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Create Jewelry Crystals: Dazzling Designs to Make and Wear

by **Marlene Blessing and Jamie Hogsett**, editors of *Beadwork* magazine

Crystals are a shining favorite among jewelry designers, bead artists, and anyone who appreciates the beauty of these radiant gems. In **CREATE JEWELRY CRYSTALS: DAZZLING DESIGNS TO MAKE AND WEAR** (Interweave Press, September 2007, \$22.95), *Beadwork* magazine editor in chief Marlene Blessing and designer Jamie Hogsett share 20 gorgeous designs incorporating crystals of every size, shape, and color.

These glamorous, fashionable projects represent a rich variety of ways to use crystals and range in difficulty from easy stringing pieces to more challenging seed bead weaving designs. Divided into three main sections, **CREATE JEWELRY CRYSTALS** covers “The Classics,” including traditional strung pearl jewelry, “Special Occasions” featuring striking pieces for a night out on the town, and “Fashion Forward” showcasing unique combinations of materials for simply beautiful jewelry. Gorgeous photographs are accompanied by step-by-step instructions that are easy to follow.

Projects include:

- **Royal Tapestry:** A seed bead and crystal bracelet of many textures and colors that are brick-stitched together, causing it to drape like fabric around the wrist.
- **Nouveau Riche:** Brass findings reminiscent of the Art Nouveau movement, paired with the opalescent crystals in this necklace, are sure to make this a sought-after piece by the rich and famous.
- **A Rani’s Paisley:** This colorful embroidered brooch sparkles with crystal sew-on stones and seed beads stitched to a felt backing.
- **Glittery Lariat:** Three colors of crystals are mixed together and used at random in this sparkling right-angle-weave lariat. Glass cubes at the back of the neck keep the crystal bicones from being uncomfortable.
- **Ring of Fire:** Sharp points of bicone crystals and spiky fringe explode from a metal screen base, making this one hot cocktail ring.
- **Mystic Crystal:** This rock crystal is simply strung with Thai silver beads and finished with an eye-catching toggle clasp.

Accompanying the projects are chapters on how crystals are formed, popular crystal shapes, and crystal beads, colors, and effects. Readers will also enjoy interesting crystal trivia, tidbits, and photos found throughout the book. For most beaders, crystals are a top choice, no matter what their design style or skill level. They're going to love **CREATE JEWELRY CRYSTALS** not only for the unique projects, but also to discover the many faces of crystals and the beads and findings that complement them.

**CREATE JEWELRY CRYSTALS:
DAZZLING DESIGNS TO MAKE AND WEAR
by Marlene Blessing and Jamie Hogsett**
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About the authors:

Marlene Blessing has worked as an editorial director in western book publishing for two decades. Marlene is the editorial director for *Beadwork*, *Stringing*, and *Step by Step Beads* magazines. She lives in Longmont, Colorado.

Jamie Hogsett is the former editor of *Stringing* magazine and the special projects editor of *Beadwork* magazine and the author of *Stringing Style*. Jamie has taught beading classes in Colorado, Washington, Oregon, and California. She lives in Kansas City, Kansas.

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Linda Ligon founded the company in the 1970s when she began publishing *Handwoven* and *Spin-Off* magazines. Since then, the company has grown to employ more than 100 people throughout the country, with corporate headquarters located in Loveland, Colo. For more information on Interweave Press, please visit www.interweave.com or call (970) 669-7672.