2014 Spring MTGMS Class Descriptions

Lapidary 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 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 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.

Silver Jewelry Advanced Supplies \$50 and up (Depending on the price of silver) Silver Jewelry and/or prior silversmithing experience is required to take this class. Students will learn advanced techniques in silversmithing and jewelry design. Instructors will have silver and other materials available for students to purchase. Some advance classes will be offered where specific design elements are used to learn a specific project like inlay, bracelets, chain, necklaces, bolos, etc. Most of these classes will be offered during a weekend or as a weeklong class.

Silver Fabrication Supplies \$50 and up (Depending on the price of silver) A 12 week long class for the beginning and intermediate silver jewelry student.

Faceting Supplies \$10 and up

Faceting is the art of cutting gem stones 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 gem stones.

Basic Stone Carving Kit fee \$45

Basic stone carving starting with soapstone & alabaster. You will be using rasps, steel wool and sandpaper. You have the option to use a Dremel to carve with. The instructor will contact you before the class. You will be required to wear a dust mask while carving.

2014 Spring MTGMS Class Descriptions

Delft Clay Casting Kit fee \$20 (and up depending on your purchase/use of any silver) Delft Clay Casting is form of sand casting using moldable clay in to which one can easily press a model. It was developed for silver and goldsmiths and is also used in making models. Using this method, it is possible to mould from a model and cast jewelry and other objects in silver, gold and other metals. We'll be starting with brass. Learning Delft Clay casting will give you the ability to duplicate an item in gold, silver, or brass. So, what do you do now with your bits of sheet, wire & accidental pieces? Now, almost anyone doing fabrication can add this casting to their skills. You'll learn what can and cannot be duplicated and why. You'll open new doors to your design creativity for your one-of pieces. This is a new tool in your box to expand your capability and versatility. It's not a tool to mass produce though. You will make finished pieces in sterling silver and brass. Bring small objects to class with you that when cast, you would use in a jewelry piece. Items should be approximately 1 inch or less. Bring more than one as some items cannot be used as model. Buttons make very good starting items.

Chain Maille Jewelry (Solderless Chain Making) Kit Fee \$25

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 the various projects. If you wish to use sterling or other wire you will need to bring it with you or make arrangements to obtain it through the class instructor ahead of time.

Composite Stone Workshop Instructors fee \$10

We will be making Composite or Assembled stones which are two or more pieces of stone that are epoxied together to form one solid piece of materiel which is then cut to the desired shape. Lapidary skills are required to take this class. You must have your own precut slabs (not rough) available for use.

Bead Knotting Kit fee \$25

In this class you will learn several techniques for tying knots between beads and pearls.

Intarsia Kit Fee \$20

This class requires that you have taken and completed a Faceting class prior to taking this class. The word 'intarsia' is derived from the Latin word 'interserere' which means "to insert". Originally a woodworking technique, used to create mosaic picture in wood, this class you will teach you the techniques required to complete an intarsia (mosaic) stone cab. Using a facet machine to cut angles on stone pieces, you will then piece together like a puzzle to create an intricate pattern of colors and shapes.

Intermediate Wire Work Kit Fee \$75

In this 6 week class you will be learning to wrap cabochons with both round and square wire, if you have cabochons from a lapidary class you have taken, bring them and we will wrap them. We will also be learning how to handcraft various chains from round wire and we will also be making a couple bracelets using different techniques.

2014 Spring MTGMS Class Descriptions

Tree of Life Kit Fee \$50

In this 4 hour workshop you will learn how to make beautiful Tree of Life pendants out of copper wire and seed beads. You will make one with a frame around it and another that would be considered to have free standing look to it.

Etched Copper Bracelet Kit Fee \$75

In this 4 hour workshop you will make a etched copper 1 ½" wide or a 2" wide cuff copper bracelet. You will learn two techniques for achieving the design etched into the copper. Please dress for a mess this day as we will using a solution to do the etching and it will stain if you get it on your clothes.

Forming/Die Cutting Kit Fee \$25

You will be using a 20 ton Hydraulic Press to quickly create 3-dimensional shapes from a flat piece of metal. Using a press can save you hours of labor creating a unique line of jewelry that look as if it were made by hand, one-at-a-time. You will use some premade silhouette dies and learn how to make your own dies out of Plexiglas. You need to have experience using a jewelers saw, shears, filing and polishing/tumbling.