

# Weems Galleries and Framing

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## Joseph P Sanchez Little Bear

Joseph Sanchez is an Albuquerque native. He possesses an extensive knowledge of Indian Jewelry. He is married into a family of Native American Indian silversmiths. He is trained in the art of hand made silver jewelry by his father-in-law, Ulysses G Paisano of Laguna Pueblo & his uncle, Paul Lujan of Acoma Pueblo. Joseph received the designation of "Little Bear" from Uncle Paul.



Joseph uses many Paisano stamps in his designs. These stamps are over one hundred years old. Ulysses Paisano is 97 years old & is still making jewelry. His father was also a silversmith & hand made stamps from old files & railroad spikes. The designs of the stamps are unique to the Paisano family. By tradition silversmiths do not copy stamps that are hand crafted. Each Paisano stamp has a symbolic meaning.

Turquoise mines in the US are not as plentiful as they once were. Most of today's turquoise comes from mines in Arizona & Nevada. Joseph purchases natural turquoise in the raw state & hand hones many of the stones he uses in his designs. This honing process requires skill in cutting & polishing.



In addition to turquoise, Joseph uses other natural stones such as jasper, obsidian, petrified wood, etc. Depending on the design, semi-precious stones may also be used.

Joseph enjoys taking flat sheets of sterling silver, wire & stones to create his individually designed pieces of jewelry in the form of rings, necklaces, bolos, earrings, etc.

Joseph would be glad to do commissioned designs as well.

### SHOWS

Member of the Paisano Family Artisans:  
Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival,  
Oklahoma City, OK  
Cherokee National Holiday, Tahlequah, OK  
Haskell Indian Nations University Art Show,  
Lawrence, KS



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