

# Polymer & Beading Guild

## *what is it?*

Members of the Polymer & Beading Guild come from many different backgrounds but all share a strong interest in the arts. We enjoy learning and practicing our skills in polymer clay and beadwork. Guild meetings provide an opportunity twice a month to work together on a project, try out a new technique or plan a field trip. We look forward to show-and-tell at meetings, where we show off our newest creations, get advice from fellow members and enjoy seeing a new book or magazine that a member has brought in.



**Polymer clay** is a man-made material used as an artistic medium. It can be manipulated to take on many shapes and can be mixed to create an almost infinite range of custom colors. It is often used for strong but lightweight jewelry and sculptural pieces. One of the exciting things about polymer clay is the versatility of the material and the nearly endless techniques to investigate.

**Beadwork** created by Guild members uses a variety of stitches, such as Peyote, Herringbone, Right Angle Weave or Spiral Rope, to create jewelry with beads and crystals of many different sizes and shapes. Beaded work may also use beads that are hand-felted or lampwork glass beads produced by our talented artists. The end result is often a fusion of multiple materials to produce unique jewelry or other works.



## *what's in it for you?*

- Exhibit your work and offer it for sale in the spacious Parsons Gallery during the Guild's Annual Exhibition and other invitational exhibits, as well as in other locations.
- Sell your work in the summer Artisans Market and the December Holiday Marketplace\* as well as in the Back Door Gallery.
- Automatically receive membership in NARM, North American Reciprocal Museums, which offers benefits such as free admission and member discounts at museum shops at over 600 museums in the U.S., over 30 in Massachusetts.\*\*
- Receive discounts on classes and workshops.
- Receive discounts at quality retailers.
- Increase exposure of your art through the LACS website and social media.
- Participate in Lexington Open Studios at LACS.
- Receive Society and Guild newsletters with updated information on our programs, shows and events.‡
- Access Guild and Society libraries and resources.‡
- Be invited, along with a guest, to attend the popular Holiday Marketplace Preview Party and advance sale.
- Make lasting friendships with other artists who share your enthusiasm and desire to explore a variety of techniques and materials.

\*Dependent upon submitting work for sale in the Fall Fair fundraiser.  
\*\*NARM benefit with full-year, non-discounted Society membership,  
‡Not all Guilds have newsletter and library.

## *what would your part be?*

- Volunteer for tasks within the Guild.
- Contribute your talents to the operation of the organization, for example, chair or serve on a committee, help with clerical tasks, plan and stage events, and staff the gallery during shows.
- Help out with the Holiday Marketplace.
- Participate with work for sale or make a cash contribution to support the Fall Fair, our primary fundraiser.
- Meet annual Society membership dues.

## *what to do next?*

To apply for membership in the Polymer & Beading Guild and LACS:

- First, contact us to arrange to attend one or two of our Guild meetings.

Later...

- Request an application packet from the LACS Office.
- Complete and submit the application form.
- Attend a brief orientation session.
- Pay Society and Guild membership dues.

For more information contact:

LACS Office Manager Sandy Blanchet  
781-862-9696

[lacs.lexington@verizon.net](mailto:lacs.lexington@verizon.net)

or email the guild at [PolymerClayGuild@LACSMa.org](mailto:PolymerClayGuild@LACSMa.org)

