

## MEET THE TEAM

# Roberto Amay



Roberto has 26 years of jewelry designing experience. He is a GIA Graduate Gemologist and is a registered jeweler in the American Gem Society.

Roberto is originally from Ecuador. He came to the United States in 1994 to learn the jewelry trade from his Uncle who lived in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He then later took over one of his Uncle's stores and operated it for 2 years.

After 9-11, the market crashed and he took a job with a traveling jewelry restyle special event company. He traveled around 46 states.

While working with this company is when Roberto met his wife Christy in Tampa, FL. In 2011 Roberto took a job at Lights Jewelers here in Hattiesburg. He worked there as their bench jeweler until they closed in February 2019.

In March 2019 Roberto opened up Amay Jewelry Designs to continue serving customers in the Pine Belt.

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# Christy Amay



Christy was raised in Picayune, MS. She started her jewelry career as a full time jewelry sales associate at the fine jewelry department in Dillards. She moved up quickly in the company. By the age of 25 she was promoted to regional manager and moved to Tampa, FL. That is where she met her husband Roberto.

She later joined the traveling jewelry restyle company with Roberto. They traveled together around the country doing restyle jewelry shows. After a couple of years, she was recruited by Zales.

In 2008, they moved to Hattiesburg, where she became the manager for Zales in Turtle Creek mall for 3 years. Christy and Roberto were married in 2009 and now have two children, Carlos and Amelia.

Christy was a stay at home mom for 8 years, until she and Roberto opened up Amay Jewelry Designs. She has 15 years of retail management and Roberto is a master jeweler, they make the perfect team.



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# Lauren Shoemake



Lauren is a native of Hattiesburg, MS. She has her Associates degree from PRCC.

She fell in love with the fine jewelry industry over 8 years ago and is always eager to learn more about diamonds, precious metals and the art of custom design along the way.

She has a passion for gems and aspires to become a GIA graduate gemologist.

When she's not in the studio, she enjoys eating local food with her husband Travis, being active in Cub Scouts with her son Julien, and playing with the family dog Spot.

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# Gage McNatt



Gage McNatt is a Petal High School Graduate. He has an Associates Degree in Business Administration.

He discovered his love for jewelry later and decided to go attend New Approach School for Jewelers to learn more about becoming a bench jeweler.

In May 2021 he graduated from New Approach School for Jewelers in Arrington, TN. He is now a Certified Graduate Bench Jeweler.

Right after graduation, he began working for Amay Jewelry Designs where he is continuing to learn about jewelry designing and repair.