

Gift Ideas

Hot Rocks For Cool Moms

(NAPSA)—Only one day of the year is set aside to honor the unique bond between mother and child. As on every Mother's Day, many are opting for a gift that will last for years to come. In fact, Mother's Day is the second largest jewelry giving holiday of the year, surpassing even Valentine's Day. An instant heirloom, fine jewelry can be a welcome gift to any mother or grandmother. The unconditional nature of a mother's love nurses us through sickness and celebrates our health, with a warmth that stems from the heart. Fine jewelry is a lasting symbol of love and is a powerful way that sons and daughters can show appreciation for their mothers year 'round.

"A gift of fine jewelry to one's mother speaks to her not just as 'Mom,' but also as a woman with taste and style," says Elizabeth Florence, director of the Jewelry Information Center. "If well cared for, fine jewelry will be handed down from generation to generation." Many of today's trends have their roots in classic designs, so they are sure to put a sparkle in any mom's eye. Florence notes that there are gifts of fine jewelry in virtually every price range and for every style.

The luster and beauty of cultured pearls make them a classic choice for Mother's Day. Some innovative twists to this fine jewelry classic can be found in the Sweet Peas collection by Lugosch Designs. Pink and blue freshwater cultured pearls represent girls and boys, making these personalized broaches and pendants perfect for both mothers and grandmothers.

Though cultured pearls do come in a variety of colors, those wanting to make an even bolder color statement can opt for colored gemstones set in gold or platinum. The birthstones of her children always make mom happy, and colors are also a wonderful way to express one's indi-



The Sweet Peas Collection by Lugosch Designs

Pink and blue freshwater cultured pearls represent her favorite girls and boys, while white cultured pearls offer a beautifully neutral alternative.

viduality. Amethyst, citrine, peridot and blue topaz are all accessibly priced and all project different personalities—defining what's just right for one's mother is a very meaningful process.

Almost any woman gleefully receives gifts of gold or platinum, either plain or bejeweled, and the diversity of jewelry made with these precious metals is enormous. Hearts in platinum and yellow and white gold are quickly being snatched up by gift-givers, sending a message of love and appreciation. For mothers who prefer gifts symbolic of events or achievements, a charm bracelet or charm pin is a wonderful choice. Such notable moms as Demi Moore, Celine Dion, and Katie Couric wear the colorful baby shoe charms by Aaron Basha. These cute and colorful symbols of children, worn on "diaper" pins or as necklace pendants, are a wonderful choice for moms, grandmothers, and mothers-to-be.

Whatever style, a gift of fine jewelry is a profound expression of love. When Mother's Day is past, and moms get back to the job of nurturing and caring for their children, a gift of fine jewelry is a constant reminder that hard work is appreciated.

For more information on trends, care and cleaning, or to find a professional jeweler in your area, visit the JIC's Web site at www.jewelryinfo.org.