

Welcome:

Welcome to the Grand Marais Art Colony and Findings 2017!

Our hope is that throughout the symposium you find just what you need to perhaps rejuvenate your practice, advance your work, or take a step back to gain new artistic perspective.

For the past 70 years the Art Colony has existed to foster a creative space and an experience for thousands of artists and creative seekers. Whether you are attending as an art appreciator, a novice, or a professional artist, we commend you for taking the time out of your scheduled lives to engage with, learn about, and support the jewelry arts.

We are indebted to our event committee members who have provided keen insight and direction in crafting this symposium:

- Danny Saathoff
- Tedd McDonah
- Pat Robinson Schmidt
- Beth Novak

And, we welcome Michael Boyd as our keynote artist. Michael's work and his commitment to solid craft combined with a progressive and innovative approach speaks for itself.

To all, we hope from now on you will consider the Art Colony and Grand Marais one of your creative homes!

-The Art Colony Team

Event Notes:

All events will take place at the Art Colony facilities apart from the following:

- Thursday Artist Talk with Casey Sheppard | Johnson Heritage Post
- Friday Artist Talk with Michael Boyd | Johnson Heritage Post
- Saturday Lunchtime Panel Discussion | Cook County Community Center

Refer to map in event folder or pick one up at the Art Colony Gallery Store.

Findings: [fahyn-ding]

A thing that is discovered; related to awareness, uncovering, invention, creation, exploration
Pieces that jewelers make and use to join jewelry components together to form a completed article

Findings Jewelry Symposium is a biannual event hosted in partnership with the Minnesota Jewelry Arts Guild. The mission of Findings is to celebrate and serve jewelry artists by promoting their work, facilitating learning opportunities, and fostering ways for the community to invest in and appreciate the jewelry arts.

The Symposium is hosted in partnership with MN Jewelry Arts Guild and is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund. Operating support and touring activities are made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council and the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage funds.





Classes:

View full instructor bios at www.grandmaraisartcolony.org.

Rebel Neckpieces
Casey Sheppard
June 8 | 1 day
Tuition: \$105 | Supply fee: \$16

Students will use found objects, gold foil, spray paint, leather, and brass to create striking wearable works of art. Focus will be on creating neckpieces while exploring new ways of thinking. Students will learn to open their imagination to a world of possibilities, but beware, we may break some rules so be prepared to embrace your inner rebel.

Integrating Stone and Metal
Michael Boyd
June 8 – 9 | 2 days
Tuition: \$210 | Supply fee: \$72

Nationally renowned jewelry designer, metalsmith, and lapidary artist, Michael Boyd, integrates metal into rock and enjoys finding creative ways to make this concept work in materials that range from simple river rock to gemstones combined with precious metals. Students will learn a variety of techniques to alter stone and metal at the bench. Michael will teach various processes and methods, and students will create alternative settings for stones and create a series of samples.

Infusing Digital Fabrication Techniques into a Traditional Studio Practice
Vincent Pontillo-Verrastro
June 8 – 9 | 2 days
Tuition: \$210 | Supply fee: \$35

Have you heard of or dabbled with 3-D modeling software and are wondering about the range of possibilities? Vincent will provide an overview of 3-D printing and students will use pre-printed PLA objects and basic hand-tools to gain a unique perspective on how to incorporate digital fabrication techniques into their studio practice. Students will use 3-D pens to generate formal and gestural ideas, weld printed components together, and learn the post-production traditional handiwork necessary to produce art jewelry with PLA (polylactic acid) filament. No 3-D modeling experience necessary.

Pins
Pat Robinson Schmidt
June 9 | 1 day
Tuition: \$105 | Supply fee: \$55

Students will make a pin with a working, steel pin mechanism. Pat will teach texturing, stamping, and riveting techniques. Students will learn to set a bead or stone using a capture technique to add sparkle, color, and dimension to their piece of jewelry.

Make it Move: Fabricating Mechanisms
Danny Saathoff
June 11 | 1 day
Tuition: \$105 | Supply fee: \$16

Venture beyond jump rings and commercial findings and focus on the engineering side of jewelry making. Emphasis will be placed on the components that make a piece wear more comfortably, move more fluidly, and relate more cohesively. Danny will teach students to make their own hinges, clasps, and chain, and will explore non-traditional materials such as steel and titanium. Students will create several samples and gain a better understanding of how fabricating their own mechanisms enhances their overall aesthetic.

Low-tech Metal Forming and Brooch Building
Tedd McDonah
June 11 | 1 day
Tuition: \$105

Students will use hammers, chasing tools, and hockey pucks to form copper sheet into a brooch using a low tech approach. Tedd will guide students through all aspects of brooch construction, including the use of prongs and integral pin back mechanisms.

Alternative Casting
Becky McDonah
June 11 | 1 day
Tuition: \$105 | Supply fee: \$11

Want to cast but don't have all the equipment for lost wax casting? Learn alternative low-tech approaches to casting by creating gravity fed molds using cuttlebone and ceiling tile, as well as experimenting with free pour casting into water, beans, spaghetti, and more! Students may choose to work in bronze or sterling silver and can incorporate their cast objects into rings, pendants, or brooches.

