**Fused Glass Classes**

**Learn How to Fuse Glass to Make Your Own Art\***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Class**  | **Introduction to Glass Fusing**  | **Returning Students** | **Intermediate Glass Fusing: Slumping**  |
| **Cost**  | **$150/student**  | **$150/student**  | **$350** |
| **Minimum # of students** | **2** | **2** | **2** |
| **Maximum # of Students**  | **5** | **5** | **5** |
| **Total time**  | **2 hours: 1 class** | **2 hours: 1 class** | **4 hours: 2 classes** |

**\*All materials, tools, and equipment are provided**

*Students will be able to pick up fired work 2-4 days after the class, depending on the number of firings the pieces require.*

**Class Descriptions**

**Introduction to Glass Fusing**

Fusing is a technique of cutting and layering pieces of cold glass to create an object. Once the design is complete, it is placed in a kiln and heated until the individual pieces fuse together. Detailed patterns can be created by fusing combinations of tiles to create larger pieces.

In this introductory class, students will learn the basics of glass cutting, designing, and fusing. For their first project, students will create their own trivet or coasters. As a first step, students will sketch out a desired design, learn how to cut glass, and then translate their design into glass. The cut glass will be placed on clear glass to ensure sturdiness when in use. Students will then place their completed designs into the kiln for firing.

**Returning Students**

After successful completion of the beginner glass fusing class, returning students can explore creating other shapes such as suncatchers, jewelry, dragonflies, animal (or creature) shapes, or wall hangings. At the beginning of each class, students will sketch the piece; Lynn will make adjustments to the design as needed. In these sessions, students will gain proficiency on glass design, glass cutting, and layering.

**Intermediate Glass Fusing: Slumping**

After the successful completion of the beginner glass fusing class, students can learn the process of slumping. Slumping is the process of creating a three-dimensional shape. A fused piece can be slumped by placing the fused flat glass in a mold and heating it in the kiln a second time. As the piece softens it gradually takes the shape of the mold. Fusing and slumping can be used to create functional objects such as tiles, plates, bowls, or other sculptural work.

In this class, students will start by first measuring and cutting clear glass to the size of the mold. Students will then sketch their desired design on a piece of paper that is cut to represent the mold’s shape. Individual glass pieces are then cut and placed on the clear glass. Students will then place their completed designs into the kiln for firing. (Instructor will be responsible for the second firing on the molds. Students are invited to return to participate in setting up the second firing, which usually takes about 10-30 minutes).

In this class, students will also learn the basics of programming a kiln as slumping requires two separate firings—one to fuse the glass and one to slump the glass.

**Your Instructor:**

Lynn Richards is a third-generation artist and long-time urbanist and cyclist with degrees in environmental science and public administration. She transforms streetscape elements into glass and steel sculptures and has been working in glass for more than 10 years. Over the past 30 years, she participated in a number of workshops in watercolor, print making, sketching, paper-making and glass, which has given her significant knowledge of different materials and design elements.