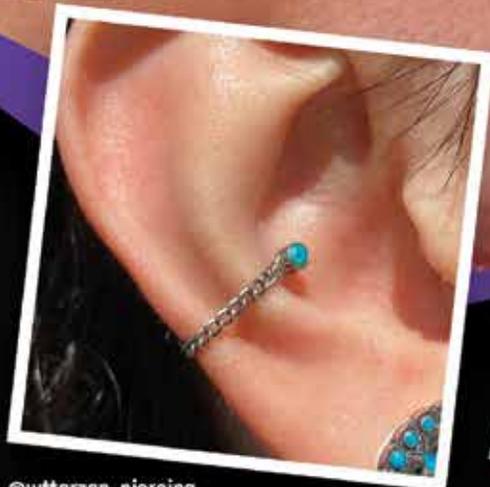


# UPGRADE YOUR PIERCINGS

## WITH CHAINS



@wttorzan\_piercing  
@lidia.ghoul.art



@wttorzan\_piercing



PIERCINGS PLUS LLC  
@piercingsbyjr



PIERCINGS PLUS LLC  
@piercingsbyjr

If you want to add a new dimension to an existing piercing, these universal connecting chains are great! These can slide on any studs, earrings, or barbells and are made with Grade 1 Titanium.



Extra jump rings available too!  
Sold in 50 piece packs for \$15.00 SKU: TIJR50

## Double Rope

1 pack comes with 24 jump rings and a 2ft (24") long link chain; enough to do 12 chain projects at 2"

SKU: TCHNDR24

## Curb

1 pack comes with 24 jump rings and a 2ft (24") long link chain; enough to do 12 chain projects at 2" each project.

SKU: TCHN1824



Both styles also available in 3 inches with 2 jump rings for individual projects.



4.75" Long carbon steel flush chain cutter  
\$8.00  
SKU: JEWELRYCUTTER



Eyebrow piercing by Mary @marystabsthings from Dr. Piercing

# NATIONAL EYEBROW PIERCING DAY is Sunday, November 13th.

The classic eyebrow piercing is trending along with it's center and horizontal sister piercings.

Here are our piercing picks for National Eyebrow Piercing Day and beyond.



### Curves with Plain Balls

Internally threaded. 16G 3MM balls  
Steel from \$14.40 per 6 pc pack **SCVI16-**  
Titanium from \$5.20 per piece **TCVI16-**



Pair of center eyebrow piercings by Greg @gmbodypiercing from Classic City Tattoo Company

### Internally Threaded Synthetic Opal Replacement Balls

16G, 3MM and 4MM balls  
From \$2.32 per piece **OBI16-**



### 24 Piece Double Gem Assortment

316L Steel. Internally threaded.  
16G 5/16" and 3/8"  
\$74.88 per pack **ASCVI16-**



**9 Piece Anodized Double Gem Assortment**

ASTM F-67 Grade 2 Titanium. Externally Threaded. 16G 5/16" with 3MM balls  
\$23.63 per pack **ATCVE165/163CL**

Also available with plain ball  
ATCVE165/163 or spike ends  
ATCVES165/16.

**PICTURED BELOW:**

**Neilmed All-Natural Piercing Aftercare**

\$8.00 per 6 fl. oz. can **SSFM**  
Buy 48 for \$4.25 each and **save 47%**  
Buy 192 for \$4.00 each and **save 50%**  
Buy 480 for \$3.75 each and **save 53%**

**Ethylene Gas Sterilized Needles**

20G - 4G. 100 pieces per box  
\$10.00 per box **ND-**

**Silicone Eyebrow on Stand**

Available in Black or Cream  
\$17.85 per piece **SIBPEYE-**

Piercing shop Angelina's Rose loves our 16G curves with front facing gems. Add them to your next order.



16G 5/16" and 3/8"  
Steel \$6.28 per piece **SCVIPG16-**  
Titanium \$11.13 per piece  
**TCVIPG16-**  
Also available with synthetic opal.





# ARIANA CALDERON FROM THE WOLF'S DEN

In 2011 my friends invited me over to their house and they were like “Hey you wanna stick a needle in my face?” and I went “Uhh... I've never done this before... Are you sure this is a good idea?” At the time, I was in college getting my bachelor's degree in Human Biology. I had no idea what I wanted to be in life, I just wanted to graduate... I was studying at Brown University and I had always been that overachiever kind of kid-- you know, the teacher's pet, the insufferable knowitall, the Hermione Granger. I was at Brown on scholarship and had no idea what I was going to do with my life afterwards.

