

The Expressive Metalsmith - Jewelry from Inspiration to Manifestation

All art begins with inspiration. Why are you inspired? How we navigate the process of creativity is crucial to owning your authentic personal expression. Equally important, is knowing how to use technical skills as a means of visual language that clearly conveys what you want to express. And it means knowing who you are and what you want for your art so you can be confident in your self expression and the way you show up as an artist.

The relationship between emotional expression, compositional facility, and technical skill will be emphasized in this five-day in person jewelry retreat which includes short lectures, personalized demos, individual and group discussion, lots of class studio time, and review and critique for each participant and as a group at the end of the workshop. You will be encouraged to design and create a personally unique piece of jewelry.

What you will Learn How to access your creativity and develop skills that will form the foundation of your artistic practice. Each student will receive personal guidance through design, materials, fabrication techniques to help them fine tune a personal style. Demos will be specifically designed to fit the needs of each student's design.

Day 1 Design lecture and exercises - We will look at basic design principles and how they apply to jewelry. Students will do short exercises to cement principles. Guidance on how to access your creativity. Each student will then use these principles to begin to design their piece. We will take a look at each student's work and discuss each person's needs and share personal stories.

Day 2-5 We will work through the design and fabrication of each student's individual piece. Personal guidance, demos and discussion.

Each day we will gather to discuss the day's work and share our thoughts.

Fabrication instruction and demos will include selection of material, character of the stones, stone setting approaches, metal shaping techniques (shell-forming, reticulation, fold forming, hollow forms and more), texture techniques, soldering approaches, lapidary, finishing, patination and bench tips.

Basic soldering skills required. Students have Fabrication I skill level but this is not required.

Material List - Required

1. Sketchbook - ring bound - White **unlined** paper only - [Link](#)
2. Mechanical pencil - [Link](#)
3. Black fine point drawing pen - [Link](#)
4. Eraser - [Link](#)
5. Ruler - Metal - [Otto Frei Jeweler's ruler](#)
6. Black permanent marker - [Milwaukee INKZALL](#) - Home Depot or Sharpie.
7. Bring an assortment of cabochons and gemstones you would like to work with.

Metals material list: *You can acquire these materials wherever you wish.*

1 pc - 24g sterling silver sheet - 4"x 6" - *you can bring more if you wish, this is minimum.*
12 -18" - 26g x 1/8" sterling silver bezel
1 pc 10g round sterling silver wire - 6"
10" - 16g half round sterling silver wire.

1 x 6" silver wire solder - hard ([Monsterslayer](#)) item #AG-SDW-75 -
1 x 6" silver wire solder - medium([Monsterslayer](#)) item # AG-SDW-70 -
1 x 6" silver wire solder - easy ([Monsterslayer](#)) item # AG-SDW-65
1 x 3" silver sheet solder -hard 75 ([Monsterslayer](#)) Item #AG-SDS-75 **REQUIRED**
1x3" silver sheet solder - med 70 ([Monsterslayer](#)) Item #AG-SDS-70 **REQUIRED**
1x3" silver sheet solder - easy 65 ([Monsterslayer](#)) Item #AG-SDS-65 **REQUIRED**

BASIC HAND TOOLS

1 x round nose pliers Durston ([Otto Frei](#))
1 x chain nose pliers - Durston ([Otto Frei](#))
1 x flat nose pliers - Druston ([Otto Frei](#))
1 x Flat/Round Pliers - Thomas Mann - ([Otto Frei](#))
1 x snips / flush cutters - Druston ([Otto Frei](#))
1 x jewelers saw ([Otto Frei](#))
1 x pack saw blades -Swiss Yellow Dagger 3/0 ([Monsterslayer](#)) #Item **BL-DAG-30**
1 x burlife / bee's wax ([Monsterslayer](#))
1 x bench pin ([FDJ Tools](#))
1 x half round hand file - #2 cut ([Otto Frei](#))
1 x Diamond file kit - 150 grit ([Otto Frei](#))
1 x set of needle files - #2 cut ([FDJ Tools](#)) or ([Otto Frei](#))

BASIC STUDIO SETUP

- 1 x rotary tool - flex shaft (SR Motor with #30 Hand piece), micro motor, etc. ([FDJ Tools](#))
- 1 x scribe ([Amazon](#))
- 1 x steel block / steel surface ([Monsterslayer](#)) #item **EQ-ANV-BB44**
- 1 x small steel ruler ([Otto Frei Jeweler's ruler](#))
- 1 x sheet of sand paper - 220 to 600 grits ([Amazon](#))
- 1 x sanding sticks 80 grit - 400 grit ([Otto Frei](#))
- 6 x Micro Mesh Sanding Sticks -180/240 grit ([Congress Tools](#))

BASIC FORMING TOOLS

- 1 x planishing hammer ([Rio Grande](#))
- 1 x ball peen hammer ([FDJ Tools](#))
- 1 x Delrin Hammer - Raw Hide hammer ([FDJ Tools](#))
- 1 x ring mandrel ([Rio Grande](#))
- 1 x dapping set - steel & wood ([Rio Grande](#) or [Rio Grande](#))
- 3 6" 2"x4" pine wood cutoffs

BASIC TORCH SETUP

- 1 x Solderite™ pad / fire brick ([FDJ Tools](#))
- 1 x compressed charcoal block - hard ([Monsterslayer](#)) Item# **SO-COL-3X2**
- 1 x Soldering Brick - Soft - 9"x 4.5" x 2.5" - ([Amazon](#))
- 1 x torch - Smith mini, Smith Handi Heet, ([Cyberweld](#)) Note: cheapest price and comes with all 4 tips unlike the Rio version.
- 1 x #1 or #2 torch tip - ([Cyberweld](#))
- 1 x striker or lighter - Automatic Electric torch lighter ([Amazon](#))
- 1 x soldering pick - Titanium([Monsterslayer](#)) Item#**SO-PIC-METL**
- 1 x 3rd hand GRS BENCHMARK ([FDJ Tools](#))
- 1 x cross lock tweezers - straight tip ([Monsterslayer](#)) Item #**TW-SXS-WGR**
- 1 x Small Cross-lock tweezers 4 ¾" - Steel - Gorbet - ([Monsterslayer](#)) Item

#TW-NPL-X475

- 1 x paste flux ([Handi - Paste Flux - Monsterslayer](#)) Item #**FX-HDY-025**
- Prips - recipe will be provided.
- Plastic needle tip bottle applicator for Pripps - ([Amazon](#))
- Yellow Ocher powder - ([Monsterslayer](#)) Item #**FX-OCR-HOZ**
- 1 x copper tongs - for pickle ([FDJ Tools](#))
- 1 x pickle - Sparex or ProPickle ([FDJ Tools](#))
- 1 x crock pot or lidded glass container - for pickle ([Amazon](#))

1 x brass bristle brush ([FDJ Tools](#))

1 x tempered glass container or sink - for quenching and rinsing

1 x small brush - for flux

1 x liquid hand soap - for cleaning metal - Dawn

1 Box Baking soda