

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEAD SOCIETY

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VOL 2025, ISSUE 2

2025 PROGRAMS SCHEDULE

MAR 1 – Raffle Preview; Bead In
MAR 22 – Polymer Clay Sig –
Guest Speaker: Syndee Holt
MAR 29 – Raffle Opens for Ticket
Purchases
APR 4 – Raffle Closes for Ticket
Purchases at 10:00 a.m.
APR 5 – Rocky Mountain Jewelry
Arts Raffle, Bead In
APR 26 – Polymer Clay SIG
MAY 3 – 2025 Challenge 1 –
SpringTime - Voting, Melody
MacDuffee Presentation, Bead In ,
MAY 3 – Afternoon: Melody
MacDuffee Workshop
MAY 4 – Melody MacDuffee
Workshops
JUN 7 & 8 – Sampler
JUL 12 – De-Stash
AUG 2 – 2025 Challenge 2, Bead In
AUG 9-10 - Zoom Workshops with
Shona Bevan
SEP 6 – TBD
OCT 4 – TBD
OCT 18 – RMBS Trunk Show
NOV 1 – 2025 Challenge 3, Bead In
DEC 6 – Holiday Luncheon

OUR NEXT MEETING IS
SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2025
9:00 A.M.-NOON

MARCH MEETING (3/1)

You don't want to miss the meeting on Saturday, March 1, at the Lowry Conference Center starting at 9:00 a.m. We will be previewing all of the items that will be available in the Rocky Mountain Jewelry Arts Raffle. The Raffle goes live the last week of March where members and the public will be able to purchase tickets for the prizes they hope to win. The drawing for Raffle prizes will take place live at our meeting on April 5. The prizes cover a wide range of mediums for crafting and artistry, as well as a few finished pieces; everyone should be able to find something of interest.

We will be having another big destash similar to the meeting in February – but bigger - so come for some great bargains.

Following the preview, we will have a bead in with an opportunity for members to work on their unique personalized name tags if they haven't been finished or on those gosh darn UFOs. And don't forget the mini Spring challenge! Have you started on this challenge piece that needs to be finished by the May meeting? Please also bring any finished UFOs or other completed projects for display at the meeting.

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED – URGENT -
NEEDS TO BE FILLED ASAP!**

Trunk Show - The trunk show needs a new leader. Pat Lucero has done a great job arranging the trunk show for the past three years and is ready to step aside. She is willing to help someone get started. The job requires someone to contact, sign up, and coordinate with vendors and work with Lowry to have the right setups for everyone. They are the point of contact on the day of the event and are there for setup and tear down.



APRIL MEETING (4/5) – ROCKY MOUNTAIN JEWELRY ARTS RAFFLE



The Rocky Mountain Jewelry Arts Raffle will be held live during the meeting on Saturday, April 5. Join in the fun as the wheel spins and winners are selected for each of the prizes. Anyone present who wins a Raffle prize will be able to take their prize home with them! It will be fun and exciting and there may even be favors for members in attendance. And, if for some reason you won't be able to attend in person, you might want to designate someone who will be there to collect your prize so that it doesn't have to be shipped. Let's make this a party!

SAMPLER – 6/7 AND 6/8

The Sampler will be held June 7 and 8 and the call for instructors will open March 15. The Sampler is a popular event where members teach members a project or technique. If you would like to teach a project or technique, put on your thinking cap, pull together information and watch for the call for instructors to open so you can submit your application at that time! We are planning to have four sessions, 9:00 a.m.-noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday, with four to five classes during each session, depending on number of instructor applications submitted. You may teach a design, technique or pattern of another artist with the express permission of that artist. Instructors receive a stipend and may collect a kit fee from students. We are asking instructors to limit the price for the kits to a maximum of \$30 where possible. Your kit may be priced higher but please remember that this could limit members willing to sign up for your class as it could also limit their ability to take another class and pay for that kit as well. Applications can be submitted through April 15, after which instructors will be notified if their class has been accepted.

Registration will open for members to sign up for Sampler classes on May 1 and close on May 15, to allow instructors time to prepare student kits by the Sampler. All instructors and students are required to be current members of the RMBS.

