

ARTIST OF THE YEAR 2013: SANDRA CHILD

I live in La Paz Valley just south of Quartzsite, AZ. From childhood I never wanted to be anything but an artist and have been fascinated with reptiles since I was a little girl. I sculpt my lizards and snakes from polymer clay, paint them with acrylic and my olla are gourds that I design and paint myself. I call the style of the one in the poster my Mimbre/Sandee. They're marvelous fun for me to do! I have many places who have commissioned my work; Furnace Creek in Death Valley, Ash Meadows Wildlife Refuge, nature centers, trading posts and private collectors including several herpetologists. I've shipped my sculptures all over the world. I could speak for an hour about the fun I've had with people's experiences with my sculpturescleaning ladies who took a broom to them, a man from England who was detained for an hour in customs while they brought in an herpetologist to verify the sculpture wasn't a real snake...oh, so many stories! I lived in my desert camp for many years with several Diamondback and Mojave rattlesnakes that I came to love dearly, each having their own personalities! About 14 years ago I started creating bead embroidery pieces and am honored to say that Ann-Margaret and Maud Adams wear my work!

<http://etsy.com/shop/SandeersArtwork>