

## The Next Best Thing

I used to soak in the fun when my mom and her friends would have their monthly sewing circle. They always kept their hands busy with needle and thread, but I think their mouths were in the lead. So many stories, so little time! And isn't any good book club all about the detours—telling your friends about the way the lead



TODD NAKASHIMA

character in the novel reminded you of your first love, or that the setting was just the way you remember Tuscany, or how the sheer suspense of it pushed you to eat a whole package of malted milk balls?

It's fun to talk about beading, whether you're raving about a great new bead artist, telling how you puzzled through some tough instructions, describing the breakthrough day when you finally felt the joy of beadweaving, or discussing the best way to sell your work. The *Bead-ing Daily* forum that launched recently has given me the chance to hear your stories as you tell them ([beadingdaily.com/forums](http://beadingdaily.com/forums)). And there is no shortage of topics and viewpoints. A couple of beaders mentioned how much they like the hand-drawn look of our project illustrations. Those continue to this day, thanks to the talents of former staff editor Dustin ("Bead Boy") Wedekind. This issue, Dustin is our featured Master Class artist (see page 24). You won't want to miss both his story and his wonderful square-stitch project.

And from the United Kingdom, frequent contributor Lynn Davy—and someone whose posts you'll find on the *Bead-ing Daily* forums—is the artist behind The Big Apple project on our cover. Guess what? She got some great creative feedback on developing her design from beaders on a forum. A good place to wrap this up is to point you to the best thing: That would be beading. We hope this issue's projects will inspire you to try stitches you haven't, bead a project that has your creative touch, or tell us what you're still looking for but haven't found in the way of beadwork that feeds your spirit!

Happy beading (and posting!),

[beadwork@interweave.com](mailto:beadwork@interweave.com)

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

### MELINDA ROCKS

We're proud to announce the publication of an exciting new book, *Custom Cool Jewelry*, written by Melinda Barta, our managing editor for *Beadwork* and *Stringing*. You'll find a delicious taste of one of her 200+ projects in our excerpt on page 68 (Cabochon Craze).

### AMERICA VOTES

*Bead Star* is on newsstands December 23! This is our first-ever contest-based magazine, filled with projects readers voted for on [beadingdaily.com](http://beadingdaily.com). See the prizes, check out the winning designs, and make plans to enter in 2009!

**SANTA FE TRAIL:** We're back in Santa Fe with BeadFest Santa Fe, March 12–15, 2009.

Don't miss the chance to immerse yourself in beautiful beads and fabulous classes, all in the legendary arts community of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Go to [beadfest.com](http://beadfest.com) for details.

# BEADWORK

## EDITORIAL

EDITOR IN CHIEF Marlene Blessing

MANAGING EDITOR Melinda Barta

EDITOR Danielle Fox

ASSISTANT EDITOR Elizabeth Murray

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR Dustin Wedekind

TECHNICAL EDITOR Jean Campbell

EDITORIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Debbie Blair

COPY EDITOR Liz McGehee

EDITOR, [beadingdaily.com](http://beadingdaily.com) Michelle Mach

## PUBLISHING

DIVISION PUBLISHER FOR BEAD, GEM & JEWELRY David Pyle

ADVERTISING MEDIA SALES DIRECTOR FOR

BEAD, GEM & JEWELRY DIVISION Marilyn C. Koponen

ADVERTISING MANAGERS Karen H. Nuckols, Kate Wiggins

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING Kelli Garcia

AD TRAFFICKERS Becky Asmussen, Teresa Warren

MARKETING MANAGER Leigh Trotter

CIRCULATION MANAGER Barbara Naslund

WEB BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER Tricia Gdowik

## ART AND PRODUCTION

DESIGN Sarah Chesnutt

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Trish Faubion

PRODUCTION Mark Dobroth

PRODUCTION EDITOR Nancy Arndt

TECHNICAL ILLUSTRATION Dustin Wedekind

PHOTOGRAPHY/PHOTO STYLING Joe Coca, Ann Swanson

Designs in this issue of *Beadwork* are for inspiration and personal use only. *Beadwork* does not recommend, approve, or endorse any of the advertisers, products, services, or views advertised in *Beadwork*. Nor does *Beadwork* evaluate the advertisers' claims in any way. You should, therefore, use your own judgment in evaluating the advertisers, products, services, and views advertised in *Beadwork*. Exact reproduction for commercial purposes is contrary to the spirit of good craftsmanship.

For advertising information, call Marilyn C. Koponen at (877) 613-4613, e-mail [marilynkc@interweave.com](mailto:marilynkc@interweave.com).

For sales information, call (800) 272-2193, e-mail [sales@interweave.com](mailto:sales@interweave.com). Visit the Interweave website at [interweave.com](http://interweave.com).

For editorial inquiries, call (970) 669-7672, e-mail [beadwork@interweave.com](mailto:beadwork@interweave.com).

*Beadwork* (ISSN 1528-5634) is published bimonthly by Interweave Press LLC, 201 E. Fourth St., Loveland, CO 80537-5655. (970) 669-7672. USPS #018-351. Periodicals postage paid at Loveland, CO 80538, and additional mailing offices. All contents of this issue of *Beadwork* are copyrighted by Interweave Press LLC, 2008. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part is prohibited, except by permission of the publisher. Subscription rate is \$29.95/one year in the U.S., \$34.95/one year (U.S. funds) in Canada and \$39.95 (U.S. funds) in other countries (surface delivery). Printed in the U.S.A. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to *Beadwork*, PO Box 469105, Escondido, CA 92046-9107.