



# BSNM Newsletter

June 2023

The mission of this newsletter is to inform our members of the activities, events, and classes in the local beading community and to provide a forum where members can share beading knowledge and techniques.

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This newsletter welcomes new ideas from members and solicits articles and items of interest. Any special events taking place in your life (birthdays, anniversaries, condolences needed, new job, moving, births, weddings, awards, trips, transitions, etc.)? All manuscripts are subject to editing. The editor does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of information contained in the articles received. Please send all contributions for the newsletter to the editor in care of the Bead Society of New Mexico.

## From the President

Dear Members,

You've heard of Christmas in July, how about **Christmas in June**? At **our meeting on June 20, we will be making jewelry for Operation Christmas Child**. Usually, we do this during one of our Fall meetings, but by then the holiday shoeboxes have already been sent out around the world. The Board decided it would be better to do this earlier in the years so that our jewelry can be packed in the holiday boxes. The Bead Society will some provide beads and stringing material but please feel free to use items from your own stash. Bring your basic tools: pliers, wire cutters, beading mat, magnifiers, etc.

Our contribution to this cause is very appreciated by the Operations Christmas Child organization and, more importantly, by the recipients.

**Last week, members of the Bead Society made a shopping trip to Tesuque and Santa Fe.** First, we went to the home of member Anna Holland. She has thousands of beads, pendants, findings, etc., from all over the world. I was in bead heaven! Anna and her husband Mark are so gracious. Not only did we shop but they provided a lovely lunch, including champagne punch. Everything was delicious! Thank you so much Anna, Mark, and Thor, their dog.

Afterwards we headed into Santa Fe to visit member Alice Helstrom at Travelers Boutique in Santa Fe Place, formerly the Design Center. Alice and partners have a beautiful shop filled with beads, artifacts, and textiles from around the world, antique and ancient. There was so much to look at and buy! Alice treated us to homemade ice cream from a vendor across from her shop. Thank you, Alice!

We all had a lot of fun and returned to Albuquerque tired, broke (some of us), and excited to start designing jewelry from our finds.

**Julie Fear's Stacked Right-Angle Wrap Bracelet class** still has openings. You can register online on the BSNM website: [www.beadsocietynm.org](http://www.beadsocietynm.org).

Two other **classes this summer**: **Crystals in Epoxy Clay Pendant** with Jill Bartel (details in this newsletter) and **Macramé with Leather and Pearls** class with Helen Yackel. Stay tuned for more information and sign up for these classes on the BSNM website: [www.beadsocietynm.org](http://www.beadsocietynm.org).

**Reminder that the Placitas Flea Market is Saturday, June 24. Please bring your unwanted beads and other items you want to donate to the June general membership meeting so we will have time to price them. Thanks!**

Remember to stay cool, stay calm, and bead on!

Barbara Rosen, BSNM President, 301-351-3303,

[beadsocietynm@gmail.com](mailto:beadsocietynm@gmail.com), [www.beadsocietynm.org](http://www.beadsocietynm.org), [www.facebook.com/BeadSocietyNM/](http://www.facebook.com/BeadSocietyNM/)

P.S. Check out this photo of four past and present BSNM presidents who happened to be at **Anna Holland's house together**. From left to right are current President Barbara Rosen, Past President Geri Verble, Anna Holland, current Past President Pat Verrelle, and Past President Sandy Johnson.



## Upcoming Events

**June 13**

### Board Meeting

**Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:30 am to 1:30 pm**

The Board will meet to conduct the business of the bead society. Board members please plan to attend.

**June 20**

### General Meeting

**Tuesday, June 20, 2023 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**  
**(set-up, social time, and buying raffle tickets beginning at 5:30 pm)**  
**Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 8600 Academy Rd. NE**

Beading together is always enjoyable, and that is what we will do at our June meeting when we make jewelry (necklaces, bracelets, and earrings) for Operation Christmas Child. The jewelry will be included in shoeboxes that go to young girls and teens in disadvantaged situations worldwide later in the year. Mrs. Sharon Cook, the local coordinator for Operation Christmas Child, will give a presentation.

**What to bring:** beads, stringing material, and findings to make necklaces, bracelets, and/or earrings, as well as any tools you need (pliers, wire cutters, etc.), beading mat, and magnifiers.

BSNM will provide some beads and findings.

Masks are optional. We must wipe down the tables and must be out of the room by 8:30 pm.

**June 10**

### Stacked Right-Angle Wrap Bracelet Class

**Saturday, June 10, 2023**  
**1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

**Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 8600 Academy Rd. NE**

Julie Fear will teach you how to make a double or triple wrapped bracelet using a variation of right-angle weave. Some experience in bead weaving is helpful. **Class is limited to 12 students.**

**Cost: \$10**

**Students need to bring:**

- A total of approx. 20-21 grams of size 8 beads in 2 or 3 colors
- A small amount of size 11 beads (about 16 beads) to attach your clasp
- 1 clasp (I prefer a strong magnetic clasp)
- 6-lb. Fireline in smoke or crystal depending on your bead colors (or your preferred material)
- Beading needle size 11 or 12
- Bead mat
- Additional light source, if needed
- Magnifiers, if needed

Julie will have some kits available that will include enough beads for a triple wrap and clasp only. Students will have your choice of 2 or 3 colors of size 8 beads. The bracelet will have a small, very strong magnetic clasp. Students should be able to finish the bracelet in the class or be well along so finishing it at home will be easy.

Sign up on the BSNM website: [www.beadsocietynm.org](http://www.beadsocietynm.org)



**June 24**

### Placitas Flea Market

**Saturday, June 24, 2023**  
**7:00am-2:00pm, weather permitting**  
**Vendor set up time starts at 5:30am**

**Homestead Village Shopping Center, 221 Highway 165 (2 miles east of I-25)**

We need volunteers to help with the BSNM booth (set up, selling, and take down). If you'd like to volunteer, contact Pat Verrelle at 505-821-6993 or [beadsocietynm@gmail.com](mailto:beadsocietynm@gmail.com).

Or just come out to shop! We will have beads, as well as items donated by our members.

**Start gathering up unwanted beads and other items that you are willing to donate to be sold in BSNM's booth.** (The money get from sales will go towards classes, paying for our meeting place, and other expenditures of the Bead Society.) **We will be collecting items at the June general membership meeting.**

## Upcoming Events

**July 8**  
note date  
correction

### Crystals in Epoxy Clay Pendant Class

**Saturday, July 8, 2023 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**

**Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 8600 Academy Rd. NE**

Jill Bartel will teach you how to make a pendant using crystals and glass cabochons embedded in epoxy clay. This technique is similar to creating mosaics. **Class size is limited to 10 students.**

**Cost: \$35** (this includes a \$10 kit fee)

Kits containing everything you need to make your pendant will be provided. Several colorways will be available to choose from at the beginning of the class.

Students need to bring:

- Bead mat
- Additional light source, if needed
- Magnifiers, if needed
- Magnifying glass, if you have one

You will complete your pendant during class.

Sign up on the BSNM website.



## Winner, Winner

Congratulations to **Mari Mikkelsen** who won the door prize at the May general meeting: her choice of a beading/jewelry book from the BSNM stash.

Congratulations to **Betty Smith** who won the Purple Passion raffle basket at the May general meeting. Betty generously re-gifted the basket to one of our new members, Christine Fearfield.



Christine Fearfield was overwhelmed by Betty Smith's generosity.

