

Spring 2025

Glass Art Guild of Utah News

By Sheena Wolfe

MEET OUR GLASS ART GUILD OF UTAH OFFICERS

Meet Takara Scheid, Joe Peretto, Doug Wolfe and Laura Bernhardt (pictured from left to right). They are the current Glass Guild Officers and are serving two-year terms.

Takara started her term as Guild President in 2024. She has been a Guild member for many years and started creating glass when she was in elementary school. She plans a career as a veterinarian, specializing in caring for birds.

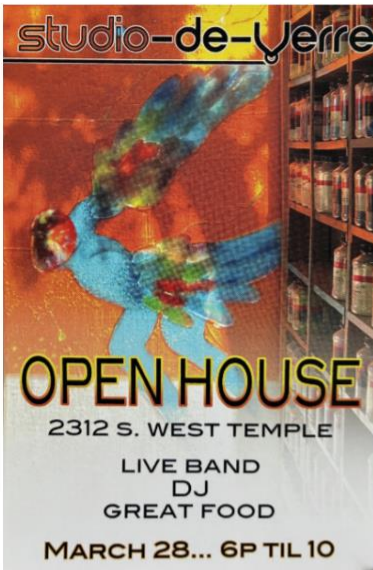
Joe, the Guild Vice President, also started his term in 2024 and will take over as president in 2026. He has been a Guild member since 2008. He has been working in stained glass since 1982. He expanded to fused glass in 2007. He retired from the Utah Department of Transportation in 2023.

Doug is the current Guild Secretary. He officially started his term at the beginning of this year. He is a new Guild member and new to fused glass. He retired in 2024 as a judge with the Social Security Administration after more than forty years of government service. He took over from longtime secretary Mary Young.

Laura, the Guild's new treasurer, has been working with fused glass for about 15 years. She started her glass journey at Sundance Glass in Paradise, CA and also took several Bullseye classes in the bay area before moving to Utah. She joined the guild in October 2023 and is currently working as a controller (accounting) for an agricultural investment company. She took over her Guild duties from longtime Treasurer Lori Scharf.



**GLASS ARTISTS HOST OPEN HOUSE AT STUDIO-DE-VERRE
MARCH 28**



An open house at Studio-de-Verre, 2312 S. West Temple, SLC, will take place on March 28 from 6-10pm. The event is free to the public and will give art patrons an opportunity to see the new headquarters of glass artists Dan Cummings, Kerry Transtrum and Stephen Teuscher (pictured from left to right in front of their new headquarters).

In conjunction with the open house the studio is opening a small art gallery. Gallery hours have yet to be determined but the studio plans to participate in the Third Friday SLC Art Stroll each month. The first exhibit will feature new works by Glass Guild members and will be set up in time for the March celebration. Five percent of all gallery proceeds will go to the Guild's Scholarship Program.

During the Open House fine art and other gifts will be raffled and there will be an assortment of food and music, including a live band.

Dan started his glass career 35 years ago. He is well known for his exquisite, sandblasted boss reliefs. He buys thick pieces of industrial glass and then sandblasts intricate designs into them. His art can be found in many Utah homes. His outside installations include the glass art *Faces of our Neighborhood* at the SLC TRAX Station which he worked on with Kerry and Dina Ihley. Kerry, Dan and Stephen also worked on an installation inside the new Skaggs Research Pharmacy Building on the University of Utah campus. It involved 128 etched and edge-lit glass panels and a fused glass donor wall.



Kerry has been working with glass for more than 30 years and is a founding member of the Glass Art Guild of Utah. He is internationally known and has the distinction of creating the largest casted piece of glass in the world. It's shaped like a space shuttle getting ready to take off and is 8 feet wide and 17 feet tall. This glass art installation is located at the Emery-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, FL. Most recently, Kerry and Stephen have been working with Tom Holman on several projects.

Stephen has been a nationally recognized painter for many years and although he is still creating art in this genre, he has also become a master at casting and fusing glass. He began working with Kerry several years ago on what they call Nesting Eggs (each approximately six-feet tall and four-feet wide). They have now created three eggs in conjunction with Holden Enterprises – one on the lifecycle of the honeybee, another on the importance of the ocean to our continued survival and one on light and the universe. These large ovals will be part of approximately 13 skylights to be installed at a planned Glass Education Center in Lehi.