On the side, I still was learning how to do piercings with my friends -- buying piercing kits on eBay, sticking needles in each other, just trying things out, and slowly learning how to do things properly, which in hindsight was probably not the best way. I actually ended up dating one of those friends-- his name was Michael-- for 2 1/2 years. In those two and a half years he worked at a couple of tattoo shops doing piercings, so as he was learning, he was teaching me. That was while I was in the middle of my teaching residency master's program with Montclair State University. I was learning how to do piercings under him by going to the tattoo shop where he worked after I finished my own job for the day. Eventually we stopped dating, but I was still interested in doing piercings. I was doing it from home, trying to buy supplies from the tattoo shop where he bought stuff, and finally they kind of got suspicious and were like, “You don't actually work for a tattoo shop... do you?” So I put that on hold because I was really busy doing the teacher thing.

I taught high school science at my alma mater for three years in Newark, New Jersey before I decided to move down to North Carolina. When I moved there, I started another teaching job that I only stayed at for 3 months. Following that, I was unemployed for the longest time that I've ever been unemployed, because I'd been working since I was 15.

Three months went by and I still didn't have a job. A friend of mine, Megan, was like “Hey I know that you used to pierce. The Wolf's Den Tattoo Studio doesn't have a piercer so you might want to reach out to them.” So I came in here and talked to Jesy and Chris and said, “I was interested in finding out if you guys needed a piercer...” Jesy said “Oh you should probably talk to the boss, Clint.” And here comes this 6-foot something dude with butt-length

dreads and a really unique sense of fashion who said, “Well, show me your portfolio and we'll talk.” So I gathered up all the pictures that I could and explained that I was already blood borne pathogen and CPR/first aid certified because I was a lifeguard at the time as well. In the time it took me to work up the nerve to actually reach out to the tattoo shop, I had found 3 jobs. Lifeguard, bartender, and substitute teacher, and here I was trying to also become a body piercer. He asked me when I could start, and I told him I could be ready by Monday. I brought whatever supplies I had, and he showed me what I had available to use at the shop, and I have been here ever since. This was just one of my part-time jobs until COVID happened, and when everything shut down in March of 2020, I lost my other jobs. I was like “Crap, I'm not going to have any place to work, how am I going to make ends meet?” So I started piercing here full-time--and was making more money doing that than I had been at all 4 jobs put together!

Now, I am privileged to be working in a much healthier environment than when I was teaching, and I love it here. I have a fantastic boss, Clint, and great co-workers who are super supportive, who believed in me from the start, who always encouraged me to do this full-time. My boss even paid for me to go to cosmetology school to get my certification in Permanent Cosmetic Tattooing. I do microblading as well. Ever since we started selling Metal Mafia's titanium jewelry in our cases, everyone has realized that this is the place to come for piercings and high quality jewelry--and it has really grown our business. And now that Metal Mafia has gold, too, I am so excited!

I actually do use my Biology degree in what I do--my knowledge of physiology and microbiology really helps with piercing. My customers appreciate that, too. I recently got a review, for example, where the customer said, “You can tell she's passionate and cares about her career just in the way she teaches you about piercings while piercing you.” I'm able to help them understand why they feel like they might pass out, why their piercing isn't healing right, why touching piercings causes infections and irritation, etc. Because I have an understanding of human anatomy, bacteria, viruses, and how they transfer, all of that information allows me to educate my customers. Being in the shop full-time allows me to do more with my customers. For example, if someone brings in their 2-3 year old to get their ears pierced and they're not ready, I can just say, “Hey, I'm not going anywhere, they can take their time and come back.”

I never thought this was what I would end-up doing. Originally, I was a musical theater kid and

I wanted to be an actor, but a science teacher from my alma mater, Karina, had reached out to me and suggested that I apply for a program where I could get my masters for free if I would teach while doing the degree, and that's how I wound up becoming a teacher. I'm grateful for the experience, but teaching in the public school system just didn't turn out to be where I fit best. As much as I loved teaching, it wasn't good for my physical and mental health.



