Course Title: Jewelry Making with Bronze: Link Bracelet, Pendant and Bronze Charms

Instructor: Paula Beckett

Ms. Beckett studied art at Broward Community College in Davie Florida. After moving to Texas, she spent the next few years taking several beading classes and wire wrapping classes at local bead stores. During 2004 and 2005, Ms. Beckett took traditional metal fabrication classes with master metal fabrication artist Sue Gordon at Brookhaven Junior College. During this learning period she fell in love with metal clay. She gained her certification to teach metal clay by Senior Metal Clay Artist Sallie Bly in June of 2006. In 2010 Paula received her Certification as an Artisan working with PMC by Rio Grande. In August 2012 Paula earned her Senior Certification in Art Clay Silver with Master Jeweler Lorrene Davis. As of February 2013 Paula is a Certified Mokume-Gane instructor having received that certification by Master Jeweler Lorrene Davis and awarded the certificate by Master Mokume-Gane Jewelers in Japan.

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Course Description:
This class is an introduction to working with bronze metal clay. Students will make a beautiful link bracelet, pendant and charms out of bronze clay. Firing bronze clay can be a bit finicky so students will learn the correct way to fire bronze clay to be sure their jewelry is strong and durable.

Hours: 12

Course Prerequisite(s): None

Outcomes:
1. Learn how to fire bronze clay to ensure very strong and fully sintered jewelry
2. Fabricate a beautiful link bracelet, elegant necklace and original charms.
3. Learn to successfully attach findings to the bronze pieces.
4. Fine finishing for a professional looking jewelry will be taught.
Lesson Plan
Session 1:  Firing techniques discussion and bracelet fabrication
Students will learn how to fire bronze with relation to heat, kiln and firing pan type. The link bracelet will be designed and we will start to make the links.

Session 2:  Finish link bracelet, start the pendant and make molds, findings needed to complete each piece will be determined
We will finish the link bracelet and fire it if time permits. Students will be told what findings they need to be able to finish their bracelet, pendant and charms. Students will design, cut out, and fabricate pendant. Molds will be made to be used next week to make charms.

Session 3:  Finish pendant and make charms, fire as time permits
Students will fine finish pendant, make charms out of the molds made last week. All pieces must be finished this week. I will take the pieces home to fire them.

Session 4:  Finish, polish, tumble all pieces
Students will learn to finish each piece, polish them and add findings to complete the bracelet, necklace and charms.