

Fall 2025

Glass Art Guild of Utah News

By Sheena Wolfe

**GLASS ART GUILD 2025 SHOW AND SALE AT RED BUTTE GARDEN
OFF TO A GREAT START – RUNS THROUGH DEC. 20**



The 23rd Annual Glass Art Guild of Utah *Glass in the Garden* show and sale at Red Butte Garden, started Nov. 7 and runs through Dec. 20. The all-glass exhibit – the largest of its kind in the country – features hundreds of artisan-crafted and one-of-a-kind art pieces and gifts designed by approximately 40 fused-glass artists, including a large supply of glass Christmas ornaments and jewelry.

The annual juried show – a major fundraiser for Red Butte Garden – is the glass community's chance to showcase and sell their newest creations. Each artist brought fine-art pieces they've been working on for the past year. The current

show has art at all skill levels including “Laughing Einstein” designed by new Guild member Talia Woodbury (pictured above).

“Our annual RBG show kicked off to record sales the first weekend and we’re already on our second restock. Kudos go to our show committee for many hours of hard work and dedication to making the show spectacular. It takes a Guild to pull something like this off,” said Guild Show Director Diane Whittaker, noting that the show committee members are: Kathy Watt, Technical Manager (inventory, labels, show committee chair first assistant); Phill Martineau, Logistics Manager (transporting fixtures, overseeing set up and take down); Barbara Busche, Check In Manager (ensuring all 1688 initial inventory pieces were accounted for); Laura Call, Volunteer Manager (Sign-up Genius to track artist shifts); Suzanne Larson, Judging Manager (securing judges, photographing winning pieces and creating awards); Sheena Wolfe, Public Relations Manager (press releases, media outreach); Lucille Transtrum, Catering Manager (supplied the awesome spread for the artist reception); and Laura Bernhardt, Accounting Manager (tracking payments, reimbursements, post-show billing).

"Fused glass is still an emerging art form so attendees are viewing colorful and unique art that has never been seen before. That’s why our annual show is always an incredible event! The combination of glass art and the beautiful surroundings at Red Butte Garden create a stunning atmosphere. With more artists than ever participating this year, it’s a fantastic showcase of creativity,” said Diane. “We had a very busy opening and hope that many more people take the time to visit and enjoy the artistry!” Diane added, noting that the show also includes stained glass and hand-blown glass pieces.

Show award winners and their art are as follows: BEST OF SHOW OVERALL, Dan Cummings, Autumn (pictured); BEST OF SHOW JEWELRY, Jodi McDougall, Ancestor; BEST OF SHOW FUSED GLASS (Non-Jewelry, including Lampwork), Suzanne Larson, Swipe; AWARD OF EXCELLENCE BLOWN/LAMPWORK JEWELRY, Cher Corcoran, Striking Bead; AWARD OF EXCELLENCE BLOWN / LAMPWORK, NON-JEWELRY, Kerry Transtrum, Fence; AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FUSED GLASS JEWELRY, Joe Peretto, Pendant; AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FUSED GLASS SCULPTURAL ART, Lori Scharf, Purple Iris; AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FUSED GLASS FUNCTIONAL ART Lori Scharf, Inward Focus Yantra; AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FUSED GLASS WALL ART, Kerry Transtrum, Blue Window; AWARD OF EXCELLENCE MIXED MEDIA, Diane Whittaker, The Hunt; HONORABLE MENTION BLOWN / LAMP WORK, Andrew Shaffer, Dew Drop Bud Vase; HONORABLE MENTION FUNCTIONAL ART, Lori Scharf, Zig or Zag; HONORABLE MENTION SCULPTURAL ART, Kevin Scott, Deseret Coral; JUROR'S CHOICE AWARD, Greg Schlesinger, Splash Sculpture; JUROR'S CHOICE AWARD, Suzanne Larson, Meander; and JUROR'S CHOICE AWARD, Kerry Transtrom, Blue Wave. (***Editor's note:** photos of the award-winning art can be found on the Guild's social media pages.* Website: glassartguild.org, Facebook: facebook.com/GlassArtGuildofUtah/, Instagram: @glass_art_guild_of_utah



GLASS GUILD SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED THROUGH JAN. 1 AND NONMEMBERS INTERESTED IN BEGINNING CLASSES CAN APPLY

The Glass Guild Scholarship Committee is currently accepting applications for education scholarships of up to \$1,000 to members and nonmembers to

attend classes and events related to hot glass in 2026. The deadline for submission is Jan. 1, 2026, and winners are expected to be notified by February.

Anyone residing in the state of Utah is eligible to apply. For the scholarship guidelines and access to the application, go to glassartguild.org and select the scholarship tab from the pull-down menu.

There is currently more than \$17,000 in the Scholarship Fund and the Scholarship Committee, chaired by founding guild member Kerry Transtrum, has decided they will give out approximately 60 percent of that amount in scholarships if there are enough applications to warrant this.

“We are encouraging any members of the Guild and members of our community to apply for these scholarships and are asking members to please spread the word that these scholarships are available,” said Kerry, noting that the Guild is also partnering with Bullseye Glass and Pilchuck School of Glass (pictured) to provide education opportunities.



