



Introducing Barb Klann



When did you start beading?

I began stringing beads as a little girl. My Aunt gave me a cake tin filled with beautiful glass beads of Amber and red. It's been a love affair since then. In the early 90's I began working with seed beads. Every time I see the seed bead colors and shapes, my mind begins to see the possibilities. They have become my favorite to work with.

How much time do you spend beading a day?

3 or 4 hours a day or more; but some days only a few minutes.

What is your favorite stitch?

I love all the stitches. I seem to use RAW more, so maybe it's my favorite. Why? Because there are so many things you can do with it.

What does your beading space look like?

My beading room/space is very cluttered and a mess. It's such a mess that some days I work on a small table sitting in the living room, or the kitchen table.



What's your goal when you teach?

I've been a teacher for over 40 years. I taught painting on wood & fabric, clay pottery, basketry among other crafts. About 15 years ago, I switched to teaching my beading designs. I always want my students to feel they understand how to complete the project when they leave the classroom. That is my goal in any class.



Describe the excitement you feel when a piece is published?

I've been published in Bead & Button and a booklet published of woven ornaments and woven teddy bears. I'm thrilled when any of my work is published. I'm always happy when someone thinks any of my one of my designs is special and would like to make it. I love to see my designs completed by my students, to see what colors they've chosen and how they have incorporated their ideas into the piece. I find that very exciting.

What's your best advice to a beginning beader?

To beginning beaders I say: learn as many stitches as you can. Read books, take classes, and practice, practice, practice. You

can never bead enough.

What are your favorite books?

I love Diane Fitzgerald's books.



How were you introduced to the guild?

I had a friend who took me to a meeting of the Guild in the late 90's. I couldn't [believe] all the people loved the same little beads that I did. I was sold. And wonderful classes as a bonus - what else could you ask for?

How do you participate with the Guild?

I volunteer at Bead Bonanza. I've been a teacher at the Guild's stitch clinic. Being a part of the Guild has been a very affirming experience for me, knowing other beaders want to make my designs. I thank you all for that experience.

