

# Glasscraft Emerging Artist Award



## Vickie Hallmark



Vickie's childhood was consumed with art, but she heeded the advice of parents and teachers to pursue a more profitable career in the sciences, becoming a research staff member in a large high-tech company after earning her doctorate in 1984. Corporate restructuring, however, resulted in her retiring in 1993 to resume artistic pursuits. Over the next decade Vickie gained recognition as a fiber artist, exhibiting internationally in juried fiber and mixed media shows and winning numerous awards. She also began to explore other media to combine with fiber and eventually included glass in her art.

Painted enamel beads are a particular passion, and Vickie finds drawing a design freehand with a nib pen and "glass ink" and reverse painting with vividly colored vitreous enamels to be a very meditative process. Wrapping the fired glass painting around a bead in the flame is just the opposite—nerve wracking! But the resultant depth and detail in the beads is worth the extended time and tension.

Attracted to the vessel form but wanting a personal expression, Vickie has designed a sculptural vessel in the shape of a bird in

flight. The birds have become stylized and refined, and she has incorporated the techniques of painting and electroforming to add detail and meaning to these fetishlike ornaments. Having achieved a modicum of mastery over the demanding glass medium, Vickie can begin to escalate her artistic input into these tiny molten canvases. This embodiment of expression represents a rewarding merging of her technical background with her lifelong love of art.

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**How many artists will be featured?**

The award is given to twelve lamp-working artists per year, one of whom will become the Glasscraft Emerging Artist.