

# The 2022 ISGB Gathering Thirty Years and Still Thriving

by Karyn Sweezy

On June 9–12, 2022, the International Society of Glass Beadmakers (ISGB) will hold its annual conference, *The Gathering*, to celebrate *30 & Thriving*. The board of directors made the hard decision to once again hold its conference online. The fact that this is the 30th Gathering made that decision even harder, since so many attendees have been part of this group since the beginning and miss the opportunity to share, inspire, and visit in person. Online has its advantages, however, with the current state of the world. We decided to focus our efforts on the advantages to remind us that we all love glass and can share and inspire no matter what the barriers.

## Showcasing the Wonders of Glass Art

ISGB participants will still have access to diverse and novel glass-related instruction and materials that showcase virtually every topic of interest to glass enthusiasts in addition to the ISGB workshops and events. We can all enjoy the opportunities to join our friends while making new ones with no travel costs plus have a front row seat to all presentations, workshops, and socials, as well as exclusive opportunities to save.

Our basic schedule will include:

- glass workshops launching just prior to the conference with access for one year,
- vendors who will be offering discounts and showcasing new products,
- presentations to inspire and educate,
- social events to share a laugh and a smile,
- the Bead Bazaar featuring artists in the industry offering their work for sale, and
- our ISGB Flame Off, where you can watch a lively collaboration of artists in action.

This is a unique opportunity for beginners and professional attendees to network with each other as well as gallery owners, collectors, technical vendors, and suppliers. In addition, technical vendors will have an opportunity to showcase new equipment, tools, supplies, and glass. Through demonstrations, lectures, discussions, and more, attendees can learn new techniques and business skills to further their glass knowledge.

30  
& Thriving  
Online

ISGB

June 9–12, 2022

The Gathering

Beadmakers around the world; unite, share & inspire



ISGB members celebrating 30 years of *The Gathering*, where beadmakers around the world unite, share, and inspire.

Photo by Patty Lakinsmith.

## Preserving Traditions and Encouraging Innovation

ISGB is proud to continue to find inventive ways to ensure that we are able to share our mission with the glass bead community. We are the ISGB—the leading organization for the promotion, education, and appreciation of the art of glass bead making for wearable, sculptural, and functional art. Our mission states that the organization's goals are “to preserve the rich and diverse traditions of the art of glass bead making and glassworking techniques, promote educational initiatives and professional development, and encourage the innovative use of complementary mediums among artists and craftspeople.”

We invite you to join us! This will be a fun social event with your friends and an opportunity to make new glass friends. The online conference will offer presentations to inspire and online initiatives to share together without leaving home. We will share the hope that 2023 brings us together in person again. Check out our website for more information on how you can register to participate.

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Visit [www.isgb.org](http://www.isgb.org) to find out how to become a member of the International Society of Glass Beadmakers and learn more about additional educational resources and upcoming events.

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