## June Raffle Basket

Be sure to buy your raffle tickets for a chance to win the **Summer Days raffle basket**. Clear blue skies and warm yellow sunshine inspire this collection of blue and yellow beads in glass, stone, and crystal. Make summer jewelry that suits your unique style! Use the ice-cream-themed tote bag to carry your jewelry project wherever you go – on vacation or just relaxing on your own patio. (Basket worth at least \$75)



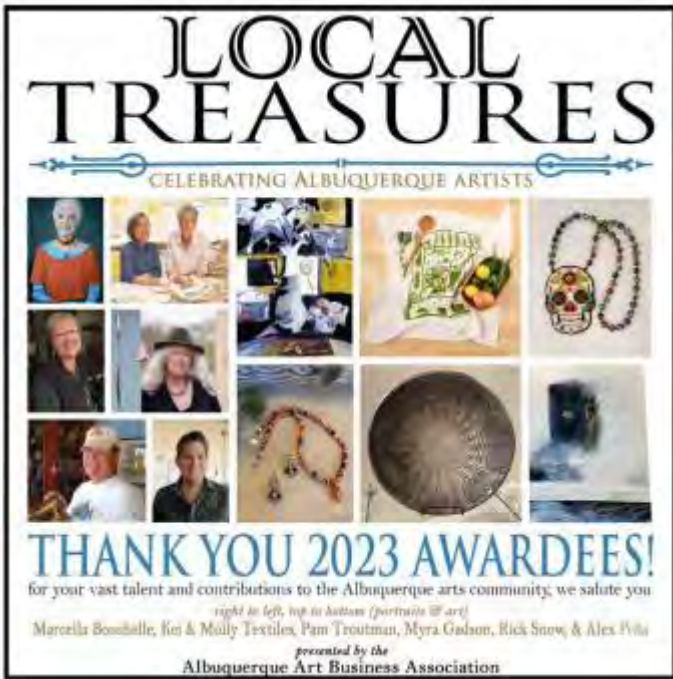
**June 27 is National Sunglasses Day.**

**Protect your eyes  
(and save them for beading!)**

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Pam Troutman for being selected by the Albuquerque Art Business Association (AABA) for their 2023 "Local Treasure" award. AABA selects six artists each year for this award. The Local Treasures program honors local artists who make exceptional contributions to the community, and represent Albuquerque's diverse art scene.

**The 14<sup>th</sup> annual awards ceremony is Sunday, June 4, 2023 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Albuquerque Museum in Old Town (2000 Mountain Rd NW).** All are welcome to come and celebrate with Pam!



The other 2023 recipients of the Local Treasure award are Marcella Boshelle, Myra Gadson, Kei & Molly Textiles, Alex Peña, and Rick Snow.

### Placitas Flea Market

**We are on the flea market schedule for June!** If you'd like to **volunteer to help** with the booth (set up, selling, and take down), send an email to Pat Verrelle at the BSNM address: [beadsocietynm@gmail.com](mailto:beadsocietynm@gmail.com). Also, please let us know if you have a tent, tables, and/or chairs we can use for the day.

**Remember to bring your unwanted beads and other items to the June general membership meeting so we will have time to price them. Thanks!**

All vendors must provide their own tents, tables, and chairs. All tents must be secured with weights in case of wind. Vendor set up time starts at 5:30am. Come early for the best spot.

Market hours are 7:00am-2:00pm weather permitting.



The Placitas 2nd and 4th Saturday Market (formerly the Placitas Community Flea Market) is the only open-air market in Placitas where you will find for sale antiques, collectibles, clothing, jewelry, garage sale treasures, plants, steel art, Talavera pottery, and so much more. The Market continues its give-back policy by featuring a non-profit or organization at each market that provides a service to our amazing community. All vendor fees are donated to that specific non-profit or organization, as well as donated vendor space to promote their organizations. (In June that organization is BSNM!)

The Market is held on the west side open space at the Homestead Village. No food, beverages or firearms can be sold. Leashed dogs are welcomed.



## Cherry Hills Library Recap

photos by Helen Yackel and Pat Verrelle

Our display of members' jewelry at the Cherry Hills Library was a success. We received nice comments from Nancy Griffiths (our contact person at the library), as well as the participants in the bracelet class on Saturday, May 20th. Thank you to Helen Yackel, Pat Verrelle, Laurye Tanner, Barbara Rosen, Deb Cole, and Jill Bartel for their time and effort in creating the display and teaching the class. And, of course, thank you to everyone who provided jewelry and other beaded items for the display.



The finished display at Cherry Hills Library



Laurye Tanner, Helen Yackel, and Jill Bartel take a selfie after finishing the jewelry display.



Deb Cole presenting information about birthstones from around the world to the bracelet class attendees at Cherry Hills Library.



Students choosing the birthstone colors with which to make their bracelets. For the class, mermaid beads in various colors were used as stand-ins for birthstones.



Our contact at the library, Nancy Griffiths, even joined in on the beading fun!

## Support Our Local Businesses

**A Few of My Favorite Beads:** Call 505-974-1645 or come by to see our latest beads. We carry seed beads, crystals, and other bead items for your projects.

**Baskets of Africa:** We have an abundance of baskets to choose from. Come see our great selection of beautiful artisan-made, fair-trade baskets. Call 505-323-2315 for appointment or go to [info@basketsofafrica.com](mailto:info@basketsofafrica.com).

**Beadweaver of Santa Fe:** We are still offering a 10% discount to BSNM members.

**The Beaded Iris:** We offer 10% discount to BSNM members, as well as our punch cards for future savings. Come on into the store and rediscover all the beads, crystals, delicas, findings, thread, and other products you need to complete your beautiful project. **Open beading on Wednesdays.** Store hours are Mon. through Thurs. 10am to 5pm; Fri. through Sat. 10am to 4pm. Sun. closed. Phone: 505-299-1856; email: [beadedirisstore@aol.com](mailto:beadedirisstore@aol.com).

**Glorianna's Beads (Santa Fe):** 70 West Marcy Street, Suite B. Phone: 505-982-0353. Open Tues-Wed and Fri-Sun 10:30am to 4pm.

**Mama's Minerals:** Come to our current location across from Sawmill Market to take advantage of our marked-down items before we close for our move June 5-11. New store will be open on or around June 12 at 12th Street and Menaul, right across from the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. Bead Society members get 15% off on regular-priced merchandise. [www.MamasMinerals.com](http://www.MamasMinerals.com).

**Meltdown Studio:** Check out our **new and returning classes** (Earring Climbers, Gemstone Bloom Bracelet, Beginning Small Metals) at <https://www.meltdownstudio.com/group-classes-1>.

**Downtown Growers Market opens April 15th.**

**New Mexico Bead Company:** New Mexico Bead Company is located at 4111 Louisiana NE, Albuquerque (north of Montgomery). 505-243-2600. Website: <https://www.nmbead.com/>.

**Santa Fe Jewelers Supply:** Open 9:00am to 5:00pm. Curbside pickup, mail order, or visit our showroom today! Order on our website at [www.sfjs.net](http://www.sfjs.net) day or night. Phone: 505-988-9157.

**Stone Mountain Bead Gallery:** We're open Mon. through Sat. from 11am to 6pm; Sun. 12:30pm to 4:30pm. Call 505-385-2200 to arrange contactless pickup. **20% off for BSNM members.** Back issues of *Bead&Button* magazine are 50% off.

**Thomason Stone Supply:** Come see our spiny oyster, mother of pearl, and abalone summer shapes. Store hours are Mon. through Sat. 10am to 6pm. You can place an order by calling us at 888-353-9934 or 505-268-9934, or by filling out a contact form on our website, <https://www.thomasonstonesupply.com/>.



