



VOL 2025, ISSUE 4

### 2025 PROGRAMS SCHEDULE

APR 26 – Polymer Clay SIG  
MAY 2 – Afternoon: Melody MacDuffee Workshop  
MAY 3 – 2025 Challenge 1 – SpringTime - Voting, Melody MacDuffee Presentation, Bead In,  
MAY 3 – Afternoon: Melody MacDuffee Workshop  
MAY 4 – Melody MacDuffee Workshops  
MAY 24 – Polymer Clay SIG  
JUN 6, 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, MAY 3, 2025**  
**9:00 A.M.-NOON**

### **MAY MEETING (5/3) – 2025 CHALLENGE 1– SPRINGTIME - VOTING, MELODY MACDUFFEE PRESENTATION AND TRUNK SHOW**

It's our first mini-challenge – SpringTime! Please bring your completed piece in a paper bag, box, something so that no one else will be able to see your piece until they are displayed for members to vote on their favorite piece. Please turn your pieces in to Tracy Knight prior to the start of the meeting. The piece receiving the most votes will win a special prize!

Melody MacDuffee, a bead and wire artist, will be making 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. She'll have lots of beads, stones and cabs for use in her classes and other projects! Lots of other accessories also.**

Due to the popularity of her workshops, Melody will be teaching her first workshop, the Bezeled Cab Chandelier Earrings, on Friday afternoon from 1:00-4:00 p.m. This workshop will also be taught on Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m.-Noon.

Following Melody's presentation, Melody's workshop on Saturday afternoon will be Good Luck Dolls & Sidekicks and Sunday afternoon will be her Southwest No Loom Earrings or Bracelet. See the Workshops section for more information on these workshops.

**We ask that members not bring any pieces for the UFO Challenge or Show and Tell due to the activities planned for this meeting.**

## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN JEWELRY ARTS RAFFLE**

Congratulations to all who helped make this year's Raffle a success!! A big thank you to Diane Kremer, Debra Edell and their team for their efforts in gathering donations, assembling the information for the website, taking photos, packaging, . . . and to everyone who purchased tickets. It was a success with the Raffle raising in excess of \$6,000 for the RMBS! If you would like to see a list of the prize winners, the list can be found here : <https://rockybeads.org/2025-rmja-raffle-results/>. Let's show our appreciation by visiting the websites and shops of our generous donors —and maybe treating yourself to a trinket or two!:



### **Art Resin**

**Aves Studio**

**Beadorea**

**Bead Origami**

**The Bead Parlor**

**Beads And Needs**

**Beads Gone Wild**

**The Beadsmith**

**Beadwork Dreams Raven**

**Best Craft Organizer**

**The Blue Bottle Tree**

**Bright Star Gemstones**

**Caravan Beads**

**CraftCast**

**Create Along**

**Crimson Frog**

**Desert Gems**

### **Dorabeth Designs**

**Foredom**

**The Freckled Pear**

**Funky Pretty Beads**

**Glass Garden Beads**

**Heart & Hand Designs**

**Heidi Kummli Designs**

**Holly Bean Designs**

**Interweave**

**Jessie Rae Studio**

**Julie Haymaker's Shrinkets**

**Just Let Me Bead**

**Kmack Studios**

**Metal Clays**

**MGS Designs**

**Nirvana Beads**

**Orca Gems**

### **Ornamental Beads**

**Otto Frei**

**ParaWire**

**Peacock Bead Shop**

**Pepe Tools**

**Perfectly Twisted Jewelry**

**Potomac Beads**

**Prairie Craft Company**

**Rachel's Paint Skins**

**Red Panda Beads**

**Rio Grande**

**Sculpey**

**Silver Sparrow Beads**

**Skyline Beads**

**SoftFlex Company**

**Tejas Beads**

**Vintaj**

**Xuron Corp**

## **POLYMER CLAY SIG**



The Polymer Clay Special Interest Group (SIG) will be holding its next Zoom meeting on Saturday, April 26th from 10:00 a.m. until noon and will feature guest speaker Phyllis Cahill. Phyllis will be doing a demo on painting with liquid polymer clay. Phyllis is a well respected artist in the international polymer clay community and is an active member of the Pikes Peak Polymer Clay Guild in Colorado Springs. Phyllis makes all of her jewelry by hand using sheets of sterling silver or copper, wire, raw polymer and small gemstones. More information about Phyllis Cahill can be found her website: <https://phylliscahilldesign.com/>. **PLEASE NOTE THIS MEETING WILL NOT BE RECORDED SO IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE PRESENTATION, YOU WILL NEED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ZOOM MEETING.**

