

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEAD SOCIETY

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VOL 2025, ISSUE 3

2025 PROGRAMS SCHEDULE

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 p.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, APRIL 5, 2025
9:00 A.M.-NOON

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

It's here!! The Rocky Mountain Jewelry Arts Raffle will open for ticket purchases on Saturday, March 29th. This is your chance to win jewelry making supplies from your favorite vendors with 67



different prizes across multiple mediums. You will have until 10:00 p.m. on Friday, April 4, to purchase tickets for the prizes you hope to win. **Please share with all your friends, family, on social media, etc. so we can reach as many people as possible! Please also LIKE and SHARE raffle posts on Facebook and Instagram whenever you see them.**

This is a "bucket" raffle, which means you only purchase tickets for the prizes you are interested in winning. The more tickets you buy for an individual prize, the larger the discount per ticket. Whether or not you win any prizes, if you buy at least one ticket you will receive an email after the drawing that includes coupon codes from many of our wonderful sponsors.

The drawing for prize winners will be held live during the meeting starting at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 5. Join in the fun as the wheel spins and winners are selected for each of the prizes. **You do NOT have to be present at the drawing to win.** However, 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 will even be favors and one grand door prize 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 raffle prize so that it doesn't have to be shipped. It's going to be a party!

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With all the activity for the Raffle, we are asking members to not bring any UFOs or show and tell pieces for display.

POLYMER CLAY SIG

The Polymer Clay Special Interest Group (SIG) will be holding its next Zoom meeting on Saturday, March 22nd from 10:00 a.m. until noon and will feature guest speaker Syndee Holt. Syndee's presentations will include:

- **2025 Colors and Trends:** Take a quick peak at what colors and trends we will see this year – both jewelry and some home décor.
- **Got Scrap?:** Everyone generates (polymer) scrap, right? Well, scrap is one of my most favorite things on my clay table! Let me show you some cool tricks to turn your scrap to treasure! (For newbies to polymer clay, one of the great things about PC is there is little waste from cutoffs, rejects etc. Tips on reusing scraps are useful for beginning to advanced clayers.)

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.

MAY MEETING (5/3) – 2025 CHALLENGE 1–SPRINGTIME - VOTING, MELODY MACDUFFEE PRESENTATION

Bring your completed piece for our first mini-challenge – SpringTime. All pieces will be displayed at the meeting for members to vote on their favorite piece. The piece receiving the most votes will win a special prize!

We will also have a presentation at the meeting by Melody MacDuffee with her first workshop on Saturday afternoon following the meeting. Members must be registered to take one of Melody's workshops. See the Workshops section for more information on the workshops. Melody will also bring her trunk show for members to shop from.

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

Trunk Show – We are still seeking a new leader for the trunk show. 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. If we don't find a new leader soon, the Trunk Show could disappear.



SAMPLER – 6/7 AND 6/8 (AND POSSIBLY, FRIDAY 6/6)

The Sampler will be held June 7 and 8 and the call for instructors opened on March 15th. 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 submit your application! Instructor applications will be accepted through April 18th. Instructors whose applications are accepted will be notified by April 25th.

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. Instructors 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.

We are also considering including Friday sessions this year depending on the interest and availability of instructors and whether members would be able to participate in classes on Friday.

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). More information about these upcoming workshops can be found in the Workshops section of the newsletter. Melody, a bead and wire artist, will be giving a presentation at our May meeting 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. We will have samples of Melody's workshop offerings at the April meeting.

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!

For the Shona Bevan workshops, these will be held by Zoom in a hybrid format. Shona is a London-based bead designer and will be teaching through Zoom. Members will have the option to join as a group and Zoom at the Lowry Conference Center or can Zoom from home. Shona will be teaching two full-day workshops on August 9 and 10. More information on Shona's workshop offerings are included in the Workshops section.

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.

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. Have you figured out your entry yet? 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 with the winner being the piece that receives the most votes for members' favorite.

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!

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: \$35

Kit Fee: Included with Class Fee

Registration is required and space is limited to 16 students.



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: \$40

Kit Fee: Included with Class Fee

Registration is required and space is limited to 10 students.



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: \$40

Kit Fee: Included with Class Fee

Registration is required and space is limited to 10 students.



Registration for these Workshops will open on April 5, 2025
and close April 18, 2025.

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

Saturday, August 9

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Shona Bevan

Serpentine Pendant



Elegant and sophisticated, the Serpentine motif creates a dramatically twisted jewellery set. Featuring large, lustrous pearls wrapped in a carefully curved frame this is a satisfying project to stretch your CRAW skills.

When suspended from a slim necklace this striking design makes the perfect classic pendant to wear anytime. Made with smaller beads, the scaled-down version makes stunning earrings that twist delightfully while you wear them.

This project is suitable for intermediate/advanced level beaders who have very strong CRAW skills.

Skill Level: Intermediate to advanced.

Prerequisites: Students should be very familiar CRAW.

Kits are mandatory and will be purchased from Shona closer to the class date.

Member Class Fee: \$60

Non-Member Class Fee: \$90

Kit Fee: \$55 (Mandatory)

Registration is required and space is limited to 16 students.

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**Sunday, August 10
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Instructor: Shona Bevan

Bonbon Necklace

Almost sweet enough to eat, the Bonbon necklace is fun to make and easy to wear. Two sizes of lightweight cotton pearls are captured with sleek right angle weave (RAW) bezels and linked together with peyote stitched rings to make a relaxed long necklace.

This project is suitable for all levels of beader who have experience of RAW and peyote stitch.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Kits are mandatory and will be ordered from Shona closer to the class date.

Member Class Fee: \$60

Non-Member Class Fee: \$90

Kit Fee: \$65

Registration is required and space is limited to 20 students.



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**Registration for these Workshops will open on June 7, 2025
and close June 21, 2025.**

**Both workshops will be held through Zoom -- you can choose to Zoom from home or
hang with others at the Lowry Conference Center.**