



## LAURA JOHNSON

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### GLASS ARTIST

Laura Johnson is a native of Ottawa, IL and a graduate of Ottawa Township High School. She is graduating in May of 2009 from the University of Illinois with a bachelor's degree in business communication.

Laura has been studying the art of glass blowing for the past four years, concentrating on traditional blown glass and lampworking. She will be opening "Starved Rock Hot Glass," a working-glass art studio in Ottawa, IL in June of 2009. Her business will feature a retail showroom and a studio, where she will be instructing classes and giving demonstrations on glass blowing. Along with her blown glass, she also works with other art forms such as painting, drawing, and photography, which she will display in the showroom.

Laura has always been interested in art from a very young age and has carried that fascination with her throughout her life. She first became interested in glass blowing during a high school field trip to the "Sofa" show in Chicago. Afterwards, she applied to the University of Illinois planning to major in glass blowing; however, the program was cancelled during her first year of attendance. Fortunately, she found another glass blower that was willing to teach her and she has been studying under him for the past four years.

Laura states, "I am excited to start this new chapter in my life and hope to continue to be able to share my passion for art with others!"

*From the Heart to the Hand –*

*A Passion for Creation*

