

Glasscraft Emerging Artist Award



Brad Pearson

Brad Pearson currently resides, raises two kids, makes glass art, and publishes beadmaking books and DVDs in Richmond, Virginia. He has been working with hot glass since 1991. Since Brad once owned a glassblowing studio and is experienced as a scientific glassblower, flameworking became a natural progression for his interest in glass.

Brad sees beads and marbles as templates that allow him to explore texture, pattern, and color within a framework that is limitless. His current work draws inspiration from many diverse cultures including Tibetan prayer wheels, ancient writing, and Celtic designs, to name a few. As Brad points out: "In most parts of the world, beads hold a great spiritual and cultural significance. I have tried to hold the viewer's attention on a very small object by instilling some of this spirituality and mystery into my work. I view each piece as a miniature sculpture that retains its core function as a bead or marble."

His current work concentrates on the idea of patterns. There is something soothing and meditative about creating and viewing them. The inspirations for these designs comes from increasingly diverse sources. Everything—from ancient pottery and textiles to works from artists such as M.C. Escher—becomes fuel for his creative process.

Recently Brad has been busy teaching, working on *Bead Review* 3, and developing a line of instructional DVDs. He was honored to be a presenter at the 2007 Japan Lampwork Festa in Kobe, and this experience has provided many hours of inspiration and exploration into new techniques.

Visit www.bradpearsonglass.com to view more of Brad's glass art.

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What is the Glasscraft Emerging Artist Award?

The Glasscraft Emerging Artist Award will be awarded to up-and-coming flameworking artists who have demonstrated outstanding skill and who have contributed to the lampworking community through technical and artistic innovation.