

# KATY BEH

CONTEMPORARY JEWELRY



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SHOP DOGS

PERSPECTIVES

## MAGGIE

BY LEE  
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UHL



In the jewelry world, diamonds may be a girl's best friend, but on the days that she works at **Katy Beh Contemporary Jewelry** (3708 Magazine St., 896-9600), Maggie goes with something a little less flashy — her custom-designed silver dog collar with a gold heart. "She has her work clothes," says Katy Beh, who owns the store and Maggie with her husband Tom.

Like many dogs rescued lovingly from the street ("she was in a dog gang," Katy says wryly), Maggie has an enviable life. The 13-year-old beagle-basset hound mix is surrounded by the Beh family — Katy, Tom and their 5-year-old-son, Sammy — an ever-changing collection of beautiful baubles and lots of dog-loving customers, some of whom have known Maggie since the store opened nearly 10 years ago. Maggie used to be a daily fixture in the shop, working in a "customer service capacity," as Katy puts it.

"Maggie was one of the catalysts for me opening my own business," says Katy of her sidekick, whose full name is Magnolia Taylor Beh and whose nickname is Maggie-dog. "I wanted to own a business where I could wear flip-flops, bring my dog to work and be my own boss." With a bachelor of fine arts degree in jewelry and light metals from Rhode Island School of Design and experience working with other jewelry designers, Katy opened her store in 1998. Today it showcases the work of 30 renowned designers and artisans from all over the country, including Jamie Joseph, Melissa Joy Manning, Me&Ro, Saundra Messinger, Reinstein/Ross and Anne Sportun — all set against a minimalist backdrop of blond wood, stainless steel and glass.

Now in semi-retirement, Maggie only works one day a week, but she still enjoys connecting with the store's customers, especially children. "Kids love to snuggle with her," says Katy. "When they come in, she will come over and sit right on their laps. She is hands down the snuggliest dog." 🐾



### MY FAVORITE THINGS ...

- 🐾 MY MOMMY
- 🐾 MY MOMMY'S SILVER CONVERTIBLE
- 🐾 LICKING ICE CREAM BOWLS
- 🐾 MCDONALDS FRENCH FRIES
- 🐾 GETTING ON TOP OF THE DINING TABLE TO SNEAK SIPS OF MY MOM'S MORNING COFFEE WHEN SHE LEAVES THE ROOM