**Thunderbird Supply Company:** See our website (<https://www.thunderbirdsupply.com/>) for online and in-store specials. Store hours: Mon.-Fri. 9am-6pm; Sat. 10am-5pm.

**Treasures of the Gypsy/Gypsy Raven:** Treasures of the Gypsy Show Room is open by appointment, as well as for classes. Please contact Pamela Armas to schedule your appointment at 505-847-0963, or email her at [gypsytreasures@cs.com](mailto:gypsytreasures@cs.com)

## Beading Groups

**Laurie Tanner's house: Every Friday at 1:00 pm.** Bring your beads, thread, needles, beading matt, etc. – whatever you need for the project you are working on. Also bring your own beverage. 3100 Camino de la Sierra NE, Albuquerque, 87111. You **must RSVP** as there is limited space. [lauryert@yahoo.com](mailto:lauryert@yahoo.com)

**Bosque Farms:** Do you live in the Bosque Farms area? Join BSNM member Kathy Jost at the Bosque Farms Community Center for the **BFCC Bead Group on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm.** Bosque Farms Community Center is located at 950 N Bosque Loop in Bosque Farms, New Mexico. Phone: 505-869-5133.

**Placitas:** This beading group is taking a break for the winter months. We'll let you know when they start meeting again.

## The Nature of Glass Exhibit

**New Mexico Museum of Art,  
107 W. Palace Ave., Santa Fe  
through December 31, 2023**

"The Nature of Glass" exhibit focuses on 28 contemporary works by such household names as Judy Chicago, Georgia O'Keefe, and Preston Singletary, as well as William Morris, Robert Wilson, and Tony Jojola.

The featured techniques include blown, hot-wired, etched, assemblage, sand carved, cast, kiln-formed, stained, and more. Most of the works reflect nature or the environment via images of flora and fauna, as well as the human body, said curator Christian Waguespack.

"This looks at how [artists] brought nature into their work through the representation of flowers, animals, the body, space, science, and the environment," Waguespack said. "It's pretty broad."

Glass has been used as an artistic medium for thousands of years and remains one of the world's most prevalent art forms.

"Glass is becoming more and more popular in New Mexico," Waguespack said. "We've got several glass studios in Santa Fe. Even [famed glass artist Dale] Chihuly taught at the Institute of Indian Arts and Culture. It's definitely got a presence here and a big, strong following."

## Field Trip Recap

photos by Barbara Rosen and Pat Verrelle

Oh, what fun it is to ride ... to Santa Fe and shop for beads! Thank you, thank you to Anna Holland and Alice Helstrom for their hospitality and generosity during our visits with them. Anna has a lovely home and a fabulous bead room/studio – one whole wall is nothing but strands of beads! And the room has wonderful natural light by which to create. Alice's shop is fun and funky with drawers and containers of beads and other goodies to open up and explore. And the ice cream from the shop across the atrium was delicious.



Anna's neighbor and Barbara Rosen shop for ethnic elements while Anna's daughter, Kate, gives advice.



Some of the strands of beads hanging in Anna's studio.



Barbara Rosen, Geri Verble, Sandy Johnson, Anita Collins, and Christine Fearfield wait in line to pay for their treasures (and check out what the others bought!).



Betty Smith, Mary K Phillips, and Deb Cole have lunch and relax on one of the patios at Anna's house.



Alice Helstrom waiting at her shop to greet us



Some of the ethnic elements available at Alice's shop.



Caroline Bleil, Betty Smith, Robert Steinberg, Christine Fearfield, Anita Collins, and Sandy Johnson relax in front Travelers Boutique after shopping and eating ice cream.

## Community Beading Project Submission

Following is a picture of Pam Troutman's entry to the "Grandifolia" community beading project sponsored by the Museum of Beadwork in Portland, Maine. Beaders submitted a beaded leaf that will be part of an installation exhibit. The museum will create branches that all the leaves will be wired/attached to and then use those branches to form a canopy or tree.



Beaded and sequined leaf by Pam Troutman

If any other BSNM members are participating in this beading project, please send us a photo of your entry so we can show it off in the newsletter.

## Fun Bead Facts

The beaded dress in which Marilyn Monroe sang the infamous "Happy Birthday" to President John F. Kennedy contained 6,000 beads. In contrast, the dress Sophie Rhys-Jones wore when she married Prince Edward of England contained 325,000 beads.



## Ethnic Collection Purchased

by Robert Steinberg, Stone Mountain Bead Gallery

Stone Mountain Bead Gallery recently purchased an amazing group of beads from the estate of Melanie Alter. Melanie was a founding member of the original Bead Society of New Mexico back in the 1980s, and was a serious, long-time collector and designer. She passed away on March 17, 2023, and her sons are working with me to evaluate and sell her collection. They tell me a lot more is being organized and coming, but I have many of her unusual African beads at my store now.

Barbara Rosen came by and got first pick already, but all Bead Society members are invited to visit my store to see these treasures. Following are photos of some of the strands of beads.





## The Glory of African Beadwork

written by Ettagale Blauer and photographed by Jason Laure  
from [www.worldandi.com](http://www.worldandi.com), February 2000

Outward appearance is the surest way to differentiate one person from another, and the desire for objects that can decorate or distinguish the individual appears to be universal. In fact, the practice of personal adornment is at least twenty-five thousand years old. Evidence found in Stone Age graves and domestic sites includes objects that are recognizable as jewelry. Ivory beads, necklaces made from fish vertebrae, and other objects are frequently uncovered in such locations.

Wearing distinctive apparel and adornments conveys specific personal and social information. Indeed, the physical expression of a culture is made as evident through ornament and dress as it is through ritual and ceremony. The form of decorative objects depends, of course, on the materials at hand. Historically, these were either local products or things acquired in trade. So it is with the beadwork of Africa. Beaded jewelry is a rich tradition in African culture but one with fairly recent origins. Curiously, it is a tradition dependent on imported European beads, trinkets brought to Africa as objects of trade.

Beads have become powerful elements in African life. Their use offers insight into hundreds of cultures. The jewelry worn by **East Africa's Masai** and Samburu people incorporates specific and different patterns, forms, and shapes. But both use the same basic building blocks: tiny glass or porcelain beads. The Zulu, Ndebele, and Xhosa of South Africa also use these small beads to create culturally distinctive forms of jewelry. Ornament literally is used to delineate the unique identity of each culture, and most of the beadwork found in eastern and southern Africa is worn by all members of society. But in West Africa, in the Yoruba culture of Nigeria and Cameroon, beadwork is reserved for members of royalty.

On first encounter, outsiders might think that traditionally garbed people—such as the Masai, Samburu, and Ndebele—have dressed up for some special occasion. This is not the case. Although some jewelry is made so that it can be donned at particular moments—such as for marriage or circumcision ceremonies—most pieces are worn throughout an entire stage of life. For example, indicating her increasing wealth and her place in life, a married woman amasses beaded necklaces as she grows older. Each piece of jewelry, in its shape, patterns, and



colors, speaks of the wearer's culture. People within that culture can read a woman's exact status—her age-set, marital status, even whether she has given birth to a son—by observing her beaded jewelry.

### Jewelry and Symbol in East Africa

Arab traders, sailing down the East African coast in dhows (sailboats), introduced a variety of goods in exchange for ivory and other treasures. The earliest known Masai and Samburu beaded jewelry items, dating from around 1850, were assembled from large red beads originally made in Holland. But the specific look of jewelry in East Africa, particularly among these two peoples, was transformed about one hundred years ago. Traders introduced tiny, colorful glass beads—uniform in size and hue—that had been imported from what is now the Czech Republic. These beads, already drilled with precise center holes, could easily be strung on threads or sewn onto leather. Their variety meant they could also be arranged in contrasting colors and geometric patterns. This revolutionized the look of ornament in East Africa and other parts of the continent.

