

Creative Expressions

Are you a saver of scraps? A hoarder of remnants? A believer in bits? I am. And it probably all began with having a mother who was both frugal and creative. She could tease a great casserole out of meal leftovers, make a spiffy new outfit for me out of one of her old dresses, and jury-rig solutions to any of our home's small disasters. She was the original remix queen. This issue, we showcase a variety of beading techniques, inspirations, and "beautiful bits" in our Mixing It Up feature. In it, the editors have created five very different beading projects that we hope will inspire you to make something that's just your style. Think of this as an exercise in bead collage!

For those of you who crave new tips on where to find your beading inspirations and how to translate them into projects, dive into artist Laura McCabe's world in this issue's Master Class. In addition to describing her bead muses, Laura presents a stunning new project—a passionflower pendant—that rivals any bloom found in the natural world.

Many of us are hungry to learn and perfect new beading stitches and techniques. Lucky for all of us, we have excellent classes in our local bead stores, at bead shows and retreats, and online (not to mention a gaggle of books and magazines with projects). When we venture out as bead artists who sell and/or teach our projects, copyright law isn't the only guide we need to behave ethically. Bead artist and teacher Mary Tafoya explores the murky territory of Who Owns the Stitches and shares her observations about what constitutes "Ethics in Beadland."



PHOTO BY TODD NAKASHIMA

Whether you want to innovate, follow the pattern of an exceptional project, or learn the best way to honor our teachers, this issue will feed your creativity.

Happy beading,

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BEADWORK

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What's Cookin' in the *Beadwork* Office?

- **A Fond Farewell:** This issue features lampworker Ginny Sycuro's final Glass Doctor department! Whether you have made the beautiful glass beads she creates for every issue or not, we know she has helped you gain a better appreciation of the artistry and technique each lampworked bead requires. Thank you, Ginny, for all the beauty you've given us! We look forward to special features from her in the future.
- **Join Us in the Great Northwest:** Bead Expo Portland is coming up soon—March 27–30, 2008, at the Oregon Convention Center. Don't miss your chance to take classes with some of the country's best bead instructors. And, of course, bead shopping in an arts-conscious town like Portland should be incredible. Register now at beadexpo.com!
- **We Love Wireworking:** *Easy Wire*, our exciting new publication, introduces readers to more than 40 original pieces of wireworked jewelry that require only minimal tools and little to no experience. Find this on newsstands only, beginning October 9!
- **Online Only:** Our calendar of events and classes is now exclusively online at beadworkmagazine.com.