

## Life-Changing Dentistry

By Colin P. Lentz, DDS | Photos courtesy of Lanier Valley Dentistry

Life-changing dentistry: There are moments in our lives when we look back and say, "That was a special day." For many it's a special moment such as high school or college graduation, a new car on their 16th birthday, becoming a mother or a father for the first time. But in my world of cosmetic dentistry, it is when I get to give someone their smile back.

There are any number of reasons why someone may have lost their smile. Some people have a tendency to clench or grind their teeth that results in damage; others have had permanent staining from tetracycline or fluorosis; while others may have had extensive restorations placed over time but none of the crowns or fillings really match one another. One thing is common for most of these patients, they no longer smile the way that they want to because they are self-conscious about their teeth. We can fix that!



Dr. Colin P. Lentz and his family  
Photo courtesy of Lauren Boyd Photography

I love being offered the opportunity to restore a smile back to its original beauty or giving someone a smile that they have never had. It's a special moment, a day where my patients look back and say, "That was the day my life changed; my confidence skyrocketed! I don't have to worry about what my smile might look like in a photo because it looks beautiful."

If you or someone you know is struggling with the appearance of their smile and they would like to make a change, please give us a call to meet with me personally and discuss the options available to you to improve your smile.

Here are a few examples of the transformational changes we have delivered in our office this year.



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Before: Malalignment of anterior teeth and old porcelain fused to metal crown on central incisor that is discolored. This patient was prepped the day before and we delivered the four anterior crowns and veneers the next day.



After: Delivery of three anterior porcelain veneers and one crown. The planning, materials, coloration, and anatomy of the veneers and crowns lend to the natural appearance. When this patient smiles it appears as though they have natural teeth, not crowns.



Before: This patient presented to us this way with severe jaw pain, a number of failed and missing restorations and was very unhappy with previous dental experience.



After: Funds were limited so this patient elected to do the least expensive treatment plan she could with a removable denture, bridge, and single-unit crowns, and whitening. Since final placement and balancing her bite, her pain has diminished substantially and is able to chew and is thrilled about being able to chew and smile again with confidence. Our long term goal is to move to an implant-supported denture in the future.

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