A whole mythology grew up around the beads. Symbolism based on existing Masai beliefs about the natural world remains valid today. Blue represents sky and embraces the Masai belief in Nkai (God). Green represents grass, a sacred element revered because it nourishes the cattle that play such a central role in the cycle of traditional Masai and Samburu life. Red and white are the life-sustaining colors. Red represents the blood of the cattle, and white stands for their milk. These are the basic Masai foodstuffs. (Masai only slaughter cattle for meat to provide for ceremonies marking stages of life. Cattle hides are used for clothing and material for pouches, slings, and straps.) The imported beads enabled the Masai to spell out the essential beliefs and elements of their lives in their dress and personal adornment.

A Masai man counts his wealth in his cattle, but a woman wears hers in the form of her jewelry. Often a woman will earn the money to buy beads for herself or her daughters by selling an animal from her own herd. (Her cattle are kept separate from those of her husband and sons.) Girls begin to amass their distinctive, flat, circular necklaces from an early age. Each necklace has a different circumference. When worn together, they form a wide visual display, the layers touching each other. Necklaces may cover a woman's upper body from her neck to her shoulders and partway down her torso.

Samburu women are readily distinguished from Masai by their beaded necklaces. They favor single strands of red beads, piled one upon the other in a massive show. As the strands vary in diameter, they seem to merge into one massive neckpiece. The Masai avoid symmetry in their beadwork and appear to feel an innate need to create a balance from different elements. Single rows of beads are strung from headbands and draped across the cheeks, drawing attention to the face. In earlier works, beads were sewn onto leather or separated with "spacers," narrow strips of leather. Contemporary beads are usually

strung on wire. In the past, red and blue were used **almost exclusively, but today's palette is far more varied and individual.**

**Candidates for circumcision (which marks a boy's transition to his young adult life as a moran, or warrior) wear special beads that signify their status.** Following the ceremony, the boy gives these beads to his mother. Her status is thus enhanced. Although there is no longer a real place for a moran in modern East Africa, the rituals are maintained (though they have been adapted and downsized).

The use of beading extends beyond jewelry. Long **leather skirts, rarely worn in today's society, are enhanced with rows or patterns of colored beads.** Small leather bags, decorated with beads, are made. Masai women use them to carry other beadwork in progress. To keep their kangas (cloth wrapped around the body like a sarong) in place, men wear a beaded leather belt. It also serves as a sheath for their short knives.

Kenya has more than forty tribal peoples, although lines are sometimes blurred through intermarriage and overlapping territories. Such is the case with the Rendille, a tribal people who live just south of Lake Turkana and closely resemble the Samburu. Their distinctive beadwork features larger beads, most of them bright red. The unmarried Rendille woman wears a combination of necklaces: one large draping collar combining more than a dozen rows of beads strung on wires, set off by small, flat white and yellow beads.

Turkana women, living in the severe desert conditions of northern Kenya, bedeck themselves with strands of brightly colored beads massed around their necks and shoulders. Pokot women, members of a small and exclusively rural tribe, wear a distinctive large, flat necklace made of doum palm and edged by red and yellow glass beads. Circumcision ceremonies for Kamba girls (now rarely carried out) were highlighted by the presentation of an elaborate beaded belt, worked around a core of natural fibers. These belts **are now considered collector's items. Even the tiniest tribe in Africa, the El Molo (who number just 440 people and live around Lake Turkana), maintain a tradition of beadwork as evidence of their distinct cultural tradition.**

### **Cultural Emblems in Southern Africa**

The Zulu are the single largest tribe in southern Africa, numbering about eight million. They were first forged into a coherent people in the early nineteenth century under a leader named Dingiswayo. Small, brightly colored, imported glass beads had already been introduced to the region through Portuguese trading posts along the Indian Ocean coast. Dingiswayo valued beads so highly as a medium of exchange that he claimed their trade as his personal privilege. This monopoly was continued by Shaka, his nephew and eventual successor, and by later Zulu kings.

After the Zulu were subjugated by British colonial forces, much of the material evidence of their culture was suppressed. Missionaries vigorously campaigned to end many Zulu customs, including the use of

beadwork in ornamentation and the use of traditional **clothing. The traditional married woman's hat, for example, is made of tightly woven fibers dyed red.** Beadwork bands ornament the base or crown of the hats, according to the region and the wearer. Different types of capes, cloaks, belts, and aprons are worn in various regions.

Traditional Zulu beaded garments also include skirts or girdles worn by unmarried girls and beaded aprons over leather skirts worn by married women. Some sport beaded sections on fabric skirts. Capes or cloaks are worn by married women. Men and unmarried girls may wear beaded bands across their chests. Beads were sewn onto leather or wrapped around tightly coiled lengths of grass, bound up with cotton. Tubes of cotton were also used to support beadwork fashioned into neck rings.



Despite the pressures of increasing westernization, beadwork has been kept alive, especially in more far-flung rural communities. In contemporary society, tourism has become a significant support for traditional crafts. It creates a market that encourages young women, living in kraals (village homes) located close **to South Africa's main cities, to learn beadworking skills from their mothers.**

Tourism certainly has an influence on the look of Zulu and other tribal crafts. Despite adaptations made to attract tourists, specific attributes and meanings are assigned to certain colors, and every teenage Zulu girl **knows them. Blue is for loneliness: It means "I will wait for you." Green is for grass and means "I will wait until I am as thin as a blade of grass." White is for purity: It says "My heart is clear and pure and I am waiting for you." Red is for love and means "My heart is bleeding for you." Yellow is for jealousy: "I am jealous but I shall still love you." Finally, in our list, pink is for poverty. It means "You are wasting your money and have no cows to pay for my lobola (bride-price) and I don't love you."**

Because the colors of the beads carry such specific meaning, they were used to carry messages, known as **ucu, a Zulu term that translates loosely as "love letters."** These beautiful, silent messengers can tell the state of a romance. Specific beadwork also identifies a sangoma (healer and seer). Sangomas are often women and wear distinctive beaded headpieces, which obscure their faces behind a veil of beads.

Items made for sale to tourists are sometimes worn by the tribal people themselves, a continuation of the acculturation process that occurs whenever two peoples come into contact. Beaded fertility dolls, known in only one area of Zululand, have become a

very popular item for sale. The version made for the tourist market may have facial features; authentic dolls do not. This difference is likely to be lost as the lines between authenticity and imagination continue to blur over time.

The Xhosa are the second-largest population group in South Africa. They live in territories in the southeast, in regions along the Indian Ocean and reaching one hundred miles inland. Divided by the Great Kei River, these areas were known as Ciskei and Transkei. The same glass beads used by the Masai and Samburu were imported—by the ton—by these regions. Demand was widespread. Organized trade was documented as early as the 1820s, when merchants in Cape Town imported European beads. Wholesalers, supplying outposts in Ciskei and Transkei, often dealt directly with missionaries and other travelers who carried the beads inland. The language of beads became an integral part of tribal cultural tradition. Beadwork came to be one of the visible elements used to distinguish who was Xhosa, Zulu, or Ndebele.

Although some missionaries helped carry beads into the interior, others were determined to end their use. Beads were not deemed **"proper" dress for a Christian** convert. Because missionaries often offered the only chance an African would have to learn to read and write, many people surrendered their beads to gain the powerful weapon of literacy.

