2014 Summer 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 or Silver Fabrication 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.

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.

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.

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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.

Tree of Life Kit Fee \$60

In this 6 hour workshop you will learn how to make beautiful Tree of Life pendants out of copper wire, cabochons and seed beads. You will make several different types of pendants, some will be framed, and some will not. You will start with the basics and then work your way to more complicated styles.

Etched Copper Bracelet Kit Fee \$65

Etching is the process of using a strong acid to cut into the unprotected parts of a metal surface to create a design in a metal.

In this 8 hour workshop you will make three copper bracelets. You will learn two techniques for achieving the design etched into the copper. The final bracelet will be a combination of the two techniques. After making the bracelets, you will learn different coloring & finishing techniques. Please dress for a mess this day as we will use 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 jeweler's saw, shears, filing and polishing/tumbling.

Woven Wire Work Kit Fee \$65

In this six week class we will learn multiple wire weaving patterns and techniques. There will be small projects to learn the techniques and then a large project at the end to combine all techniques into one project.

Silver Mini Torch & Simple Designs Supplies \$25 and up (Depending on the price of silver)

Want to do silversmithing at home, but don't have torch setup? Then this class is for you. The new mini torches are ideal for any craftsman who want to do soldering in their home, but don't have a traditional jeweler's setup. They are portable and affordable and can be used to do most anywhere. This workshop will teach you the basics needed to do silversmithing in your kitchen.

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Cutting Opal & Stones that Flash Supplies \$10 and up

What's the difference between a \$100 opal and a \$10 opal? One extra swipe on the grinding machine. Opals and stones that flash require special handling went cutting them; one extra cut can either increase the value or dramatically decrease the value. In this class you will learn how to orient the stone and polish the stone to get the most "fire" or "flash". If you have a stone that has flash, bring it to class to learn the proper way to cut it.

Silver Open Back Method Supplies \$25 and up (Depending on the price of silver) In this class you will learn how to make open back bezels for you cabochons. Open back bezel save you money by using less silver and show off more of the stone.

Silver Facet Stone Designs Supplies \$25 and up (Depending on the price of silver) Do you have some faceted stones that you would like to add to your jewelry? Not sure how to create a design to show them off in the most dramatic way? In this class, you design and how to set those stones in the jewelry to make the most of them.

Viking Knit & Chaos Wrap Pendant Kit Fee \$ \$65

In this class you learn how to do Viking Knit chain, using copper wire. This technique for making metal chain jewelry dates back to at least the ninth century. In this class you will learn to do the knit, how to finish the ends, and how to make a clasp to complete your necklace. Then you will make a beautiful Chaos Wrap pendant to complete your necklace.