



“Take the time to notice the little things.
It’s where the magic is.”

—Robyn Nola



FLOWER POWER

Local artist turns to flowers as healing art

By Debra Rinard
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SCOTTSDALE STONEBROOK—After learning that she had been diagnosed with a rare kidney disease at the age of 26, Robyn Nola turned to the beauty of flowers to help her heal. And then she made a career out of it.

As a photographic artist, Nola, 29, features the beauty of flowers in all their close-up glory, with detail so fine you can see tiny hairs on the stems.

For example, a red and yellow tulip is shot in such detail and lit in such a way that you drink it in, color by color, petal by petal, as it bends to face the sun.

Change is Good

Nola knew she had to change her lifestyle after getting her disturbing diagnosis three years ago. Hours on her feet as a massage therapist were too hard on her ailing body.

Resuming a lifelong interest in art, she took a course in color therapy, bought a digital camera and started shooting flowers wherever she found them—first at home, then in her travels.

Meanwhile, her disease is being controlled with the help of medications and a low-protein diet.

“I used to have to visit my kidney specialist two or three times a year,” Nola says. “Now I see her once a year. I attribute a lot of that to my art and the healing nature of it. That and a positive attitude. I see my disease as a gift because I found my art as my life’s mission.”

Inspiring Others

Nola sells her photos as prints and on canvas, but she also offers other products, including “Blooming Inspirations,” a collection of 15 small cards featuring a brilliant or delicate flower and inspirational text; “Illuminate Your Soul” night light, a reflection of Nola’s spiritual nature; and custom-made corporate gifts.

Nola also has developed several prototypes such as children’s books, healing cards and a meditation DVD. She also created a stunning prototype purse, the Zen Bag, featuring lotus flowers. Nola’s items are available through her Web site, www.robynnola.com.

Nola sums up her newfound career with one of her inspirational sayings: “Take the time to notice the little things. It’s where the magic is.” ☀