

2025 Summer Classes

NEW THIS QUARTER

Beginning - Intermediate - Advanced Faceting class with Dan Lynch

Dan Lynch will be teaching this quarter after taking a hiatus during his tenure as the President of The United States Faceting Guild. Dan has been faceting for over two decades, initially learning from Will Smith here at MTGMS. Dan will tailor this class based on the students' experience levels. Beginners will work on their first gem from a marble, while intermediate and advanced students are welcome to cut the same or move on to natural materials.

Leather Jewelry with Jamie Zimish Kit fee required

We will be making a bracelet and/or earrings with stamping and cutting tools. You will learn how to design these items using different techniques. You will also learn how to color and stain your pieces.



Love Knot Ring with Michelle McIntyre

This Love Knot ring class will introduce students to beginning Silversmithing. While the picture may lead you to believe that this is a wire wrapping class (no stones set during this class), this is a true Silversmithing class. Students will learn:

1. Basic Silversmithing hand tools and their uses
2. How to cut, file, and solder silver, copper, or brass wire
3. How to put a final polish on your piece

Students will need to bring 10 inches of either 12- or 14-gauge wire of their choice. If students do not bring their own wire, wire will need to be purchased from the Silver classroom and will either be Brass or Copper. No previous experience is required but a willingness to learn and have fun is essential!

The class is a one-day class and will last four hours.

Class time 9:00-1:00



Silver Fold Formed Pendant With Cameron Dean Intermediate students

In this intermediate-level class you will learn the basics of silver fold forming to create a hidden bail pendant using this technique. You will learn how to fabricate a dimensional silver pendant in sculptural form by transforming simple sheet metal into curves, ridges, and folds. Adding to the aesthetic, a cleverly hidden bail will allow the piece to be worn in a way that appears suspended with no visible interruption to your design. From this class, you will add a basic fold forming technique to your skill set, which can then be carried on throughout other projects.

Silver will be available for this single project ONLY.

You will need:

- * 2"x2" (or larger, if preferred) piece of 28ga dead-soft sterling silver sheet
- * 2" of 14ga or 16ga sterling silver round wire
- * Easy or Extra-easy solder

Kit fee if you do not provide your own materials: \$35.00

No kit fee if you provide your own materials



Classes with Special Guest Instructor: Warren Feld

WIRE WEAVE MAYAN PENDANT

Wire weaving is a set of techniques, similar to basket weaving, where you wrap thin WEAVE wires around thicker BASEWIRES to create patterns and textures. You can then use these wire-woven strips to make all kinds of things, such as the framework to turn a cabochon or bead into a pendant, earring dangles, bracelets, bails, and the like.

In this class, we learn about

- materials and tools needed
- preparing the wire before weaving
- practicing by creating a 2-BASE WIRE soumak weave sample called Dressed or Nude
- practicing by creating a 2-BASE WIRE basket weave sample called Simple Basket Weave
- Project: Mayan Pendant: using our wire weaving technique to create a structural component, shaping this to fit it around an elongated teardrop bead, and turning the bead into a pendant
- Discuss metal oxidation techniques



Wire Working Intro/Mix'nMatch Bracelet

In this class, you will learn about wires, tools and several wire-wrapping techniques. With each technique, you will also be constructing components that will be used in making a bracelet. Students will get a start in designing and constructing their bracelet but will need additional time at home to complete the project.

Many students love working with wire to make jewelry. The wire is soft enough to manipulate easily, but strong enough to hold a permanent shape once it has been worked on. Wire can be cut, bent, hammered, twisted, coiled, spiraled, woven, looped into any shape you can imagine. We will be practicing all these techniques.

COMPONENTS AND TECHNIQUES WE WILL BE LEARNING

- (1) Spiral Dangle
- (2) Head Pins
- (3) Simple Loop Drop With Bead(s) and Eye Pin
- (4) Coil Wrapped Drop With Bead(s)
- (5) Spiral Bead Cap Connector Piece
- (6) Simple Figure 8 Bead Link
- (7) Caged Bead Drop
- (8) Coiled Coil Wrapped Bead
- (9) Jump Rings

Then putting it all together into a finished MIX N MATCH bracelet



Wire Wrapped Cabochon Pendant

Nothing beats a hand-crafted, wire-wrapped cabochon pendant! The look is artistic, personal and easy to do. You will kick off the experience by picking your cabochon among many different gemstone cabs brought by the host. In this workshop, we learn how to use wire to create a frame and cage to fit and secure a 30x40mm gemstone cabochon. We continue with these same wires at the top of the piece to fashion a bail. Then we learn a series of tricks and devices for both tightening our constructed cage as well as adding artistic flourishes.



