

## CCRA Merchant Members Discount Program

Support our local merchants and save money too. These local merchants will provide a discount (described on the CCRA website [www.centercityresidents.org](http://www.centercityresidents.org) under the “Merchant Member” tab) to any member who shows a current CCRA membership card (Di Bruno Bros. has its own CCRA card) and personal identification.

### Computer Troubleshooters

108 South 20th Street  
215-825-2101

### Di Bruno Bros.

1730 Chestnut Street  
215-665-9220

### Dom's Shoe Repair

203 South 20th Street  
215-972-0098

### EyeCandyVision, Optometrists and Opticians

218 South 20th Street  
215-568-3937

### Hello World

257 South 20th Street  
215-545-5207

### Koresh Dance Company

2002 Rittenhouse Square Street  
267-687-1769

### PhotoLounge

1909 Chestnut Street  
267-322-6651

### Rim's Dry Cleaners & Tailors

2203 South Street  
215-546-1889

### Rittenhouse Hardware

20th and Pine (2001 Pine)  
215-735-6311

### Rittenhouse Pet Supply

135 South 20th Street  
215-569-2555

### Twenty-Two Gallery

236 South 22nd Street  
215-772-1911

## Shop Talk

# Renaissance Woman: Philadelphia Publisher's Florentine Needlecraft One of Many Talents

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Nancy Lisagor's exhibit of over 30 colorful hand-stitched needlepoint pillows, each with a unique Bargello-inspired pattern, was on view at the Stadler-Kahn Gallery at 1724 Sansom Street from March 27 until April 21. Ms. Lisagor spent more than two years designing and creating her pillows, based on patterns found on chairs in the Bargello Palace in Florence. The Florentines believe the technique originated in Hungary.

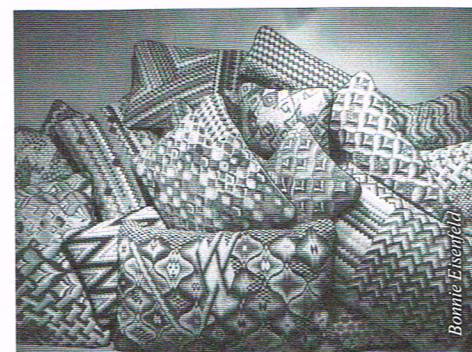
Ms. Lisagor describes her inspiration and method: “Two years ago I started making these Bargello pillows, taking classic and historic patterns and altering them, distorting them, using color in an unusual way. All the work takes place on the canvas as I am doing it – choosing where to put the thread – what color to use next without a preplanned overall design. The design takes shape as I work.” Some patterns convey “a sense of decay as one material or surface pokes through the finished surface of another.” Some designs break up the regularity of the pattern with checkered squares or little *fleurs de lis* on fields of color.

Ms. Lisagor is best known as president of *MetroKids* magazine, a 25-year-old monthly publication providing a wealth of information – news, attractions, events, resources, opportunities and advice – for parents in the Philadelphia metropolitan area. With a circulation of 110,000 in Pennsylvania, South Jersey and Delaware, the magazine is available free of charge in library branches, daycare centers and stores. The company also publishes annual resource directories including the award-winning *SpecialKids* and *Educator's Edition*. <http://www.metrokids.com/>

A native of Illinois, Ms. Lisagor earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Michigan, and both a master's degree in criminology and a doctorate in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania. Before moving to Philadelphia, she lived in Manhattan, and with her husband, Frank Lipsius, co-authored the book *A Law Unto Itself: The Untold Story of the Law Firm of Sullivan and Cromwell*, on the history of a Wall Street firm. As a new mother trying to find



Needlepoint artist, publisher and author Nancy Lisagor, with some of her handiwork.



Piles of pillows: these colorful needlework patterns are inspired by Florence's Bargello Palace upholstery.

information about parenting, Ms. Lisagor got the idea for *MetroKids*, and in 1989 she founded and operated the publication from her Center City home. The company is now located at 1412-14 Pine Street.

Ms. Lisagor is a member of Women for Social Innovation, a Philadelphia women's giving circle, whose mission is to provide philanthropic investments to emerging social innovators with ideas for improving life for women, girls and families in the Greater Philadelphia area. The group provides an annual grant, the Turning Point Prize, to the applicant it deems best. <http://www.womenforsocialinnovation.org/>

Stadler-Kahn Gallery, 1724 Sansom Street, stocks gifts, vintage objects, fine art and an eclectic mix of textiles and designs, all handpicked by Alexander Stadler, a local author, illustrator and textile designer. [www.stadler-kahn.com](http://www.stadler-kahn.com)