

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEAD SOCIETY

LEARN | SHARE | CREATE | ENJOY

VOL 2023, ISSUE 6

PROGRAMS SCHEDULE

JUL 8: General Meeting/Bead-In

JUL 9: WORKSHOP –
Conversation Stick

AUG 5: General Meeting/Raffle
Update and TBD

AUG 11 - 13: WORKSHOPS -
Kinga Bledsoe

SEP 9: General Meeting and TBD

OCT 7: General Meeting and
Rocky Mountain Jewelry Arts
Raffle

OCT 21: Trunk Show

NOV 4: General Meeting and
TBD

DEC 2: Holiday Celebration!

All meetings are held at (unless
announced otherwise):

**Lowry Conference Center
Room 200B
1061 Akron Way
Denver, 80230**

**NOTE: THERE IS NO MEETING ON SATURDAY,
JULY 1. OUR NEXT MEETING IS JULY 8,
FROM 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.**

JULY MEETING (7/8) – GENERAL MEETING AND BEAD-IN

Our July meeting will be a general meeting and bead-in for members. We didn't have a chance to see what projects you've finished over the last two months, so be sure to bring them to the meeting. This is also an opportunity for members to work on and complete more of those UFOs, PhDs and USOs for the 2023 Challenge. And if you are having problems with a project, someone at the meeting may be able to help you! Samples for the Conversation Stick workshop on July 9 will be on display as well as samples for the Kinga Bledsoe workshops in August.

JODY YOUNG'S CONVERSATION STICK WORKSHOP (7/9)

Following our July 8th meeting, we will have a full day workshop, **Jody Young's Conversation Stick**, on Sunday, July 9, taught by our own Rita Caldwell (with permission). You won't want to miss this workshop – registration is open through July 8th! Select a unique piece of Indonesian petrified wood to decorate using netting and other bead weaving stitches. You will also use beads from your personal stash so your finished piece will be original and unique to you! More information and photos about this workshop and supplies you need to bring can be found in the Workshops section. Rita will also have some bead kits, ranging from \$10-\$50, for those who want to buy an assortment of beads to use for embellishment. Members can also purchase just the petrified wood stick for \$50 even if not taking the class. Extra petrified wood sticks will be available at the July 8th meeting and can only be paid for with cash.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

If you enjoy being a member of the RMBS, **please remember the RMBS can't be what it is without your help. We need members to volunteer with the following:**

- **Raffle Committee** – The Raffle Committee is still looking for volunteers for this year's event. Without all positions filled soon, the raffle will be unable to take place this year. If you're interested or would like to learn more about the different positions, please reach out to Katlin Nolte at rockymountainjewelryartraf@gmail.com. The following positions are urgently needed:



- **URGENT - NEEDS TO BE FILLED ASAP! Raffle Coordinator Shadow:** This will be Katlin's last year coordinating the raffle. The person who takes this role would be interested in taking the lead in 2024. They will be cc'd on all correspondence that the Raffle Coordinator is on. They will help with leading the team as appropriate. Learn the ins and outs from the Raffle Coordinator. **Without a Raffle Coordinator Shadow, this could be the last year for the Raffle!**
- **Sponsor Liaisons:** You will work directly with the sponsors! You should be comfortable with email. This position sends an initial round of emails to sponsors. Helps answer questions and provides details on sending 'prizes'. After the raffle, they will assist with sending thank you notes.
- **Electronic Prize Lead:** You should be comfortable with PowerPoint like applications and Google Drive. Or excited to learn about these tools! They will manage electronic prizes. Creates images for Electronic prizes for the websites as well as the electronic gift cards to be sent to winners after the raffle.
- **Post Raffle Prize (Electronic):** This volunteer should be comfortable with emails. They will be provided a list of winners and associated electronic prizes. They will email all of the electronic prizes to winners.
- **MailerLite Manager:** Most of this work can be done early and scheduled to be sent out. Will need to be comfortable with emails. You will modify existing templates to be sent out before and during the raffle. At the end of the raffle, you'll upload the email addresses from the participants and put them in MailerLite. You will be guided through this process.
- **Trunk Show** – If you enjoyed last year's Trunk Show, we are looking for volunteers to help Pat Lucero in planning the event, including coordinating vendors, setting up for the event, etc. Without assistance, we may not have a Trunk Show! Presently, the Trunk Show is being planned for the end of October. If you have an interest in helping Pat, please see her at the next meeting or email trunkshow@rockybeads.org.
- **Hospitality at Monthly Meetings** – Jody Charmatz has volunteered to coordinate treats and drinks for our monthly meetings. If you would like to sign up to bring something at a specific meeting, please see Jody at our next meeting. You may also contact Jody at hospitality@rockybeads.org.