Symposium Events: Artist Talks and Demonstrations

Artist Talk: Case of the Nomads
Casey Sheppard
June 8 | 5:30 pm
Tuition: \$10

Casey Sheppard is a jewelry artist, mountain biker, freelance writer, adventure seeker, and community gatherer. She has lived the nomad life since July of 2015, touring the United States, checking out art, bikes, and connecting with others. Join us to hear about how she has kept community at the heart of this project and what she has learned along the way.

Keynote Artist Talk: Influences, Evolutions, and the Work
Michael Boyd
June 9 | 5:30 pm
Tuition: \$10

Through speaking and demonstration, Colorado-based jewelry artist, Michael Boyd, will share about the evolution of his work and creative process, as well as the major influences that have given him artistic direction.

Artist Talk: Your Unique Voice
Jennifer Merchant
June 10 | 9 am
Tuition: \$10

Gain insight into finding your unique voice as a jewelry artist by listening to Jennifer's professional journey. Jennifer will talk about how she developed her signature layered acrylic technique and what it takes to build a business and a career as a studio jeweler. She will also touch on working with galleries, exhibiting work, promotion, and creating a niche to build a client base within a specific market.

Artist Talk: Analogous
Vincent Pontillo-Verrastro
June 10 | 10 am
Tuition: \$10

From ideation to application, Vincent will discuss how digital fabrication techniques are used as an aid to the traditional metalsmithing and jewelry practices. Participants will learn about the development of Vincent's recent bodies of work and about analogous methods and modes of digital and physical studio practices.





Panel Discussion: Technological Advancements in Design:
Friend, Foe, or Both?
Michael Boyd, Jennifer Merchant & Vincent Pontillo-Verrastro
June 10 | 11 am – 1 pm
Tuition: \$20 (includes catered lunch)

The jewelry industry has seen a flood of new technologies in recent years, from CAD/CAM and laser welders to new alloys and Precious Metal Clay (PMC) and 3-D printing. Jewelry artists have responded in a variety of ways, from embrace to critique, producing both clumsy attempts to sophisticated results. Michael, Jennifer, and Vincent will spearhead a dialogue to help us think critically about the place of these new technologies within the jewelry arts and allow individual artists to consider their own response to the developing possibilities. This event includes a catered lunch; please specify at registration your choice of regular, veggie, or gluten free.

Demonstration: Cold Connections
Becky McDonah
June 10 | 1:15 pm
Tuition: \$10

In fast forward fashion, ten cold connection approaches will be presented that allow jewelry artists to join elements without the use of heat. Becky will demonstrate how to employ a variety of rivets along with slot and tabs, prongs and staples. The use of cold connection opens up the opportunity to combine materials that would not be able to withstand the heat of soldering like plastic, wood, glass, stone, fibers, and more.

Artist Talk: The Brooch: Ideation, Design, and Execution
Tedd McDonah
June 10 | 2:30 pm
Tuition: \$10

Originally used as a utilitarian fastener, brooches have been around for eons and are currently enjoying a fashionable revival. Tedd will document his recent brooch project and offer valuable insight into how ideas, design(ing), and execution are related, but require different tough processes.

Artist Talk: Responsible Supply Chain Sourcing and Sustainable Metalsmithing
Susan Crow
June 10 | 3:45 pm
Tuition: \$10

What does sustainability mean in the jewelry industry? Do you know how your gold, findings, and gemstones are mined, cut, and manufactured? Do you understand the environmental and ethical impacts surrounding your materials? Susan will provide an overview of sustainability and responsible supply chain sourcing. Participants will find information and guidance understanding the importance of tracking supply chains as close to from mine to market as possible and learn what is going on in the industry concerning fair-mined gold, ethically sourced gemstones, and diamonds.

Group Trunk Show
Saturday, June 10 | 6:00 - 7:30 pm | Free and open to all
Come appreciate the exhibited work of symposium artists and perhaps purchase something to wear home!

Community Partners

The Art Colony is a nonprofit organization that is financially supported by an amazing community of businesses, foundations, and government entities. With deep gratitude, we thank and highly recommend the following partners. See our website for student discounts at these locations:

GRAND MARAIS ARTS PARTNERS:

GRAND MARAIS PLAYHOUSE
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218-387-1284 ext 2 | grandmaraisplayhouse.com

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northshoremusicassociation.com

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A creative space for artists, adventurers, everyone!
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On the shore of Lake Superior in downtown Grand Marais
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Artful views; art on the walls; the artists' residence! | 218-387-2009
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Spectacular views with the Lake Superior lodging gem | 218-387-1532
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2017 FOUNDATION SUPPORT:

The Grand Marais Art Colony also receives funding from:

- Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency
- Arrowhead Regional Arts Council
- Cook County, Minn.
- Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board
- McKnight Foundation
- Minnesota State Arts Board
- Visit Cook County



