

Berrien Springs Partnership Lab Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications LABS

(CLASSES) ARE PROVIDED AS AN EDUCATIONAL SOURCE FOR PBL (PROJECT BASED LEARNING)

COMMUNITY CLASS TITLE: Playing with fire: GLass blowing and Flameworking

GRADE OR AGE LEVELS: Ages 12 and up

FORMAT: IN-PERSON ONLINE FLEXIBLE DAY AND TIME OF THE

WEEK: In-person classes, Thursdays 11:00am-3:00pm. 4 weeks
beginning October 2nd, 2025

Orientation : September 18th 11:00am

TOTAL REQUIRED HRS: 16 **ADD'L POSSIBLE HRS (OPTIONAL TIME):** TOTAL

SEMESTER HOURS POSSIBLE: 16

LOCATION: Water Street Glassworks, 140 Water Street, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

INSTRUCTOR: Gina Edwards & Eli Zilke

CONTACT INFORMATION: phone: 269.925.5555 email: Eli@waterstreetglassworks.org
/ gina@waterstreetglassworks.org website: waterstreetglassworks.org

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION AT SITE REQUIRED? YES or NO? YES

IF YES, INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION: Emergency contact form and waiver must be completed by adult guardian

INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS (may attach a separate page if necessary):

Eli Zilke began glassblowing at the age of 12 as a student in the Water Street Glassworks Fired Up! after-school program. He eventually became a studio tech and teaching assistant under Jerry Catania, founder of Water Street Glassworks. And assumed the role of Primary Glass Instructor/ Production Lead in 2018.

Gina Edwards has been working as a glass artist for over 20 years, and has been a Fused Glass and Bead Making instructor at Water Street Glassworks for 16 years.

COURSE DESCRIPTION (OVERVIEW):

Students will explore the art of creating with in both of our Hot studios!

In this class students will participate in both the Glassblowing Studio and our Flameworking studio.

Glass blowing- here students will learn the fundamentals of glassblowing through shaping and blowing glass as well as glass casting using sand and found objects. Students will finish this class with 2 "blown glass" pieces and multiple casted pieces

Flameworkings - students will learn to use colorful rods of glass and various flameworking techniques to create beautiful art glass beads. Additionally, wire working and jewelry making techniques will be explored enabling students to create a finished project such as jewelry or a beaded suncatcher or sculpture.

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.

SYLLABUS/OUTLINE: WEEKLY BREAKDOWN OF PROJECT-BASED LEARNING LAB ACTIVITIES

Describe activities that will reinforce the lesson. Include any work and time to be required outside of class:

Week 1 - Blown Glass -Intro to tools, studio safety/history of glass, how to gather and blow into glass

Week 2 - Cast Glass- Intro to tools, studio safety, using found objects to press into sand, then spin glass out to create a casting.

Week 3 - Flameworking - learn how to form glass into beads, creating round, matching or patterned beads

Week 4 - Flameworking - continue learning how to form glass into beads. Today's class will end with turning your beads into one of the following projects: a necklace, earrings, bracelet, rings or sculpture.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND APPROXIMATE TARGET DATES:

Steps to check for student understanding, along with dates or # of weeks into class

STUDENT ASSESSMENT - what will be used to evaluate student progress and/or end of semester pass/fail status?

1) Students agree to attend at least 80% of class sessions/lessons offered. Attendance is kept online and tracked by Partnership staff. Failure to meet 80% or be on track to meet 80% may result in program discontinuation.

2) The Partnership Student Assessment or Performance Form is filled out by the teacher and turned into Partnership staff. The link to this form is found on the web page for this class. Failing marks for lack of participation, behavior issues, practice time, etc. may result in program discontinuation.

Class-specific assessment: discuss and include the form or a link to the form that you use.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: (online, books, video, etc.)

CLASS POLICIES: ATTENDANCE, BEHAVIOR, WEATHER, ETC.

Attendance: Students MUST attend class per BSPP policy. No make-up days will be scheduled.

Weather: Water Street Glassworks follows Benton Harbor Public Schools closures for weather.

Other: Students will need to bring a notebook, writing utensil, water bottle, and snack to each class.

Students MUST:

- Wear all-cotton clothing - including long pants
- Wear closed-toe shoes
- Not wear jewelry, acrylic nails or false eyelashes
- Wear long hair tied-back
- Wear safety glasses (provided by WSG) at all times