Before Covid, I performed in a lot of community theater. We did Little Shop of Horrors and I got to play one of the chorus girls, and later we did Night of the Living Dead. I was cast as three different characters because we changed directors and cast a few times. I ended up playing one of the male characters, because I was literally the only person of color in the cast at the time--so I was the black male lead. I'm a Latinx woman, but at least they were trying to be conscious of casting a person of color for the role. I've been so busy lately with everything though, that I haven't had much time for theater recently. My fiancée, Eric, with whom I live, has two kids and we have them 3-4 days a week, so it is a little complicated balancing personal and work life right now. But in my free time (when I have it) I do makeup--glam and special effects makeup. Right now I am preparing to do my 31 days of Halloween makeup, and that is something I do for me! I did some makeup for the Zombie Walk in town last year, and I will do that again this year, and since I have the day off, I'm looking forward to it even more.

I've been at The Wolf's Den for three years, but I started piercing in 2011, so I'm going on 10 years. I'm averaging 7-10 customers a day presently, and that's good enough for me, especially after such an unorthodox start. This year, I'm hoping to take on a lot more permanent cosmetic clients, and I would like to build-up the company website to better represent that. The important thing is that every day, I do what I love and I do something that matters.



For instance, I have a lot of parents who bring in their young children, as I mentioned, and I see a lot of them bullying or coercing their children into getting piercings (most often young children who say they want earlobe piercings) and it really upsets me. When a parent calls in to find out about getting their child pierced, I tell them that the child has to be able to ask for it. I will not pierce a child's ear if they do not want it. I explain to them that they have to be okay as a parent with the idea that they may walk out with a child with only one ear pierced if they don't want the other done. Recently I had an issue with a parent, whose child was about nine or ten, who seemed like a pretty badass little girl, but she was really scared to get it done. Her mom held her hand, but her dad was trying to get her to "toughen up!" because it didn't hurt that much. He was making a big deal and being belligerent about

it. Meanwhile, I was trying to navigate the situation and comfort the girl, and so I said, "It's okay if you don't want it. Or if you want to just try one, that's okay, too." So the dad left the room, and not long after, I had a client come in and tell me that they wanted to have her child pierced by me because she had read so many good reviews. I decided to read the reviews, and that guy had put up a review saying that "The body piercer has the personality of a walnut and was a complete bitch for the 5 minutes we were there." But I would rather have a review like that than do something without a child's consent. Even if a child has been bugging their parent to get it done, and then changes their mind, that should be ok. Everyone has the right to change their mind. We underestimate how important it is to teach children about consent and body autonomy.

significant others along the way—about other people and myself through those relationships. I have learned something from every encounter throughout my life. I like to say that I am a student of the universe and I never stop learning!

I always try to keep in mind that I don't have to pick just one thing in life. I can do anything. I am a lifelong learner. I paint, I read, I draw, I write when I have the mental capacity to do so, I play video games. I learned how to dance and act and do theater and sing. We've been taught to learn to do that one thing that you want to do, master it, and then do it until you die, but I don't want to do that! I like to try new things, and if I can't do it immediately, I will figure it out.

I learn a lot from the people I meet. I had this one client, Molly, who stood out to me because she always asked for titanium jewelry for her really sensitive skin. Whenever she would come in, she was very nervous; but despite her fear she would let me do multiple piercings at once, and let me change her jewelry out too. Over time we got a little closer, and became friends on Facebook. We had a big Black Lives Matter movement here in Elizabeth City, which happened when Andrew Brown Jr was shot and killed by police officers right down the street from my house. We had daily protests on our main streets for months. Molly was one of the lead organizers for the protests—and it gave me so much respect for her. I mean, here was this timid girl who was afraid of the piercings now standing at the head of these crowds, and standing up for justice with no fear at all.

That's what I had to do with my life as well. I'm proud that I had the courage to quit my teaching job. I worked my whole life to get into an Ivy League school, to get a good job, and to have a career. I was making good money, I had my 401K, I had my teaching career, and I was that teacher that the kids loved (I was known as "the teacher with the piercings and tattoos"), doing cool things with pop culture in my science lessons, and I loved it! But I did not love the politics of it all and I had to get out. I was not doing well mentally and I had to unlearn the toxic capitalist mindset, turn it around, and find a way to make things better for myself. A lot of unlearning, ironically, was needed to make me realize that all of those things weren't good for me. I had to learn that putting myself first over what was "expected of me" was the most important thing. I graduated high school for my parents, I went to college for my parents... a lot of what I did was for the approval of others. But me quitting my job and risking disappointing everyone was for me.