DID YOU KNOW:

Beading is not just a creative hobby - it also offers therapeutic benefits including, among others:

- **Stress Relief:** Engaging in beading can serve as a form of stress relief. The repetitive and rhythmic motion of threading beads, focusing on the task at hand, can help calm the mind and reduce anxiety. It can provide a sense of relaxation and serve as a mindful activity.
- **Mindfulness and Meditation:** Beading can be a meditative practice that promotes mindfulness. When you focus on the intricate details of beading, such as selecting beads, threading them, and creating patterns, you enter a state of flow, where you become fully immersed in the present moment. This can help quiet the mind and provide a sense of inner peace.
- **Creative Expression:** Beading allows for creative self-expression. When you engage in beadwork, you have the freedom to design and create unique pieces of jewelry or artwork. This creative process can be empowering and boost self-esteem. It provides an outlet for expressing emotions, thoughts, and ideas visually.
- **Cognitive Stimulation:** Beading requires concentration, problem-solving, and hand-eye coordination. Choosing bead colors, planning designs, and executing patterns all stimulate the brain. This cognitive engagement can enhance mental sharpness, memory, and overall brain function.
- **Sense of Accomplishment:** Completing a beading project can provide a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction. Seeing the final product, whether it's a bracelet, necklace, or decorative item, can boost self-confidence and provide a tangible representation of your skills and creativity.
- **Social Connection:** Beading can be a social activity that fosters connections with others. Joining beading groups, participating in workshops or classes, or sharing your creations online can create opportunities for social interaction, sharing ideas, and learning from others who share your interest in beading. This sense of community and connection can contribute to overall well-being.

SILENT AUCTIONS

Starting with the July meeting, we will be having a silent auction of a large donation of beads RMBS received from a friend of a former member. We will auction off boxes of beads at each meeting. A minimum bid will be set for each box. Boxes include crystals, pearls, glass beads and a few fun treasures. Most are sorted by color. So bring your money! Photos are an example of what the boxes are like. We'll be doing this until all the boxes have new homes.



GALLERY AT THE LOWRY CONFERENCE CENTER

We will be making some changes to how we run the members' showcase at Lowry that we will be announcing soon. In the meantime, please be sure to contact Helen Littlejohn if you make a sale or need to retrieve a piece so she can coordinate with our Lowry contact and maintain accountability for all pieces in the showcase. Helen's contact information is helenwittlejohn@gmail.com or (303) 907- 4589. If you haven't already, please take some time to view the wonderful work in the showcase. New work is also welcome, especially your work completed in our ongoing UFO challenge.

Tax Accountant Needed

Do you know anyone who prepares taxes for non-profit organizations? Our tax accountant is retiring and we are in need of someone to prepare our tax return in future years (the 2022 tax return has been filed). If you know of someone, please reach out to Clare Pramuk or Patricia Murray.

KING SOOPERS COMMUNITY REWARDS

RMBS receives donations quarterly through the King Soopers Community Rewards program based upon amounts spent at King Soopers by registered participants – you don't have to do anything other than sign up! If you haven't signed up, instructions are here: <https://rockybeads.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/FREE-MONEY-FOR-RMBS-1.pdf>.