Wire Weave 2 & Sun Pendant

Wire weaving is a set of techniques, similar to basket weaving, where you wrap thin WEAVE wires around thicker BASEWIRES to create patterns and textures. You can then use these wire-woven strips to make all kinds of things, such as the framework and caging to turn a cabochon or bead into a pendant, earring dangles, bracelets, bails, and the like. In this class, we learn about- materials and tools needed- preparing the wire before weaving- practicing by creating a 3-BASE WIRE soumak weave sample- practicing by creating a 4-BASE WIRE soumak weave sample- using wire crochet to create a bezel for securing a cabochon- Project: Sun Pendant: Creating a 7-BASE Wire Woven sun pendant with simple wire bail



Right Angle Weave/ Curvy Raw Bracelet

Bead weaving is using needle and thread to interlink beads, forming some kind of shape with color, volume, pattern and texture. Usually, people bead weave by following some type of stitch pattern, of which there are many.

Right Angle Weave is perhaps the most architecturally significant of all the bead weaving stitches. As such, it allows the most creative variations. However, it is a very loose stitch, and a bit more difficult to control than some of its sister stitches.

The RAW Stitch typically is a circle of 4 beads (a Right Angle Weave Unit) connected to another circle of 4 beads (a second RAW unit), with one bead shared. The thread path follows a “reversing figure 8” pathway. As you add units, you will find yourself going up and around in one direction, then going down and around to add the next couple units, then up and around, and then down and around, and so forth, always following that figure 8. At no point should the thread show within the negative space surrounded by our 4 beads. This is the reason for the more convoluted Figure 8 pathway which underlies the stitch.

TOPICS COVERED: How to...

- select beads, thread and needles
- understand quality issues
- understand measurement issues
- thread a needle
- wax thread- hold your piece to work it
- manage thread tension
- start RAW
- read and follow a pattern
- add a STOP BEAD
- finish off and add thread
- create surface embellishment and edge embellishment
- in general, attach a clasp
- add a button clasp with loop to your piece
- identify architectural basics of RAW stitch



EVEN COUNT, FLAT PEYOTE "JUNGLE FLOWER" BRACELET

Bead weaving is using needle and thread to interlink beads, forming some kind of shape with color, volume, pattern and texture. Usually, people bead weave by following some type of stitch pattern, of which there are many.

Peyote is one of the most popular bead weaving stitches. The first step in the Peyote Stitch is to create a “zipper”, which consists of the first 3 rows of a pattern. We need to get this as tight as we can.

The Peyote Stitch technique has small variations depending on:

- whether you start with an even number of beads (Even Count) or an odd number of beads (Odd Count)
- whether you are working Flat, or Tubular, or Circular

Topics COVERED: How to...

- select beads, thread and needles- understand quality issues
- thread a needle- wax thread- hold your piece to work it- manage thread tension
- start even count, flat peyote
- read and follow a pattern
- count Peyote rows
- add a STOP BEAD
- finish off and add thread
- in general, attach a clasp
- add a bead-slide clasp to your piece
- understand differences in technique between even and odd count, and among flat, tubular and circular peyote
- identify architectural basics of peyote stitch



Continuing Classes

Copper Lab Class with Debbie West & Leah Cothorn (Intermediate - Advanced Students Only)

Perfect opportunity to practice the technique of Copper Fold Forming or Raising a Vessel Etc.

Fold Forming with Debbie West Kit fee required

Fold forming can be used to distort and shape metal into incredible designs.

Last two classes, each student will design their own project or projects using the folds that they like the best. The first two classes will focus on learning and practicing the different folds.

We will be exploring various metal fold forming techniques inspired by Charles Lewton-Brain.

We will be using copper.



Chain Maille Jewelry (Solderless Chain Making) with Rita Heffner

This class is designed for the beginner to learn the basics of making chains with unsoldered jump rings. Students will be shown how to take raw wire to finished jewelry. You will be shown how to select the wire gauge and jump ring size, coil and cut jump rings, weave the chain patterns, polish and complete the jewelry item. Byzantine, Box Chain, Helm Chain and other chain weaves will be taught. It is recommended that you bring your Optivisor or other magnifier to use in class, as these are not provided. The school will provide all other loaner tools. Copper wire will be used for various projects. If you wish to use sterling or other wire you will need to bring it with you



Flame Painting/Embossing with Rita Heffner & Allison Hodde Kit fee required

The art of using the flame from a torch on a piece of copper sheet to bring out vivid colors on the copper. The copper is then sealed to preserve the colors.



Faceting with Dan Lynch this quarter Supplies \$2 and up

Faceting is the art of cutting gemstones to look like diamonds, so that it gathers light and then sends it back to the viewer. You will learn to use a faceting machine. The beginning student will learn the basics and use simple material and design to cut their first stone. During this process you will learn the proper use of the faceting machine, how to read a facet diagram, and various tricks of the trade. These techniques can then be used by the student to cut semi-precious and precious gemstones.