The Bullseye partnership provides two people annually to receive 50 percent-off any Bullseye class taught by Bullseye staff and five people to receive one-year access to Bullseye online training videos which are geared to beginning and intermediate skill levels. In

addition to these education opportunities there are glass conferences and classes across the nation including the Glass Craft and Bead Expo in Las Vegas April 15-19 where hundreds of classes are offered and the Glass Art Society Conference in Corning June 3-6 where more than 800 glass makers, curators, educators and suppliers gather from around the globe.

The Pilchuck School of Glass partnership provides for one person annually to receive 50 percent-off a one to three-week on-campus glass class including room and board. Because the 2026 class application deadline was Oct. 31 this scholarship has already been awarded.

“To award the 2026 Pichuck scholarship we asked interested Guild members to submit a letter of interest, and they were reviewed by Guild Scholarship Committee members. I’m proud to announce that our Public Relations Chair and newsletter editor Sheena Wolfe was unanimously chosen to receive the 50-percent tuition plus \$1,000 in scholarship funds,” said Kerry. (**Editor’s Note:** *I would like to thank the Guild and the Scholarship Committee members for this amazing opportunity and pledge to represent our organization to the best of my ability.*)

Kerry got the idea to start the scholarship program after attending a scholarship fundraiser at the National Glass Association. Since then, money has come into the scholarship fund through individual donations and through fundraisers. In addition, Guild members donate glass art or a percentage of sales from the annual show and sale at Red Butte Garden.

“A GLASS MENAGERIE” GLASS SHOW AND SALE AT THE CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER STARTS JAN. 15

The Glass Guild’s first show and sale of 2026, *A Glass Menagerie*, will be at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center (CCC) in West Valley City in the Pilar Pobil Celebration Gallery Jan 15 - Mar 18, with an Opening Reception Jan. 15 from 6 – 8pm.

"After hosting the Glass Art Guild of Utah in our Bridge Gallery twice now for their *Bling in the New Year* exhibit, the Utah Cultural Celebration Center (pictured) is excited to see what happens now that we're opening up and expanding the show into our main exhibition space. What the Glass Guild members produce, and the Pilar Pobil Celebration Gallery space are both so dynamic, it seems like a perfect pairing. We're very excited about our first

show of 2026,” said Michael Christensen, CCC Visual & Performing Arts Manager.



The CCC and its Pilar Pobil Celebration Gallery are open to the public Monday through Thursday from 8am to 6pm, and Friday and Saturday 9am to 4pm. Admission to the CCC and its two galleries is free.

The CCC is owned and operated by West Valley City. The center is located at 1355 W. 3100 S., West Valley City.

MORE 2026 GUILD GLASS SHOWS

The Guild has been invited to the Brigham City Museum of Art for a show March 28 through June 13 of 2026. In addition, the Pioneer Theater will host the Guild in May during the production of the musical *Come Far Away*. And in October Guild members will show their glass art at Millcreek Common. More details about these shows will be posted soon on the Guild's social media pages and in the Winter Guild Newsletter

GLASS CLASS INFORMATION

Glass Art Guild Class in November



Six youth from the Salt Lake City community made glass Christmas ornaments (samples pictured) at a Guild-sponsored class taught by Guild member Kathy Watt, along with Mary Young, on Nov. 15 in conjunction with the Guild art show and exhibit at Red Butte Garden. Another RBG youth (ages 8-18) class will be taught Nov. 22 by Guild members Suzanne Larson, and Tom and Linda Stout. There may still be spots available

by going to redbuttegarden.org and selecting the Youth Classes tab.

Glass With a Past Classes in 2026

Guild member Jodie McRaney Russo, owner of Glass with a Past in SLC, has scheduled the following glass classes which are each limited to eight people.

See more and register at: <http://GlassWithaPast.com/classes/>

Introduction to Fusing

Jan. 8-29, Thursday evenings, 6:30 – 9pm

Learn to fuse glass through a series of projects of increasing complexity. The first two weeks will be fusing recycled glass, the second two weeks will be fusible glass to give students a well-rounded glass fusing experience and prepare them to continue fusing no matter which glass they love. Students will first learn the basics of glass cutting and the science of glass fusing and then move to creating crystalline landscapes and functional ware. The cost is \$350 per person, supplies included.

Intermediate Glass Fusing

Feb. 12 - March 5, Thursday evenings, 6:30 - 9 pm

Students with some experience (such as taking a beginning glass fusing class) will continue their education with more complicated projects, including silk-screening on glass and strip cut vessels. The first two weeks will be fusing with recycled glass, the last two weeks will be using fusible glass. Students

are encouraged to flex their design skills and create their own ideas within the framework of the projects. Past students have been ready to buy kilns and begin to independently produce glass art after this class. Kiln firing schedules and kiln programming will also be discussed. The cost is \$375 per person, supplies included

GLASS ART GUILD MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN JANUARY

The Glass Art Guild of Utah will hold its next membership meeting January 18th at 10am at Studio-de-Verre, 2312 S. West Temple, South Salt Lake City. The Guild holds its membership meeting every other month on the third Sunday. In addition to discussing the Guild's business an educational talk or demonstration is planned. Anyone interested in fused glass is welcome.

APPLY TO JOIN THE GUILD

The Glass Art Guild of Utah would like to invite anyone in the state who works with Bullseye Glass or does fused glass to join. As part of the \$50 annual membership fee, members receive half price on joint glass purchases that are generally made on a quarterly basis. To join, go to www.glassartguild.org, click "About" tab and "Apply" down box and send the Guild a message that you want to become a member. Someone from the Guild will contact you.