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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hickory Furniture Mart's Furniture Festival & Clearance Sale  
Artisan Bios  
November 12-14, 2021

ARTISANS

**Amanda (Mandy) Pearce & Ricardo Ramirez**

*Two Green Thumbs and More*

The story of Two Green Thumbs and More is truly an illustration unto itself, given that the very name of their business represents the ability to grow with success – and that is just what their company has done and continues to do each year.

In a way, their company's history began as far back as Mandy's papaw. He was an incredible gardener and woodcrafter and he passed his skills to Mandy. His influence produced a passion for her as she began planting pumpkin seeds as a child. When her seeds yielded a harvest that would make even the Great Pumpkin, himself, proud—she knew she had inherited her papaw's two green thumbs—and more.

Mandy continued nurturing those passions and met her husband, Ricardo, who also had a love for gardening. It was something they enjoyed enough that in 2016, they decided to create and launch a business, Two Green Thumbs, which offered lawn care and handyperson services. It was the Christmas of the same year that Ricardo received woodworking tools as a gift from Mandy's parents and when he started using them, his natural gift became evident. With every piece he crafted, his love for the process grew and it was then that they decided to expand their business, officially renaming it, Two Green and Thumbs & More.

From 2016 to the present, they have continued to discover and define their direction and it is now, in 2021, that they are turning the page to write a new chapter in their company's story. They are excited to launch a new online store which readily offers a selection of their most popular wood-crafted pieces, while also accommodating limited special requests and offering volume pricing for large quantities. They still have their "two green thumbs" but are excited and ready to focus on the "more".

*[www.twogreenthumbsandmore.com](http://www.twogreenthumbsandmore.com)*

**Anne Fredley**

*Designs by Anne*

Anne began painting in the fall of 2002. It provided a creative outlet as well as a connection to her mother, also an artist, who had passed away in June. She still feels that connection every time she paints. Anne has always enjoyed trying to capture the beauty of nature in photographs and naturally she gravitated toward landscape painting. Much of her inspiration comes from photos taken during a trip to Italy, which included a landscape painting class in Tuscany. She feels such a sense of timelessness and a peace in the subjects she chooses. She uses fairly thin layers of paint and dry brushing to create a softer, more serene look. She hopes to continue learning and painting, as art provides both challenge and fulfillment. Anne has participated in many shows, both individually and as a member of Full Circle Arts, the Foothills Painters and Uni4 Artists and was awarded in Mooresville for her piece, "Marching Cypress." She has been an exhibiting owner/member of Trade Alley Art in downtown Hickory since it opened in the fall of 2017. As a child, Anne also began playing with wire and beads, creating jewelry, and has worked many years in the jewelry industry, including jewelry repair and pearl stringing.

She loves working with metals, stone and glass to create unique and very wearable jewelry.

*[www.facebook.com/DesignsByAnneF](http://www.facebook.com/DesignsByAnneF)*



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**Arsenio Sánchez**

Arsenio Sánchez is a local oil painter. His paintings have been on display at several local shows throughout the years. His work will be showcased and available for purchase throughout the weekend.

**Dianne Propst**  
***Dianne's Distractions***

Since retiring, Dianne's hobby of oil painting has turned into her passion. She now has the luxury of time to enjoy painting each day! Her work will be showcased and available for purchase throughout the weekend.

**Laura Hampel**  
***Twine Designs***

Laura creates colorful micro macramé jewelry. She has been making her craft for almost 40 years. Enjoy custom orders with vintage jewelry or repurposed items.

**Mandy Shelton**  
***Let's B Silly***

Mandy is a full-time working mom of 4 kids. As full and stressful as life is, she likes finding things that make people laugh.

Silly socks are items that everyone seems to love. She is happy to have a hobby and an interest outside of her children and husband.

Mandy loves Jesus and enjoys serving Him.

**Pam & Jerry Miller**  
***Bloomin' Glass Art***

Pam & Jerry Miller create glass "flowers" from reclaimed glassware on "stems" with "leaves" made from copper and aluminum.

Each piece is unique and one-of-a-kind. Their beautiful glass flowers enhance any yard or flower garden and make wonderful gifts.

[www.facebook.com/bloomingglassart](http://www.facebook.com/bloomingglassart)

**Penny Moretz**  
***Happy Hats for a Great Cause***

Penny is happily retired and enjoys selling hats. She participates in local events and has a large selection of hats available for purchase.

Each sale she makes assists in providing a donation to a great cause, this weekend she will be donating to Toys for Tots. Penny will also be collecting toys for children in need in Catawba County.

Bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate to Toys for Tots.

[www.facebook.com/Happy-Hats-for-a-great-cause-168369640777433](http://www.facebook.com/Happy-Hats-for-a-great-cause-168369640777433)

**Robert Setzer**  
***Wood Turnings by Robert***

Robert creates a variety of wood products including hand turned ink pens, rolling pins, key fobs, salt & pepper mills, wine glass holders and wine stoppers. He also is known for making rocking horses and rocking dogs.

[www.facebook.com/woodturningsbyrobert](http://www.facebook.com/woodturningsbyrobert)