I learn from everyone I come across. I have learned from my mom, from her being a single mother and the struggle that entails and how to get out of it. I've learned from my teachers. I've learned from



Photo credits  
Malik Barnes @leponicstudios

# Titanium Threadless Front Facing Opal Balls



**ASTM F-136 TITANIUM  
THREADLESS**  
SKU: TTFFOB

Available from 2.5mm-5mm  
**HIGH POLISH:** Starting at  
\$6.05 per piece  
**ANODIZE:** For 30 cents more  
you can anodize to any of the  
below colors.



Blue, Bronze, Blurple, Dark  
Blue, Dark Purple, Golden,  
Light Blue, Pink, Light Purple,  
Purple, Rosy Gold, Yellow



**14g Titanium Threadless  
Barbell With Front Facing Opal**

From \$14.90 per piece  
**TTBR-TTFFOB**

# 20G TITANIUM THREADLESS EARRING POSTS



HOW WILL YOU  
STYLE THEM?



\$4.75 per pair  
TTEP



**5 Crescent Opal Earrings**  
From \$26.05 per pair  
TTEP-TTRHC50



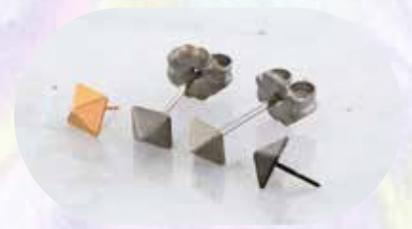
**Cone/Spikes Earrings**  
From \$10.35 per pair  
TTEP-TTCN



