Judy Joustra  
Visual Arts: Fused Glass

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Judy Joustra is a self-taught glass artist. She discovered the art of glass fusion almost 10 years ago. The medium is a wonderful mix of color, design and science which captivates her. The array of techniques and vast choice of ancillary products guarantees there will always be something new to experiment with. Her preference is to make objects of art that are utilitarian while making a statement. Joustra finds joy in selling her fusion creations but has found even more joy in introducing this incredible art form to others. She has worked with students from two years old to seventy five. She learns something new with each group that she teaches. Having spent the majority of her career in corporate America, she is happy to now consider herself a working artist, enjoying an endeavor that she is passionate about.

In each workshop, Joustra strives to create a learning environment that is fun, educational and encourages each student to trust in their own creative instinct.

School and Community Workshops

Intro to Fusing: This 3 hour class is designed to give the complete beginner an introduction to fused glass and teach a base of skills necessary to participate in the open studio setting where you will make your own decisions about how to build projects to be fired at Fused Finery. You’ll learn about glass compatibility, the basics of firing, types of glass available, simple glass cutting, 2 layer design, and how our open studio works. You will make a plate that can be picked up after the two required firings. Pick-up time will be announced in class.

Kiln Carving Basics: Kiln carving is a method used to add dimension to your glass pieces. Using a fiberglass material, you can create just about any design you can make using an X-Acto® knife and a pair of scissors. The design is then placed under sheet glass and, “Voila!” the kiln does its' magic with a little help from gravity! You will create a plate (mold of your choosing) using a suggested design or one of your own. All materials and instruction are included. The finished piece will be available for pick-up after fuse and slump firings are complete. Pick-up time will be announced during this 2 hour class.

Painting with Powders: We’ll use glass powders mixed in a special potion and paint directly on the surface of the glass. Your art can then be embellished with pieces of course frit, cabochons, stringers and other accessory glass. This introductory class will utilize clear and white glass which will really accentuate the colors you choose to use. Your choice of projects: an appetizer plate or a black iron frame trivet for which you design and create a 4” hand painted tile. Fused projects will be available for pickup within a week.