2025 PROGRAMS SCHEDULE

Tracy Knight has been finalizing workshops with Melody MacDuffee (May 3 and 4) and Shona Bevan (August 9 and 10 by Zoom). Tracy will have more information about the projects for Melody's workshops at the March meeting. Please also see the Workshops page at the end of this newsletter. Melody, a bead and wire artist, will be giving a presentation regarding her artistry and Soul of Somanya, a charitable organization co-founded in tandem by Melody and Arkuh Bernard Tettey of Somanya-Krobo, Ghana. Soul

of Somanya works to provide living-wage employment in the field of handcrafting for young adults whose prospects in life are otherwise very grim. Jobs are scarce in Somanya, especially for young people with little education and no skills. Many are forced to migrate into the cities looking for work. There, with heartbreaking frequency, they end up living nightmare lives on the streets, victims of sexual exploitation and other kinds of violence. Their children often end up abandoned or orphaned. When you buy a product from Soul of Somanya, you provide a market for the goods that these talented young people create. This, in turn, allows the young artists to keep working at a steady living wage. Melody will also bring her trunk show.

For the Shona Bevan workshops, these will be held by Zoom in a hybrid format. Shona is a London-based bead designer. Members can either Zoom from home or we will gather live and Zoom as a group at the Lowry Conference Center. More information for Shona's workshops will be available soon.

Members will need to register to attend the workshops by Melody MacDuffee and Shona Bevans. Registration information regarding workshop projects, fees and any materials that members need to supply and other information will be provided in advance of the workshops when available.

If you are in the Denver metro area and not yet a member of the RMBS, please visit us at one of our monthly meetings and see what everyone is working on during our in-person meetings. Your first visit is free! Membership is \$32 per year after that. We look forward to meeting you!

And don't forget about our mini-challenges. Our first challenge – SpringTime – will be held at the May 3rd meeting. Members need to make a piece that screams Spring. The piece can be made using any medium – bead weaving, bead embroidery, polymer clay, metalsmithing, wire work, etc. – and can be a piece of jewelry, an object, wall hanging, your choice! Completed pieces will be displayed and judged at our May meeting.

We are still looking for events for the September and October meetings. If you have any suggestions for workshops you might like to attend, playdates, etc., please contact Tracy Knight at programs@rockybeads.org or see her at one of our meetings. Also let Tracy know if you can teach any workshops or projects or conduct any playdates. We need members to help by volunteering!

POLYMER CLAY SIG

The second Zoom meeting of the Polymer Clay Special Interest Group (SIG) was held on Saturday, February 22. The SIG will continue to meet as usual via Zoom on the 4th Saturday of the month and members of the RMBS are welcome to attend. If you would like to participate in these Zoom meetings held the fourth Saturday of every month, please reach out to Bertha Adamson at mhpcg@rockybeads.org to be added to the email list for notices and other information about the Zoom meetings. The next Zoom meeting will be held on Saturday, March 22, and will feature guest speaker Syndee Holt.

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 2025 BOARD MEMBERS, OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OTHER

If you need to reach out to a board member, officer or committee chair with any questions or additional information, please go to our website: www.rockybeads.org. You will need to login to your account and then click on “About Us” and “Board Members” for email contacts.

WORKSHOPS

Saturday, May 3

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Melody MacDuffee

Good Luck Dolls & Sidekicks



For wild women (persons?) only, this is Melody’s favorite class to teach. Lots of giggling happens in this class as you learn to make “good ju-ju” dolls that hold infinite possibilities for colors...and coiffures. Then go on to create a fanciful animal sidekick: a horse, zebra, giraffe, sheep, dog—or some whole newspecies of animal!

Skill Level: Beginner

Melody will have kits available but members can use their own seed beads for this class.

Member Class Fee: \$TBD

Non-Member Class Fee: \$TBD

Kit Fee: \$TBD

Registration is required and space is limited.



Sunday, May 4

9:00 a.m. – Noon

Instructor: Melody MacDuffee

Colorful Swoop Earrings

Completely unique! Choose a rainbow of colors and add them to a simple frame to create a one-of-a-kind pair of earrings. Large, small . . . customize them to fit your own style!

Skill Level: Adventurous Beginner

Melody will have kits available but members can use their own seed beads for this class.

Member Class Fee: \$TBD

Non-Member Class Fee: \$TBD

Kit Fee: \$TBD

Registration is required and space is limited.



Sunday, May 4
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Instructor: Melody MacDuffee

New and Easier Lacy Wire Bezel



Make a one-of-a-kind pendant while learning a unique technique for capturing a stone with delicate wire lace.

Skill Level: Adventurous Intermediate

Melody will have kits available but members can use their own cabochons for this class.

Member Class Fee: \$TBD

Non-Member Class Fee: \$TBD

Kit Fee: \$TBD

Registration is required and space is limited.



**Registration for these Workshops will open on April 1, 2025
and close April 18, 2025**

**Melody will also give a presentation during the meeting
on May 3, 2025 and have a Trunk Show.**