

# — arts & entertainment —

...on the Semiahmoo Peninsula

Former Peninsula nurse attends Golden Globes

## Handmade hobby leads to Hollywood

Sarah Massah

Staff Reporter

Sunday night's award ceremony provided a former White Rock nurse with the golden opportunity to share her products – and steal a kiss.

Tara Rex, a former Ashcroft, B.C. resident and “mom-preneur,” made the trip to Beverly Hills from her home in Denver, Colo. to help hand out her handmade cup cozies to Hollywood's biggest names at the Golden Globe's pre-show. This is the second year in a row that Rex's homemade items have made their way into the Golden Globe's swag bag, but the first time she has been there in person to hand them out.

“It was just a whirlwind,” Rex said from her home Monday morning. “It was amazing to be invited to the pre-show and help at the gifting lounge. With The Artisan

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Tara Rex

Group we were able to communicate who we are and what we do.”

One moment that really stood out for Rex – a kiss from *Criminal Minds* star Shemar Moore.

“I had to take a second there. He's got very soft lips,” she laughed, noting her cup cozies

made their way into the bags of notable names like actors Nicole Kidman and Kerry Washington.

It's been a life-changing experience for Rex, who was a nurse at Peace Arch Hospital 11 years ago, when she decided to pursue her passion for sewing in order to take care of her sons at home.

While doing interviews with other local artisans on her blog ([www.taradaramadeit.com](http://www.taradaramadeit.com)), an interviewee revealed her items would be featured in goodie bags for the Oscars.

Rex seized the opportunity and quickly contacted The Artisan Group, who connects artisans with Hollywood events, and was one of 30 artisans to be approved for the Golden Globe goodie bags in 2012.

“From there it just skyrocketed. This year, I was able to participate physically with the Golden Globes and I've been invited to the Emmy's,” Rex said. “It definitely helps with sales, but what's really important is that the local press catapults local artisans into the spotlight.”

As for what the future holds, Rex reveals she will be working on covers for the new



mini iPad, as well as a business venture that she is keeping under wraps for the time being.

While she admits that does miss her hometown in B.C., looking back at her beginnings, she said she is happy for how her business has grown.

“I've worked hard and I feel that if there's a door that's open – an opportunity – you've got to go through. That's what I've chosen to do.”

For more information, visit [www.taradaramadeit.com](http://www.taradaramadeit.com) or [taradara.etsy.com](http://taradara.etsy.com)



Contributed photos

Handmade coffee cozies made by former White Rock nurse Tara Rex (above left) were given out to celebrities at the 2013 Golden Globes, hosted by Tina Fey and Amy Poehler.

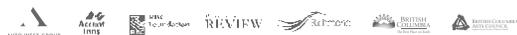
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