David Levi

David Levi's successful artistic career was nurtured in the art classrooms at

University City High School and on the nearby Loop through his early years as a ceramicist at the Craft Alliance Center of Art and Design. He became interested in glass while pursuing his bachelor's of fine arts at Washington University.

Following his 1983 college graduation, he spent a year in Sweden as an apprentice and then returned to St. Louis, where he founded Ibex Glass Studio with fellow University City High School graduates

Sam Stang and Dimitri Michaelides, Ibex Glass Studio served the St. Louis glass scene for eight years until 1993. when Levi moved the studio to a small island in Washington State. While located in St. Louis, the studio repeatedly hosted UCHS chemistry teacher Daniel Lane's students to learn about the chemistry behind glass making. In those years Levi developed into one of the world's premier glass artisans. In



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the late '80s and early '90s, he was invited to exhibit at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., and the American Craft Museum in New York City. In 1987, he won the American Craft Council Young Americans Award for innovative craft artists and designers under age 30 and a National Endowment for the Arts grant. He was one of 73 artists selected in 1993 to be part of President Bill Clinton's and Hillary Clinton's White House Collection of American Crafts.

His work can be found in permanent museum collections throughout the United States. His wavy nesting glass designs are believed to be an influence in several consumer product containers for hair products and other personal care items. In 2006, Levi moved to Corning, New York, to be the project manager and process engineer at the famous Steuben Glass Company, the oldest crystal making company in the U.S. He then moved to Berkeley, California, where he designed a manufacturing and retail facility for the Seattle-based company Glassbaby. Levi returned home in 2018 and was most recently the studio director at the Third Degree Glass Factory on Delmar Boulevard in St. Louis.