

# Glasscraft Emerging Artist Award

## Jami Hamilton

Jami Hamilton is a jewelry designer who specializes in torchworked glass and sterling silver creations. Since 2000 when she took a class with Lauri Copeland, Jami has immersed herself in the study of glass and its beauty and complexities, working in both boro and soft glass. Originally inspired by her tribal traditions of Choctaw beadwork, Jami became infatuated with melting glass with a torch. She is inspired to create unique wearable art and to continue to refine her skills and experiment with new techniques. Her jewelry has been sold nationally at major bead shows and locally through galleries, boutiques, and art fairs.

While she was on a quest to research her father's Choctaw heritage, Jami was also creating basic seed bead jewelry. Her cousin, Gale Self, is a well-known silversmith and member of the Choctaw tribe. He told her: "Just make stuff. It's not hard. The hard part is in your head!" She followed his advice and has progressed her craft from simple jewelry and beads to silversmithing, learning along the way from many great lampworking artists including Tom & Sage, Leah Fairbanks, Donna Milliron, Pam Dugger, James Smirich, Ann Davis, Doug Remschneider, Chris Rice, John Kobuki, and many others.

For Jami, the magic is taking an idea and making it happen. "Making things has always been a part of my life. From the time when I was twelve and taught myself to knit with a book from the library until I pass from this world, hopefully I will always have the desire to learn. It doesn't always work out, but the learning is in the doing."



Visit [www.jamihamilton.net](http://www.jamihamilton.net) to view more of Jami's glass art.

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