

bead buzz *Michelle Mach*

We want to hear from you! Email beadwork@interweave.com with beading tips, pictures of your work, questions, and information on what your local bead guilds and groups are up to. Check our website, beadworkmagazine.com, for corrections, announcements, and free projects. Plus, chat with other beaders in our forums at beadingdaily.com.



I created these cute earrings inspired by the Fire Flower bracelet by Carole Ohi (April/May 2010, page 44). Basically, I made the component and then did two loops of size 15° seed beads off of each size 11° in the center circle. I used two colors of 15°s for color contrast. I also added a teardrop at the bottom of each earring so that it would hang better. Thanks for the opportunity to be in *Beadwork*!

KELLY DALE / FOREST CITY, NORTH CAROLINA

W.O.R.D. (what our readers did)



A few years ago, I stumbled upon ornament covers during a routine Google search. These sparkling beauties drew me right in. I had to make one, then two—I was hooked. After making many ornaments from other people's designs, I found pearls, all different sizes, at my local dollar store. Within three weeks, I had my first four designs. I love to make long, frothy fringes, each fuller than the last. I hang the ornaments in my windows. It makes me smile to see them sparkle and dance when they catch a bit of sunlight. If you would like to see more of my work, visit www.cathylikes.tocraft.etsy.com.

CATHY MCCREA / LINDSAY, ONTARIO, CANADA



I love my Wrap Rings, as they are adjustable and can be worn on any finger. (I personally love wearing them on my pointer finger.) I wanted to make a very rich color combination, so I used this green jade teardrop, Swarovski Caribbean blue opal and topaz crystals, and green and turquoise charlottes and

seed beads. You can see more of my work at www.fariasiddiqui.com.

FARIA SIDDIQUI / SPARTA, NEW JERSEY

HELPING HANDS

Guatemalan women with baskets of items donated by the Bead Society of New Mexico.

Photo credit: Angelo Vassos



At their annual holiday fundraiser last year, the Bead Society of New Mexico raised nearly \$1,000 in cash, seed beads, and beading books for a women's co-op in Guatemala. The twenty women in the Tzutujiles co-op sell their handmade beaded jewelry and animal figures to help cover basic household expenses and send their children to school. Richard Martin and Sandi Escalle, who help sell the

women's work, note, "We are quite sure it is the first time anyone has cared enough to develop a fund-raising program to help them directly. You can imagine what it does for their self-esteem." Bead-society board member Linda Davis adds, "We urge other guilds to make a difference for our fellow beaders in Guatemala." To see photos of the women's beadwork and learn more, visit www.sellin.com/gcfr.

It was a pleasure to receive my very first issue of *Beadwork*. I fell in love with Elspeth's Collar by Nancy Peterson (June/July 2011, page 42) and decided to make it for my sister Hutoksy. I used size 11° gold-lined crystal seed beads, champagne 4mm fire-polished beads, and tanzanite 6mm fire-polished beads. The instructions and diagrams were excellent. After making the collar, I designed some matching earrings. My sister loved them.



YASMIN DEBOO / LONDON, ENGLAND