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Vernon jeweler launches new collection at open house

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Vernon's newest jewelry designer and glass artist, SIMS, will unveil its collection of charmed wrap bracelets, necklaces and glowing glass art at a unique open house in Kelowna at Anew Start Rejuvenation Centre on Wednesday, Oct. 21 (5:30-9 p.m.). Guests will be able to customize their own jewelry and glass art while sampling appetizers and sipping on the latest wines from two of the region's newest wineries, The View Winery and Intrigue Wines. There will also be an opportunity to try the latest fitness trend, vibration plates, and get great deals on detoxifying footbaths.

Sarah Byrne, the artist behind SIMS (derived from her maiden name, Simpson), was born and raised in Vernon, and now lives in Kelowna.

Byrne is teaming up with her mother, Marianne Simpson, to offer The Marianne Collection of glass art by SIMS, which is available in Vernon.

After more than a decade working as a chartered insurance professional, Byrne discovered her passion for jewelry design and glass art while on maternity leave in 2008.

"They say once you discover what you are truly meant to do there's no turning back, and I feel like I've finally made that discovery," said Byrne, a member of Junior Chamber International Okanagan.