In 1962, Nelson Mandela wore Xhosa beads at his sentencing in the Johannesburg courthouse. An attorney, Mandela usually dressed for court in impeccably tailored business suits. On this occasion he chose to send a powerful signal. By wearing the beaded clothing of his tribe, Mandela broadcast an implicit message of defiance: a warning to those who would crush African culture and its expression. Thirty-two years later, Mandela would take office as the first black president of South Africa.

### Plastic and the Marketplace

Traditional Xhosa beadwork is made by stitching small glass beads onto backings made from cowhide and goatskin. The beads were sewn with sinew before women had access to commercially made thread. Xhosa beadwork has been documented as early as the 1820s. Because beads were expensive, their use distinguished the wealthy from the mass of Xhosa **society. Beadwork came to represent a woman's dowry.**

Uniquely, it is Xhosa men who amass and wear quantities of beadwork (made by female admirers). Men and women both wear beaded openwork bib collars that have the look of lace. Tremendous individuality reigns in Xhosa beadwork design. Unique pieces include headdresses made from thousands of white beads, some of them supporting dense drapes of single strands of beads. Beaded circles are worn around the waist in profusion.

There are also ritually specific pieces, such as the necklaces worn by a woman who is nursing, and practical pieces such as beaded blanket pins (used in place of buttons). The traditionally dressed Xhosa

woman wore a blanket, usually red or yellow, as her outer garment.

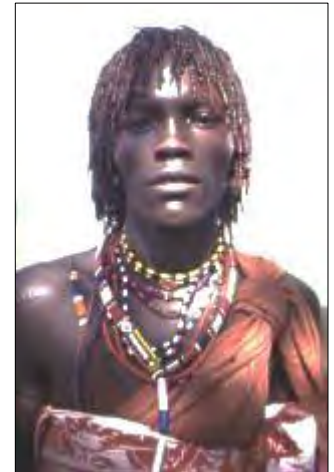
White is the predominant color in Xhosa beadwork and has always been closely identified with the culture. The pieces have the feeling of fabric and drape around the body. Openwork designs enable the creation of an article that covers a considerable area using a relatively small number of beads. The most typical beaded object is a tobacco bag, worn draped over one **shoulder. Beaded motifs, often in the form of "love letters," are stitched onto a goatskin** backing with beaded tassels attached at the ends.

Xhosa men and women both smoke tobacco, using pipes with beaded stems. Women prefer long-stemmed pipes, it is said, to keep ashes away from nursing children. The elegant beadwork keeps pipestems cool enough to handle.

The tradition of making beaded objects has survived into the twenty-first century, but its days are clearly numbered. Young women are more likely to want the current Western fashions than to be sitting at home, sewing tiny glass beads onto leather or fabric.

The exposure to tourists is changing the very shape and even the materials of beaded jewelry. At the annual Grahamstown festival in South Africa in 1999, Xhosa women offered beadwork made of plastic beads instead of glass. (Ironically, Xhosa chiefs used to trade ivory for beads with merchants at Grahamstown.) The work retained ingenuity and a sense of style, but the plastic was disconcerting. Significantly, plastic beads are unlikely to last as long as glass. Still, the women prefer the new beads, which are cheaper to buy and lighter and more comfortable to wear. The cultural connections grow thinner as the older generation fades away. Africa's glorious beadwork may have had its time in the sun.

*Ettagale Blauer writes frequently on African issues. This article was adapted by the author from research for her book African Elegance, published by Rizzoli (1999). Jason Laure is contributing photographer to the book.*



## 6 Ways Making Jewelry Improves Your Creativity and Wellbeing

Jill MacKay, May 25, 2023,

[https://www.interweave.com/article/jewelry/ways-making-jewelry-improves-creativity-wellbeing/?utm\\_campaign=IW+Jewelry+-+NL&utm\\_id=Newsletter\\_20230530\\_GPM230526048&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=omeda&oly\\_enc\\_id=7354A2943523A3R](https://www.interweave.com/article/jewelry/ways-making-jewelry-improves-creativity-wellbeing/?utm_campaign=IW+Jewelry+-+NL&utm_id=Newsletter_20230530_GPM230526048&utm_medium=email&utm_source=omeda&oly_enc_id=7354A2943523A3R)

Jewelry making is a creative activity that allows you an easy way to begin practicing self-care through creativity. **Whether you're a beginner or a pro,** working in the present moment with beautiful beads, stones, and components eases you into a more relaxed state. There is an intuitive, reflective, and emotional process that begins to take place. Practicing creativity helps relax your mind, body, and soul.

### 1. Stimulate Your Creativity

Stress, anxiety, worry, and fear are natural reactions to uncertainty and the unknown. Since the pandemic, statistics show high numbers of stress, depression, loss, and loneliness. All of which impair health and cognitive wellbeing. This is why it is so important to introduce creative activities into our daily lives. Creative ventures of all kinds have positive impacts on brain function because they encourage unconventional thinking and imagination which helps stimulate both sides of your brain.



Combine different modalities, such as painting with beadwork or drawing with enamels, and let your mind relax into the technique.

### 2. Get in the Flow

When you're giving your fullest attention to an activity or task that you are passionate about, singularly focused on, and totally immersed in, you may find yourself creating the conditions necessary to experience a flow state of mind. **The mind's usual chatter begins to fade away,** placing us in an undistracted calm zone. **The world's problems fall away,** and time passes easily. You become relaxed. You are focused on creating and at ease with yourself.

### 3. Discover Your Joy

It's an engaging process to discover and learn which materials you like, which colors and gemstones you respond to and why. Think about the WHY of it. Why are you responding more favorably to some materials and not others? This is new information, and it brings self-awareness and self-reflection. Give yourself the

time to play with beads, stones, and other materials in your collection. Find delight.



Jill enjoys discovering new treasures at the gem, mineral, bead, and fossil shows in Tucson.

### 4. Practice Creativity

**Creativity isn't found, it is developed.** It is a practice. It is a passionate sense of potential. Challenging yourself stokes the fires of self-esteem. Challenge yourself to set aside a place and time to spend being engaging in the creative process for your own wellbeing. It lifts your mood and piques your interest to learn more.

### 5. Break Up Your Routine

So much of the time we are running on a script. Pick up the kids, make dinner, go to work, do the chores. The mind can be on remote control as you have done these activities so much that you can sleepwalk through life. Creativity does more than break up the monotony. It creates growth, wellness, and happiness.

### 6. Join a Maker Community

There are many communities of jewelry makers out there. Interacting with jewelry-making communities online and in person is very rewarding. Connecting with other makers, hearing their stories, and learning from each other has very positive impacts on your emotional and physical health. It feels good to understand and be understood by other creatives.

### Let Creativity Improve Your Mental Health

The more you spend time making and creating, the more you will want to do it. The more you do it, the better you will feel and the more health and cognitive benefits you will receive. **As the saying goes, "Become a lifelong creative learner, and you will never be bored again."**

*Jill MacKay is an artist and writer who believes creativity is transformational. In addition to her career as a jewelry designer, she spent a decade working as Artist in Residence at the Caring Place, a center for grieving children, with Fred Rogers (of Mr. Roger's Neighborhood) to integrate the arts into the bereavement setting. Jill is committed to making a difference in the lives of others through creativity. Learn more about Jill and her shop [on her website](#).*

## Bead Arts Competition

<https://www.interweave.com/bead-arts/>



Artists of all levels are welcome to enter the Bead Arts Awards competition for the chance to gain recognition for their accomplishments and to show off their best beadwork. While we love dramatic beadwork, we're also looking for bead contest entries with interesting stories, careful craftsmanship, or new twists on a technique. Show us what you can do!