HOW TO CONTACT 2023 BOARD MEMBERS, OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OTHER

| NAME | POSITION | EMAIL |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Clare Pramuk | President/Board Member | president@rockybeads.org |
| Tracy D'Angelo Knight | Vice President/Board Member | vicepresident@rockybeads.org |
| Patricia Murray | Treasurer/Board Member | treasurer@rockybeads.org |
| Kathleen Sloan | Secretary/Board Member | secretary@rockybeads.org |
| Bertha Adamson | Webmaster | webmaster@rockybeads.org |
| Tracy D'Angelo Knight | Programs Chair | programs@rockybeads.org |
| Katlin Nolte | Raffle Chair | raffle@rockybeads.org |
| Pat Lucero | Trunk Show Chair | trunkshow@rockybeads.org |
| Beverly Nelson and Pat Cwynar | Social Media Coordinators | social@rockybeads.org |
| Helen Littlejohn | Showcase Coordinator | showcase@rockybeads.org |
| JoAnn Patterson Lavelly | Scholarship Coordinator | scholarships@rockybeads.org |
| Pat Lucero | Door Prize Coordinator | doorprizes@rockybeads.org |
| Jody Charmatz | Hospitality Coordinator | hospitality@rockybeads.org |
| Sandy Brock | Newsletter Editor | newsletter@rockybeads.org |
| Membership Issues | | membership@rockybeads.org |

WORKSHOPS

(to register, please go to www.rockybeads.org)

Sunday, July 9

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Rita Caldwell

(with permission of Jody Young)

Registration is open through July 8, 2023!

Jody Young's Conversation Stick

Jody Young has graciously given permission for Rita Caldwell to teach her Conversation Stick to our members. As Jody explains, this is a very special workshop that goes beyond beading. You will receive a one-of-a-kind kit including the piece of petrified wood that speaks to you. You will learn techniques of a strong netted bead foundation that you will then embellish with free-form layering style of Raised Texture beading and design. Beading experience is helpful.

SUPPLIES students need to bring:

Pick out the theme for your stick (focal) and gather lots of other shapes, sizes and colors to embellish!

- 2-3 tubes (30grams) of 11/0 seed beads to complement your theme
 - 1 main color for background netting to wrap the stick
 - 2 accent colors (1 will be used as drop bead in netting stitch; 1 to coordinate for embellishment)
- Main focal piece with hole (one-hole glass leaves used in samples in photo):
 - Your favorite cabochon or dimensional piece you want to feature. Examples could be a large seashell, large lampwork bead with bail, polymer or porcelain focal with hole, large metal charm or filigree piece, etc.
 - This should have a hole to attach to netting or can be backed by foundation to attach or a "flat spot" that can be glued to anchor.
- Variety of accent beads: stones, crystals, natural shells, one-hole or two-hole beads of any material or shape, small chains, small charms....anything! Supplies you love that you've been anxious to find a spot for can be worked into the design.
- Beading thread and size 10-12 beading needles, beading mat, scissors, magnification and light if needed.

Rita will also have some bead kits, ranging from \$10-\$50, for those who want to buy an assortment of beads for embellishment. Members can also purchase a petrified wood stick for \$50 cash even if not taking the class. Extra petrified wood sticks will be available at the July 8 meeting.

Member Class and Kit Fee: \$175

Non-Member Class and Kit Fee: \$210

Kit Fee includes Indonesian petrified wooden "stick" and project instructions.

Registration is required. Maximum number of students: 15.

Registration is open! You don't want to miss this class!



Conversation Stick

A conversation stick derives from the traditional talking stick belonging to the Native American culture. Artist Jody Young has creatively honored this tradition, by embellishing with both beads and beauty, pieces of ancient petrified teakwood dating back to approximately 20 million years old. When one holds the conversation stick, one beholds the power of speech within the conversation. The individual can then share concerns or ideas, all while being respectfully listened to by the others. Petrified wood possesses many positive properties. It gives the sensation that all will be well, calms one's fears, offers timeless energy, and promotes concentration while one finds balance. Adorned with crystals, stones, and other facets, a piece of art takes shape that truly becomes a conversation piece within itself, bringing about conversation for all to embrace. www.BEADARTWORTH.com



.....