Lapidary with Steve Kanies, Mark Leftwich, Jim Paris, Gary Branscome, Bill Painton, Chrystie Stachura, Gina Simpson, Allison Hodde, John Martin Supplies \$5 and up

Lapidary is the art of cutting and polishing stones. The student will learn how to cut gemstones, using specialty saw and grinders to shape the gemstone into cabochons (cabs) that can be set into commercial jewelry, or can be used in wire wrapping or silversmithing projects. Students will be provided with their first slab (a slice of agate or jasper). Student may bring their own gemstone and instructors will have other slabs and gemstones available for the student to purchase. Day and night

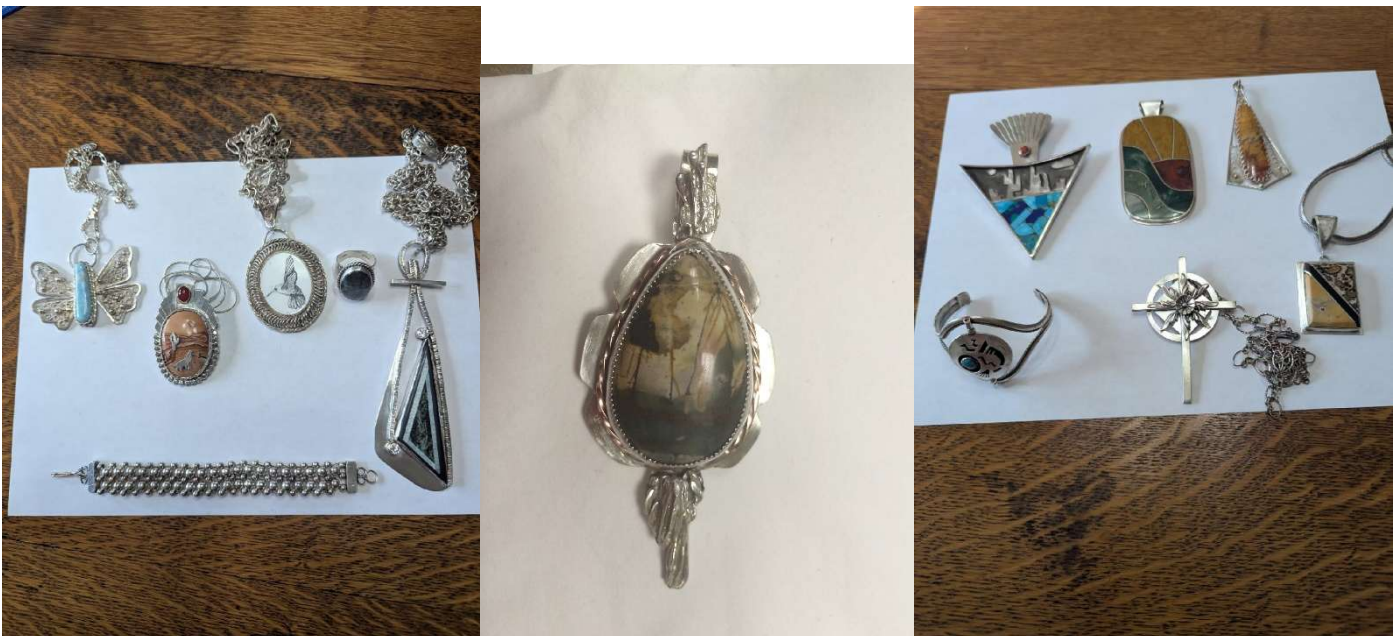
2025 Summer
MTGMS Class Descriptions

classes are 2- 3 hours long, offered each week for the 3 month quarter. You should cut a number of gemstones during the quarter. Your instructor will help you learn what to look for in gemstones and how best to orient them into a beautiful design



Silver Jewelry/Silver Smithing with Eileen Smiley, Jennifer Murray, Melinda Pate, Hugh Bennett Supplies \$50 and up (Depending on the price of silver)

In this class you will learn the art of silversmithing or fabricating silver into beautiful jewelry. Using an acetylene gas torch, you will learn the fine art of soldering, and basic jewelry design. For new silversmiths you will learn the basics which include the proper way to handle a torch, how to use various hand tools and basic jewelry design. For the more advanced or retuning students you will learn new techniques and have the ability to complete your own designs and projects. Instructors will have silver and other materials available for students to purchase. Each instructor will teach his or her methods and designs. As you advance you will be given the option to advance to more challenging projects. You may purchase gemstones and/or silver from the instructor or bring your own, except where the instructor teaches different projects in class



Tiffany Style-Stained Glass Class with Debbie West Supply fee required

This class will teach a copper foil technique that involves wrapping each piece of glass in a copper foil tape, and then soldering them together.

You will learn how to Cut and Shape Glass, Copper Foiling, Soldering, Proper Cleaning, Using a Patina and Waxing.



Be watching your email POP UP Classes. Also be watching us on Facebook, they will be announced there first.