2015 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 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.

Faceting Workshop Supplies \$10 and up

If you have had at least one faceting class then you are able to take this workshop. This is an all day (7 hour) chance for you to facet stones with others. The purpose of this workshop is to give you a concentrated time period to work on the stone and cut of your choice and have faceting instructors there to give you advice.

Faceting Natural Rough or Competition Cutting (Advanced Faceting) Supplies \$5 and up.

This is a faceters choice class for those who have completed on their own a minimum of 3 stones. You may elect to facet using natural rough which requires a lot more time and things to learn before you start faceting, or you may elect to cut the United States Faceters Guild 2015 Novice, Pre-master or Master Single Stone

contest. http://www.usfacetersguild.org/events.shtml

Instructor can provide the material if needed.

2015 Spring MTGMS Class Descriptions

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.

Introduction to Jewelry Making

The goal of this class is to introduce the students to the design and fabrication of jewelry, as well as the primary tools and how they are used. This class will include discussions on the thought processes of designing and fabricating jewelry, various methods that can be utilized, and the steps to complete the design. This will include the various types of hand tools (pliers, hammers, cutting tools, etc.), torch usage, soldering techniques (including types of solder joints, types of solder, etc.), pickling, various methods of polishing (buffing machine, Dremel-type tools, flex-shaft tools, etc.), While this class will do some fabrication, the emphasis will be on the thought process of designing jewelry and the proper usage of the tools involved.

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.

Quarter Ring Workshops Bring your own quarter

In this workshop you will learn to use a torch, hammers and steel ring mandrel to make a ring out of a quarter. Any quarter will work, even the new quarters, to learn the techniques. If you have an older silver quarter, you can practice on a new quarter then make a silver one. You should be able to make several rings in the class.

2015 Spring MTGMS Class Descriptions

Forging

In this Workshop you will learn how to shape Wire using Hammers & bench Blocks. You will learn how to flatten Wire then turn the Wire into Bracelets, Rings, Pendants & other Jewelry items. You will be learning how to make circles, squares, ovals, diamonds ect. Tools you will be using: Hammers, Bench Blocks, Files, Saws, Dremels

Advanced Forging

In this Workshop you will be learning advanced skills beyond basic Forging such as bending & folding Forged wires, Forging 1, 2 or more wires at the same time & how to make settings for Cabs.

Tools you will be using: Hammers, Bench Blocks, Files, Saws, Dremels

Tree of Life pendant 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.**

Simple Wire Wraps for Cabochons Kit Fee \$60

Students will learn how to do simple wraps on Cabochons they have created in lapidary class. I will supply all the wire and teach you how to wrap your cabochons, and you supply the cabochons.

Standing 3-D Tree of Life 3" to 6" tall Kit Fee \$65

In this two day workshop you will make a beautiful 3-D tree of Life in a design of your choice, ie.... Bonsai, oak, or whatever tree you can think of. You will be using copper wire, a rock base to mount your tree on, and use assorted beads and chip bead to embellish the tree.

Silver Inlay Bracelet

This class requires that you have taken and completed both a Lapidary and Silversmithing class prior to taking this class. This advanced class combines both Lapidary and Silversmithing skills to produce incredible jewelry items.