

Teesee's Town: Award-winning jeweler to showcase collection at Macy's

by Theresa Fambro Hooks, Chicago Defender
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What a Jewel! - Oops! My bad! I certainly meant to share this with you earlier! Award-winning jewelry designer **Robyne Robinson (Rox Jewelry)** and her one-of-a-kind collection of stunning sterling silver, semi-precious stones (Austrian crystals, rainbow moonstones, labradorite, lapis, topaz, opals, peridot, black onyx, rhodocrosite, amethyst, garnet, chalcedony, labradorite, lolite, jade, hemetite, quartz, tiger eye, tourmaline, citrine, turquoise and more) and freshwater pearls will be featured in the Fine Jewelry Dept. of Macy's State Street Store this Friday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Stop by for a visit to view the earrings, bracelets, pendants and necklaces and you'll quickly see why Macy's North CEO personally selected **Robyne** to be showcased here in Chicago. All of her jewelry pieces are handmade "with artistic precision and utmost care." Some of her clients are Madonna, Paula Abdul and Nicollette Sheridan.

But, there's more! **Robyne**, a Chicago native, lives in Minneapolis where she has the distinction of being the first African American to anchor a local prime-time newscast and the first Black woman appointed senior anchor at a Twin Cities news organization, Fox 9. Regarded as one of Twin Cities' top broadcasters, **Robyne** received the 2005 Upper Midwest Emmy for Best Anchor. Her work on live team coverage helped Fox 9 not only win an Emmy, but also the prestigious Edward R. Murrow Award from the Radio and Television News Directors Association.

Robyne has received the Minneapolis NAACP Television Industry Award and the Mass Media Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews. She has been lauded by the Lupus Foundation of Minnesota for her involvement in creating awareness about the disease she's lived with for over 20 years. In her eight years at Fox 9, Robyne received numerous awards for an arts and entertainment segment, interviewed everyone from Julie Andrews to Prince, and won critical reviews from local and national arts critics. She's been voted Best Celebrity and Best Local Female Anchor on Television for five years and broadcast news colleagues named her Best Female Anchor and Best TV Newscaster.

Robyne's on the board of several arts organizations as well as the Lupus Foundation and a national non-profit group dedicated to the academic enrichment of inner-city teens. She also sits on the Advisory Board for No Name Gallery, a non-profit arts center affiliated with the Madame C.J. Walker Art Center, one of the world's most prestigious art museums.

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She was a delegate to the Second World Conference on Race and Economic Inequality in Adelaide, Australia, interviewing noted African American historian John Hope Franklin and co-chaired the first citywide arts and diversity festival. **Robyne** founded Exhibit, a non-profit arts collective that helped fund the creation of the Independent Feature Project/Minneapolis Producers' Fellowship and has raised thousands of dollars for the Lupus Foundation by creating multimedia art and music events for and by women that raised Lupus education and awareness. In 2002, Iota Phi Lambda, a professional women's sorority, named **Robyne** Business Woman of the Year.

Additionally, she's an arts columnist, freelance writer and her personal art collection has been shown on national TV and on display at the Walker Center. Read more about **Robyne** and Rox Jewelry at www.roxmpls.com.

Oh! Did I say that **Robyne** is my cuz, part of that ever-growing Fambro clan. Her dad is **Ron Robinson**, retired McCosh School principal; her mom, **Barbara**, is also a retired educator