**Flat Disc Earrings**  
From \$9.25 per pair  
TTEP-TTPD



**5 Crescent Cabochon Earrings**  
From \$23.75 per pair  
TTEP-TTRHC5C



**Pyramid Stud Earrings**  
From \$12.85 per piece  
TTEP-TTRHPYST



**Gem Disc Earrings**  
From \$10.75 per pair  
TTEP-TTGD



**Opal Disc Earrings**  
From \$11.25 per pair  
TTEP-TTOD



**Gem Ball Earrings**  
From \$9.85 per piece  
TTEP-TTGB



**5 Crescent Gem Earrings**  
From \$19.99 per pair  
TTEP-TTRHC5G



**Opal Cone/Spike Earrings**  
From \$16.29 per pair  
TTEP-TTCNO



**Gem Disc Earrings**  
From \$16.85 per pair  
TTEP-TTRHGT

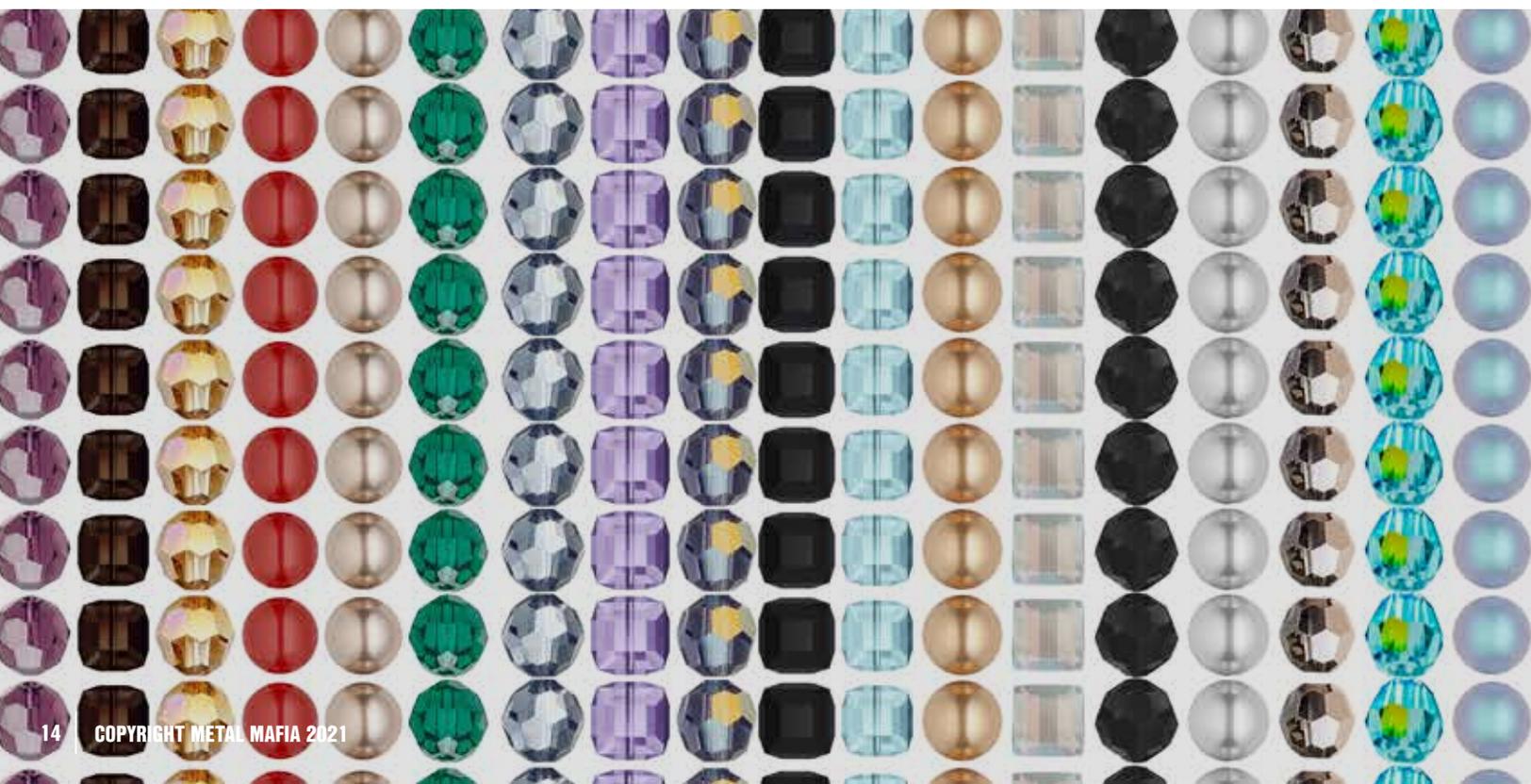


# CAPTIVE BEADS

ZIRCONIA OR PEARL REPLACEMENT BEAD FOR CAPTIVE BEAD RINGS



STARTING AT \$3.90/6 PC PACK  
PEARL SKU: BCSP- | SQUARE GEM SKU: BCCB- | FACETED GEM SKU: BCSMFR-



# CUSTOMIZED CAPTIVES

**14G ASTM F-136 titanium captives with 4 (16G/18G) threaded holes, so you can create one-of-a-kind captive designs.**

**Compatible with 16G/18G internally threaded titanium ends.**

**First threaded hole is 2MM away from captive end with a 5MM space between first and second threaded hole.**

**Threaded ends not included; includes only captive ring.**

## Titanium Threaded Hole Captive Rings

14G 3/8", 7/16", 1/2"  
\$10.00 per piece TCH-



## BUILD YOUR OWN DESIGNS

With 16G internally threaded heads and faceted, cube, and pearl beads.

### CELESTIAL PEARL BUILT RING

#### 16G White Opal Star

5MM  
\$4.02 per piece  
TRHOSTR16WH



#### Iridescent Light Blue Pearl Bead

4MM  
\$3.90 per 6 piece pack  
BCSPILBL4



#### 16G Tanzanite Radiant Gem

3MM - 5MM  
From \$2.65 per piece  
TRHGS16-TZ



#### 16G Round Clear Gem

4MM - 6MM  
\$9.24 per piece  
TRHGFL16-MIC



Thousands of options  
to choose from.

### FLORAL FANTASY



#### 16G Mint Flower

4MM - 6MM  
\$9.24 per piece  
TRHGFL16-MIC

#### Emerald Shimmer Multi-Faceted Bead

4MM  
\$3.90 per 6 piece pack  
BCSMFRDGS4





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# Lab Created Opal

## Titanium Hinged Rings

⚡ ANODIZE IT



Lab Created Opal (GIA: Polymer Impregnated synthetic opal) is impregnated in the laboratory in around a year and has similar properties as that of natural opal. The main difference with natural opal is that the naturally occurring process has been sped up in the laboratory. Our Lab Created Opal is a beautiful opal with a perfect color dynamicity - revealed the beauty of Precious Opal.

Prong Set Available in 14G & 16G Starting at \$20.50 SKU: THSGR-OWH  
Inlay Available in 16G Starting at \$12.24 SKU: THSGROI-