

Window Bead with Louise Mehaffey

For experienced bead makers. Learn how to make beads with interesting patterns inside and then grind and polish 'windows' making the insides visible. No lapidary experience required.

The first day will be preparation of beads at the torch. If you have glass bead-making tools and glass, please feel free to bring them, especially if you have your own suitable eye protection, which should be didymium glasses or stronger. We will also be using enamels, frits and fine silver wire. No equipment is necessary. We will supply whatever tools and supplies you will need.

As always for bead-making, wear clothing made of cotton or another non-melting fabric and closed-toe shoes. If you have long hair you must be able to tie it back. Leather aprons or other substantial aprons are great, but they are not necessary.

The second day will involve lapidary techniques to open the windows on the beads. No equipment or experience is necessary. Bring a full-length fabric or vinyl work apron if you have one, otherwise we will supply you with a plastic apron. If you have safety glasses, please bring them; we will supply safety glasses when you need them if you don't have a pair. Bring a loupe or magnifying glass, if you already own one.