

Dan Barnes

“I started developing my own ideas ... I knew that if I was going to get into this as an art form, and I wanted to do it right, that I needed to find a way to set myself apart, something that distinguished me as doing something unique with glass.”

Dan Barnes grew up in Henderson County, Kentucky. His father and uncles were builders and craftsmen. He went to the University of Kentucky and earned his degree in Human Environmental Design. One of his teachers was Arturo Sandoval. Sandoval encouraged Barnes to be innovative. After college, Barnes started an upholstery and furniture design business, but he wasn't satisfied. He studied stained glass with Laura Hallock. He began making traditional stained glass pieces, such as Tiffany style lamps. Then he began to experiment. He combined glass with painted metal, turned wood, and fabric in multimedia creations. He created 3-dimensional sculptures in glass. He wants to use his art to help people experience glass in a whole new way. He sees light as an important element of his art. He combines a respect for his materials and a dedication to fine craftsmanship with the creativity of an explorer. He belongs to the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen and the Kentucky Craft Market Program.



Barnes refers to Sandoval as an inspiration as well as a teacher. Can you see any similarities in the art created by Barnes and that of Arturo Sandoval?