Whether you begin with a sketch or simply start stitching, use this beading contest as inspiration for your next beaded jewelry design. Look at your stash with fresh eyes, revisit one of your favorite techniques, or enter a favorite beaded jewelry design that's already in progress—or finished. We want to see your most creative and very best work using techniques and materials that inspire you.

Beyond the inspiration that comes from entering a beading contest, the prizes and recognition are motivating, too! All winners of the Bead Arts Awards will be announced and featured at Bead Fest in Lancaster, PA. These awards highlight the best of the best, with an overall \$750 cash prize for the Grand Prize Winner and a \$250 cash prize to Category Winners.

*"Most importantly, enjoy the process as that will shine through—no matter what you create."*

Interweave Director of Content Tamara Honaman

### Categories

**Bead Embroidery:** Bead embroidery is one of the most popular beading techniques—and it can be interpreted in so many ways! Whether you create a wearable design or an elaborate home accessory, we can't wait to see your inspired bead embroidery beadwork.

**Beaded Sculpture:** Beaded sculpture is one of our most popular categories, year after year. We're continually inspired by the way beaded-sculpture artists create figurines, home décor, and other three-dimensional objects. Show us your off-loom beadweaving or meticulous gluing techniques

**Bead Looming:** Bead looming is a traditional form of beading that has evolved over the years to allow for

many variations. Use your favorite beading loom to create a sensational wearable or non-wearable work of art. We love looming because it's limitless!

### Prizes & Awards

**Grand Prize Winner:** \$750 in cash, plus featured artist profile on Interweave.com. Work will be featured at Bead Fest Lancaster, PA.

#### Three Category Winners:

\$250 Sponsored Prize. Work will be featured at Bead Fest Lancaster, PA.

**Four Honorable Mentions:** \$50 Interweave.com Gift Cards. Work will be featured at Bead Fest Lancaster, PA.

All winners will receive a one-year membership to Interweave Plus (a \$49.99 value), a feature on Interweave.com, and a digital badge to use on your platforms.

### Entry Period

**Entries in the Bead Arts Awards (the "Contest") must be submitted between 12:01 a.m. ET on March 8, 2023, and 11:59 p.m. ET on June 16, 2023.**

The Super Early Bird deadline for taking advantage of the lowest priced entry fees is 11:59 p.m. ET on March 31, 2023. The Early Bird deadline for taking advantage of reduced entry fees is 11:59 p.m. ET on May 9, 2023.

### Eligibility

Entrants must be at least 18 years of age or older and of the age of majority in their jurisdiction of residence. **Employees of Golden Peak Media ("Sponsor"), their parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and divisions (the "Promotion Entities"), their immediate families (parent, child, sibling, spouse), and persons living in the same households of such individuals (whether related or not) are not eligible to participate in the Contest.**

### How to Enter

Enter as often as you like. Entries must be submitted as JPG digital files online at <https://goldenpeakmedia.submittable.com/submit> during the Entry Period. Files under 5MB are more likely to upload properly. Entrants should be prepared to send a hi-resolution, print-quality replacement file should their entry be selected as a Winner; detailed requirements will be provided at that time. Entry fees are due with entries. Your record of the credit card or PayPal charge will be your receipt.

#### Fees are as follows:

- Super Early Bird Deadline – Entry Fee: \$15 Interweave+ members; \$25 non-members
- Early Bird Deadline – Entry Fee: \$25 Interweave+ members; \$35 non-members
- Extended Deadline – Entry Fee: \$35 Interweave+ members; \$45 non-members

### Additional Requirements for Entries

The Contest is open to all artists working in Bead Embroidery, Beaded Sculpture, or Bead Looming. Each entry must represent one piece of jewelry or one gem or one multiple-piece set or suite. You may

submit as many entries as you wish, but each piece, set, or suite must be submitted as a separate entry. All works must be original. **"Original"** means that the work must be from the hand of a principle artist; pieces that originate from a workshop or a class under the direction of a teacher are not eligible. Entries must be submitted by the designer/maker or lapidary, or in cases of collaborative work, the principal designer/maker or lapidary. By entering, you represent and warrant that your entry is your original work, that your entry does not infringe the rights of any third party, and that you have all the rights necessary to submit the entry and to assign the rights in the entry. Works deemed unsuitable for publication or that do not meet above criteria, in the sole discretion of Sponsor, are not eligible. Works previously published at the time of submission to this contest in a national publication or receiving an award at a national-level exhibition are not eligible.

## Judging and Notification

There will be a total of eight (8) winners. Limit one (1) prize per entrant. All eligible entries will be judged in two rounds using the following criteria:

- Artistic technique
- Handling of medium
- Design and creative elements
- Overall impression/impact

Judging will be blind; no information regarding the entrants will be shared with judge until all scoring has been made final. In the event of a tie, the entry with the highest score in overall impression/impact will be deemed the Winner. If there is still a tie, the judge will select the entry deemed to be the better entry overall.

Judging will take place in two rounds. The first round judges will select a set number of entries per category as finalists to move to the second round. The second round judges will confer and select the winners. Second Round jurying will be done by a member of the Interweave Editorial team. Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any entries it deems to be inappropriate for publication or display. Sponsor also reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify entries that are entered into the wrong category as deemed by the judges. Refunds or rebates will not be offered to entrants whose entries have been disqualified for any reason.

Potential winners will be notified no later than August 1, 2023, by email. Each potential winner will be required to complete and return an Affidavit of Eligibility and Compliance with Official Rules, a Publicity Release, and a Release of Liability within ten (10) days of notification. If a potential winner does not respond to notification or does not return the forms in the required time, the prize will go to the person with the next highest score.

Please keep in mind that winning items may need to be shipped to Colorado for photography in July 2023 or transported to Pennsylvania for display in August 2023.

## General Conditions

Void where prohibited. Any entrant suspected of tampering with or disrupting any aspect of the Contest will be disqualified. All decisions of Sponsor are final. By your participation in the Contest, you (i) agree to be bound by these Official Rules, (ii) agree to release, indemnify, and hold Sponsor, their affiliates, parents, subsidiaries, and divisions, and all of their officers, directors, employees, and agents harmless from any and all claims, liabilities, losses, and damages of any kind arising in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, **from your participation in the Contest, from Sponsor's use of your entry, or from your acceptance, possession, use, or misuse of any Prize, and (iii) agree that any dispute or claim will be resolved individually and without resort to class action.**

**For the complete contest rules and guidelines, go to <https://www.interweave.com/bead-arts-awards-rules-and-guidelines/>**

## Placitas Library Call for Artists

**Exhibition dates: July 8 - August 31, 2023**

**Submissions accepted: May 1–June 4, 2023**

### Art Inspired By Art

How do artists come up with ideas, conjure images, and produce something new? Where does inspiration originate? Often it comes from other artists, contemporaries or historical figures, artists from similar cultural backgrounds, **or perhaps "exotic"** others. Sometimes an artist makes a direct effort to paint staccato landscapes like Van Gogh or energetic abstract canvases like Jackson Pollock or decorative patterning like Klimt. Sometimes after a trip to an art museum, there is a more subtle impact that makes itself known over time. Something in the zeitgeist influences the next painting and the **next...**

Visual memory is a funny thing.

This call for submissions asks you to consider the art that has impacted your own creative spirit, either directly or indirectly. Show us a link from your work to that of a particular artist or culture, a painting or 3-dimensional object that has inspired you.