If you would like to participate in this or future Zoom meetings held the fourth Saturday of every month, please reach out to Bertha Adamson at [mhpcg@rockybeads.org](mailto:mhpcg@rockybeads.org) to be added to the email list for notices and other information about the Zoom meetings.

## **SAMPLER – 6/6, 6/7 AND 6/8**

**The Sampler will be held June 6, 7 and 8.** The Sampler is a popular event where members teach members a project or technique. We are planning to have six sessions, 9:00 a.m.-noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with up to four classes during each session.

More information regarding the classes, dates and times will be provided to members prior to the meeting on Saturday, May 3 as well as at the May meeting. 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.

## **DE-STASH – JULY 12**

The De-Stash returns on Saturday, July 12. This is an opportunity for members to go through their stash and select those crafting and art supplies that they may no longer be able to use and find someone who can. Tables are limited and the cost per table is \$15. Registration for tables will be open from June 9 through July 10. From June 9 through June 20, members will be able to register for one table only on a first come, first serve basis. After June 20, if any tables remain, members who have already registered for one table can register for additional tables. More information will be available at the May 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!**

## **2025 PROGRAMS SCHEDULE**

Our first workshops for 2025 will be May 2-4 with Melody MacDuffee. Shona Bevan will be teaching workshops by Zoom on August 9 and 10. More information about these upcoming workshops can be found in the Workshops section of the newsletter.

The workshops with Shona Bevan 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.

Members have to register to participate in workshops. Registration has closed for Melody's classes and registration for Shona's classes will open in June following the Sampler.

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](mailto: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](http://www.rockybeads.org). You will need to login to your account and then click on “About Us” and “Board Members” for email contacts.

## ADDITIONAL CLASSES WITH MELODY MACDUFFEE

If you would like to take more or other classes with Melody MacDuffee, she will be teaching classes at White Rabbit Beads, 2421 W. Colorado Avenue, Colorado Springs, May 15<sup>th</sup> through May 18<sup>th</sup>. Please contact White Rabbit Beads at (719) 635-0035 for more information.

**White Rabbit Beads**  
**Wire Week**  
**May 15th-18th**

**Featuring Guest Teacher:**  
**Melody MacDuffee**

 <b>May.15th</b> 10-noon Or 5-7pm \$40	 <b>May.18th</b> 10am-1pm Or 5-8pm \$50
 <b>May.16th</b> 10-noon \$40	 <b>May.17th</b> 10-noon \$45
 <b>May.16th</b> 5-7pm \$40	 <b>May.17th</b> 5-8pm \$50

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## WORKSHOPS

Friday, May 2  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Instructor: Melody MacDuffee**

### Bezeled Cab Chandelier Earrings

Start with a simple bezeling technique around a stone or cabochon and learn how to embellish it with lavish bands of color for an elegant and unique effect.

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 has closed for this class.



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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 has closed for this class.

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Sunday, May 4  
9:00 a.m. – Noon

**Instructor: Melody MacDuffee**

## Bezeled Cab Chandelier Earrings



Start with a simple bezeling technique around a stone or cabochon and learn how to embellish it with lavish bands of color for an elegant and unique effect.

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 has closed for this class.

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Sunday, May 4  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Instructor: Melody MacDuffee**

## Southwestern “NO LOOM” Earrings (or opt to make a longer bracelet!)

These earrings were inspired by the amazing beadwork of various southwestern Native American tribes. No loom required!

Skill Level: Adventurous Beginner

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 has closed for this class.

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Registration for the Melody MacDuffee Workshops has closed.

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



**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.



**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.**