Friday, August 11
Evening – 6:00-9:30 p.m.
Instructor: Kinga Bledsoe

Shell Games Earrings



Create a beautiful, playful and fun set of earrings. The center of the earring features a beautiful rectangular shell bead cut to display a spiral. Above it, there is a vintage iridescent cabochon, embellished with tulip petal beads in silver. Below the shell hangs a tiny shell charm in the shape of a turtle. Azure blue cup chain adds glitz to the composition. These earrings play especially well with my South Seas' Treasure bracelet being offered on Saturday, August 12. The earrings and the bracelet would make a lovely set.

Member Class Fee: \$40
Non-Member Class Fee: \$50
Kit Fee: \$75

Registration is required and space will be limited.

Registration for members is open!

Registration for non-members will open July 9, 2023.

.....

Saturday, August 12
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Instructor: Kinga Bledsoe

South Seas' Treasure Bracelet

During this class you will create a simple, elegant and three dimensional bracelet. The base of our bracelet is a flat leather cord crafted in Europe. The closure is a magnetic clasp that is safe, secure and stylish.

Each bracelet kit comes with a larimar cabochon and a set of Ethiopian opal chips. Since these are natural stones, each kit is unique. Most of the larimars are teardrop shapes, but there are quite a few rectangles, ovals and irregular shapes in my stash too. The iridescent glass round focal is a Galaxy Cab by Melody Cross. Its color changing quality brings the best out of the opals and larimar. The three dimensional flower is crafted from Italian leather. Clustered together with the other focals and beautiful freshwater pearls, this flower really makes this simple little bracelet into a beautiful design.



Skill Level: Intermediate beadweavers/bead embroiderers. This is not a beginner project. If you can peyote bezel a focal, you are welcome to attend.

Member Class Fee: \$70
Non-Member Class Fee: \$100
Kit Fee: \$125

Registration is required and space will be limited.

Registration for members is open.

Registration for non-members will open July 9, 2023.

.....

Sunday, August 13

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Kinga Bledsoe

Lotus Prey Necklace



Lotus Prey is a full day class. The necklace comes together from three separately embroidered parts that feature a delicate dead thing, lots of crystals, and 3D lotus flowers made out of shiny orchid- pinky-purple lambskin. The delicate dead thing is a tiny resin kitty skull (not real, it's resin!) with a ram's horns for which Kinga will offer a gorgeous substitute for those of you who do not like dead things but want to take this class nevertheless (the substitute will be one of Rachel Hungary's paint skin cabs specifically made for this project).

Member Class Fee: \$70

Non-Member Class Fee: \$100

Kit Fee: \$145 with ram skull focal;

\$129 with Rachel's paint skin focal

Registration is required and space will be limited.

Registration for members is open.

Registration for non-members will open July 9, 2023.

Kinga Bledsoe (Nichols) was born in 1980, in Hungary. At 19, she packed up her life in a backpack and moved to the US where she has been residing since, albeit not at the same place. She currently lives in Boulder, Colorado with her husband Jamie, and furbabies Agent Nancy Mayhem and Marley. Many of Kinga's earliest pieces were popularized by the Queen Mother, Samantha Regina, Kinga's beloved boxer who has crossed the rainbow bridge since, but her memory lives on in every beaded underbite on all bead embroidered fishies and critters she inspired.

One way or another Kinga has been always making things, which started turning into a career when she was painting murals at the time she lived in New York. The murals were fun, but she did not feel like painting was her calling. Eventually she picked up a Bead & Button magazine in 2007, found a bead embroidery project, and slowly but surely the obsession took over.

After that first project, she started creating her own designs and quickly found her own distinctive voice that allowed her to translate her imaginings into beadwork. Kinga is always brainstorming, and her imagination provides an endless supply of fanciful ideas that she translates into bead embroidery.

Her work first got noticed in the first Battle of the Beadsmith, quickly followed by her being a BeadDreams finalist in 2013 and getting 3rd place in the same competition in the Swarovski category in 2014, and a book feature in Marcia Decoster Presents, 2014. In 2015, she won first place in the crystal category in BeadDreams. She has done a number of instructional bead embroidery videos for Interweave Publishing in 2016 and 2017, and has been featured in magazines in the US and Europe.

In 2013 she started teaching and she hopes to continue this as her chosen profession for a long time to come, not only passing on beady knowledge, but perhaps her unique way of looking at the world as a magical place filled with endless possibilities.