***Please include either a visual or verbal reference to the artist, object, or objects whose aesthetic you've admired.***

Submission forms and detailed information can be found on the PCL website:

<http://placitaslibrary.com/programs/art-exhibits/call-for-artists/artist-submission/>

Please address questions to the Art Committee at [PCL.art.committee@gmail.com](mailto:PCL.art.committee@gmail.com)

## Rio Rancho Bead Estate

Jerome Nunez, of A Few of My Favorite Beads, knows of a bead estate in Rio Rancho with beads for sale at a discount. There are some stipulations to buying:

- You must call Jerome and make an appointment to go to the bead estate (it is not at his shop)
- The bead estate is only available on Tuesdays
- Limit of 3 people at a time
- Jerome will drive you to the bead estate

To make an appointment or if you have any questions, call 505-974-1645.

## Studio Space Available

Business partners Sally Jewell and Sally Williams have opened a 1,700-square-foot studio in the Hoffmantown Shopping Center at Menaul and Wyoming for all fiber arts crafts. They offer guilds, groups, or individuals a meeting space, a gathering work space, or an opportunity to use the space to teach classes.

The partners are both mothers and work full time, so the space is currently open Fridays and Saturdays, but will open and host any group when requested.

The Sewing Place Abq  
8252 Menaul Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110  
[thesewingplaceabq@gmail.com](mailto:thesewingplaceabq@gmail.com), 505-705-2952  
[www.thesewingplaceabq.com](http://www.thesewingplaceabq.com)

## Fiber Arts Council

The Albuquerque Fiber Arts Council is looking for candidates who are interested in promoting fiber arts in New Mexico to fill board positions. If interested, please go to <https://abqfiberartscouncil.org/fiber-arts-council/> to fill out an application. (This is different than being BSNM's representative to the Council.)

The Albuquerque Fiber Arts Council was formed in 1997 to provide the opportunity for local fiber guild members to show their work to the public. It has grown from six guilds then to almost twenty. The Board of Directors has seven members who are dedicated to continuing the tradition of hosting the Albuquerque Fiber Arts Fiesta every other year. As a 501(c)3 organization, the proceeds from the Fiesta provide funding for other public shows and scholarships.

The Council is also seeking individuals interested in working on the marketing committee. If you would like to be involved and work with a great team promoting Fiber art, please email [michellejackson@quiltfashions.com](mailto:michellejackson@quiltfashions.com)

## Bead Store for Sale

After 30 years in retail and 50 years in jewelry, imports, and wholesale, **Robert Steinberg, owner of Stone Mountain Bead Gallery (voted Albuquerque's Best Bead Store), is selling off his huge accumulation beads, jewelry, and world handicrafts.**

Included are thousands of strands of vintage Czech beads; African trade beads; gemstone and mineral beads; Native American turquoise and heishi; and more. Also loads of silver and gemstone jewelry; Bali silver beads; wood, ceramic, glass, brass, and stone beads; Swarovski crystals; costume jewelry; seed beads by the pound; and handicrafts, art, and jewelry from Nepal, India, Tibet, Thailand, Bali, and Turkey. Collectables and statues – oriental, Native American, dragons, skulls, Buddhas, malas, and rosaries.

Quantity discounts!

Also, building for sale: retail space on Route 66/ Central Ave. in popular Nob Hill neighborhood. 5,000 square feet currently divided into two stores. Signage and huge parking lot.

Contact: Robert Steinberg  
Stone Mountain Bead Gallery  
4008 Central Ave. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108  
Phone: 505-260-1121  
Email: [rsteinberg50@comcast.net](mailto:rsteinberg50@comcast.net)

## Fundraiser for Barbara Butcher

Barbara Butcher, who has been battling cancer, had a stroke earlier this year that left her with limited use of her right arm and leg. Consequently, she will probably need 24-hour assistance going forward.

To help combat this expense, Jerome Nunez of A Few of My Favorite Beads has volunteered to sell the leftover stock from Barbara's former store, The Beading Heart of Santa Fe. **Sales are cash only. All monies will go to Barbara for her medical expenses.**

**You must make an appointment to purchase these beads. Please call Jerome at (505) 974-1645.**

Jerome says he can accommodate appointments 7 days a week, beginning at about 11am, but says that Wednesdays are probably the best days.

**All items are upstairs at Jerome's store (up a spiral staircase).** If you are unable (or unwilling) to climb the stairs, Jerome said he is willing to bring boxes down to you – if you have an idea of what you are looking for.

**Put Fiber Arts Fiesta 2024 on your calendar for April 11-13, 2024!**

**It will be here before you know it!**

## Keep in Your Thoughts

All those who are going through a difficult time, whether that may be due to a death, illness, or the stress of modern living

If you would like to send a card or note of encouragement to any of these members, please address the envelope to them **in care of the Bead Society of New Mexico, P.O. Box 91655, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87199**, and we will ensure that they get your messages.

## Happy Birthday

If your birthday isn't listed here, please let us know at [beadsocietynm@gmail.com](mailto:beadsocietynm@gmail.com) so we can wish you a Happy Birthday!

## Get More Information on the BSNM Website

■ **Classes:** For classes taught by our business members and other non-BSNM-sponsored classes, go to <https://beadsocietyofnewmexico.wildapricot.org/Bead-Time> for dates, times, and descriptions.

To review class details and to register online, log in to the BSNM website with your email and password and go to the event page <https://beadsocietyofnewmexico.wildapricot.org/Meetings-Classes-and-Events>.

■ **Craft Shows and Other Events:** To see upcoming shows that our members are involved in, go to the Members Art Shows listing at <https://beadsocietyofnewmexico.wildapricot.org/Art-Shows>. Also, if you have an art show you are participating in, don't forget to send the information and event link to [beadsocietynm@gmail.com](mailto:beadsocietynm@gmail.com) so we can include your event.



## BSNM Financials Available on Website

The monthly and annual financial reports for the Bead Society of New Mexico are now available in the "Members Only" section of the BSNM website (you must have/create an account on the website to access these documents). Go to [www.beadsocietynm.org](http://www.beadsocietynm.org) and log in to the website (click on "Log In" in the far upper right corner of the homepage; you need to register first if you haven't done so before). Hover over the "Members Only" section on the right end of the categories bar with your mouse and click on "Financials" in the drop-down menu. Then click on the document you want to read. (You may need to temporarily disable your pop-up blocker since the documents may open in a new window or tab).

## 2023 BSNM Calendar

The following is the calendar for BSNM meetings and events for 2023. **Dates and events are subject to change.**

General meeting, 3rd Tues., 6:00pm	Board meeting, 2nd Tues., 11:30am	Classes	Special events
Jan. 17	Jan. 5		Annual gala
Feb. 21	Feb. 13	Confetti Polymer Beads	Annual bead swap
March 21	March 14		Whole Bead Show
April 18	April 11	Basic Bead Embroidery	
May 16	May 9		Cherry Hills Library exhibit
June 20	June 13	Stacked Right Angle Wrap Bracelet	Placitas Flea Market
July – no meeting	July 11	Crystals in Epoxy Clay Pendant	Field trip?
August 15	August 8	Macramé with Leather & Pearls	
Sept. 19	Sept. 12		State Fair
Oct. 17	Oct. 10		Elections
Nov. 14	Nov. 7		
Dec. – no meeting	Dec. 12		

As of February 28, 2023



## New Workshops at Gypsy Raven Studio/Gallery

All workshops will be held at Gypsy Raven Studio/Gallery located at 111 W. Broadway, Mountainair, NM 87036. For multiple day workshops, Pamela Armas will make arrangements with local hotels with special rate discounts for those that need overnight lodging. Lunch and dinner can either be brought by the attendee or B Street Deli has a good menu for take-out.

**To sign up for any of the workshops**, contact Pamela Armas by email at [gypsytreasures@cs.com](mailto:gypsytreasures@cs.com) and she will email you a form to fill out to register for class. Mail form and check made out to Pamela Armas to: Pamela Armas, P.O. Box 748, Mountainair, NM 87036. Phone: 505-847-0963. **Maximum of 10 students per workshop. No cancellation refunds within 72 hours of workshop.**

### "Heart of the Gypsy Book" with Gypsy Pamela

**Thurs. – Sun., July 13-16, 2023**  
**10:00 am – 5:00 pm each day**



This is a four-day workshop. Let's get ready to create this beautiful and exciting 10-inch x 12-inch cloth book about Gypsies. This book includes six signatures that are filled with exotic silks and rayon fabrics, shi sha mirrors, ribbons, trims, appliques, and more from the "Treasures of the Gypsy" collection. One of the signatures will include the "free motion" embroidery technique using bits and pieces of Treasures of the Gypsy fabrics. When you have finished this beautiful book you will feel like the grabbing a tambourine and dancing with the Gypsies!

### "Japanese Etui Fold Book" with Gypsy Pamela

**Sat., August 12, 2023 10:00 am – 5:00 pm**

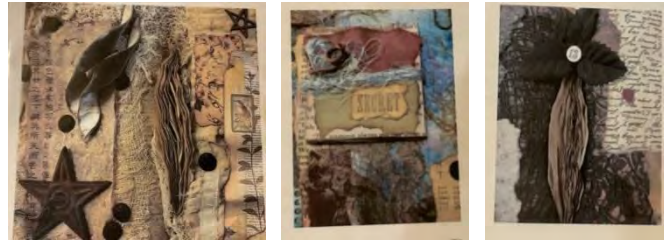


In this one-day workshop you will create a unique 6 ¼-inch x 8-inch (when folded) book cover. The book cover is a four way open fold painted canvas. The cover holds 2 signatures (16 pages each) bound with the coptic stitch. There is room for more signatures to be added to this book if you wish.

One-day workshop cost: \$100 plus a \$20 kit fee (kit fee can be paid at the workshop). Workshop fee of \$100 is due July 1, 2023 to hold your place. Material list will be sent to you once you register.

### "Altered Book" with Cynthia Leespring

**Sat., August 19, 2023 10:00 am – 5:00 pm**



In this one day workshop you will create an altered book in either a vintage or Grimoire style. A grimoire (pronounced grim-WAHR) is a book of secrets, magical style. Beginning with a recycled book, you will add bits and bobs, scraps and lace, vintage papers, natural objects to create a one-of-a-kind art piece that you can display on the wall or a book stand. Cynthia will have extra packets of each style (vintage and magical) if you would like to try the alternative book at home. All materials will be supplied, but feel free to bring items, images, papers, lace, sticks, seeds – anything you might use to personalize your book.

Cynthia is a Northern New Mexico artist who has created in many media, but she always comes back to fiber and paper. Her art centers on her interests in history, nature, magic, woman, and her favorite muse, the Moon.

One day workshop cost: \$130. \*Please send a deposit of \$50 NOW to hold your place. Balance of workshop fee is due August 1. After you have registered for the workshop an email will be sent with a list of the tools you will need to bring to the workshop.

### "Free Motion Surface Designed Fabric" with Teresa Stoa

**Sat., Sept. 9, 2023 10:00 am – 5:00 pm**



In this one-day workshop Teresa will show you how to create beautiful textured and layered fabric. You will be doing free motion embroidery sewing machine techniques and manipulating layers and cheese cloth to create a textured surface. Once the machine work is finished Teresa will show you her special hand dyeing techniques to add color to our pieces of fabric.

Teresa will bring samples of projects that these pieces of fabric can be used for.

Teresa will supply all the fabrics, cheese cloth and bits and pieces of different fabric and more. She encourages you to bring any fabric you might want to use to combine with her selection.

One day workshop cost: \$130. Workshop deposit of \$50 is due July 15, 2023 to hold your place. Workshop balance is due August 1, 2023. Material list will be sent to you as soon as you register.

### Jewelry Quotes

"Jewelry is like the perfect spice – it always complements what's already there."

– Diane von Furstenberg

"It is our ability to accessorize that separates us from the other animals."

– from the movie *Steel Magnolias*

I never worry about diets. The only carrots that interest me are the number of carats in a diamond.

– Mae West

Among Life's precious jewels,  
Genuine and rare,  
The one that we call friendship  
Has worth beyond compare.

– author unknown

May 23 - July 6  
Artist Reception June 9 5:00 - 6:30

# Born TO BE Wild



Alfonso Schuster-Red Snake



Lori Colt-Cherokee Cowboy



**The Wild Artist**

Lisa Avila	Dinah Dozier	Diane Orchard
Corky Baron	Patricia Earle-Baron	Marcia Rackstraw
Jill Bartel	Genie Gray	Alfonso Schuster
Lori Colt	Tatiana Kilmar	Angela Storch
David & Karen Croxton	Katrin Laska	Pam Troutman
Roberta Delgado	Mark & Lovon Maestas	Notase Vretencar
John DeSpain	Barbara Morrow	Kathryn Weil

Jill Bartel and Pam Troutman have artwork in this show.




**DESERT ROSE TRADING**  
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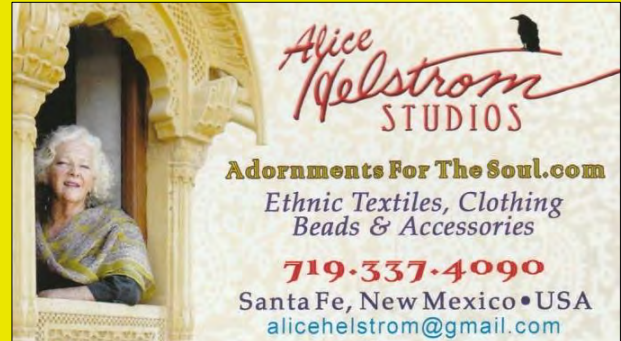
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## Procedure for Submitting Articles for Publication

Producing a quality monthly publication as well as maintaining an up-to-date website and Facebook page is not an easy task. We have three people who work hard to ensure that our members have the most timely and accurate information possible. **But these tasks take lots of time and can't be done properly without the assistance of our members.** Please remember to follow these procedures when submitting information to be shared with the general membership:

- Send all information to [beadsocietynm@gmail.com](mailto:beadsocietynm@gmail.com)
- Please send just one topic per email and be sure to include the topic in the subject line and indicate that the topic is for publication.
- Do not send articles or information as a response to another email; send a new, separate email.
- Be sure that any artwork, etc., you send is copy-ready in a format that can easily be downloaded and copied – preferably as an attachment (JPG, TIF, or PNG, or incorporated into a Word document).
- Please send complete information. The members of the Communications Committee are not mind readers. ☺ Please provide full names of persons, full addresses and contact information, dates and times, etc.
- Information to be included in the Newsletter MUST be received no later than the 20th of the prior month. Information received after that date will be shared via social media and on the BSNM website, and used for **the following month's publication if appropriate.**

## 2023 Board of Directors

The Board of Directors currently meets in person on the second Tuesday of the month.

*Members are welcome to attend.*

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Second Vice President – Programs.....	Pat Verrelle
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Fiber Arts Education Committee Representative .....	Elizabeth (Liz) Reisinger

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