The studio is also the location of the Glass Art Guild membership meetings held at 10am on the third Sunday of odd numbered months.



ALMOST \$7,000 HAS BEEN AWARDED THIS YEAR FROM GAGU SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The Glass Art Guild Scholarship Committee has announced that 17 scholarships have been awarded for 2025. The average scholarship amount was about \$500. Of the 17 recipients ten scholarships went to members and seven went to nonmembers. Winners were notified in February.

GAGU members who received Guild Scholarships for 2025 are: Yvonne Applegate, Access to Bullseye Glass Video Library; Anthony Barbano, Casting Workshop with Kerry Transtrum Studio-de-Verre; Deborah Byrnes, Access to Bullseye Glass Video Library; Jose Ramon Castillo, Creating Dimensions Milkweed Arts (online class); Kerry Collett, Narcissus Quagliata Masterclass Session 6 (online class); Katie Jolma, Access to Bullseye Glass Video Library; Andrea Malouf, How the Work Gets Made with Ted Sawyer of Bullseye Glass; Lori Scharf, Advanced Pattern Making Class; Brian Scott, Paul Tarlow Session at Pilchuck Glass School; Kevin Scott, Cold Working and Dichroic Jewelry at the Las Vegas Glass Craft and Bead Expo.

Nonmember Scholarship Awardees are: Madison Jane Barnard, Casting Positive and Negative, Penland School of Crafts; Ric Blackerby, Access to Bullseye Glass Video Library; Hunter Gabel, Intro to Glass Fusing with Jodi McRaney Rusho; Sarinda Jones, How the Work Gets Done with Ted Sawyer of Bullseye Glass; Lori Krasny, Mastering the Edge at the Las Vegas Glass Craft and Bead Expo; Pollyanna Tullis, Access to Bullseye Glass Video Library; Talia Woodbury, Intro to Glass Fusing with Jodi McRaney Rusho.

For the full story on GAGU scholarships click [HERE](#).

37 GUILD ARTISTS PARTICIPATED IN THE 22ND RED BUTTE GARDEN GLASS ART SHOW AND MADE \$80,060 IN GROSS SALES

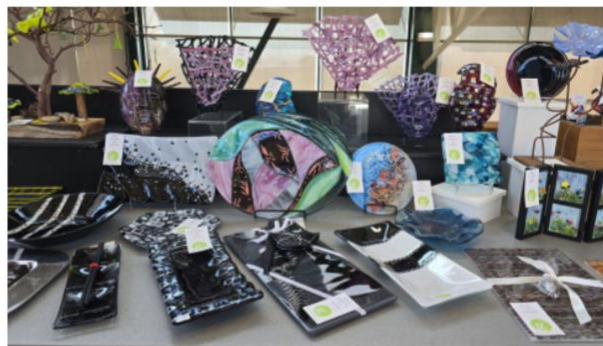
The 22nd Annual Red Butte Garden “Glass in the Garden” show and sale held during the last two months of 2024 attracted 37 Glass Art Guild of Utah artists. Of the \$80,060 gross sales amount raised \$22,294 or 30% went to RGB and is one of their biggest fundraisers each year.



"Our annual 'Glass in the Garden' Show at Red Butte Garden was a tremendous success in 2024. The venue's abundant natural light creates a truly magical atmosphere for our art. We matched our record sales from 2020, with over \$80,000 worth of glass art sold," said RGB Show Chair Diane Whittaker.

Of the 1,600 art pieces (including ornaments and jewelry) 1,473 were sold with participants making an average of \$2,300 each. “We checked in and tracked 1,200 pieces when the show started in November and had two restocks which brought in at least 400 more items – all of them handmade works of glass art,” Diane added.

“We extend heartfelt thanks to the 34 artists whose dedication contributed to staffing the sales floor, assisting with marketing, show setup and takedown, and receiving inventory of the 1,600 art



pieces. This achievement reflects the collective effort of our entire team. Special appreciation goes to Preston Summers and the Red Butte Garden staff for their unwavering support over the years,” In addition, one percent of the total sales went to GAGU for show expenses and to replace storage bins, she added.

Diane has agreed to chair the RBG show again this year. Art check-in is Nov. 5-6, judging will be held Nov. 7, the artist reception is Nov. 8 from 2-5pm, and **the 23rd annual show runs Nov. 7 - Dec. 21**. All GAGU artists - no matter their level of expertise - are asked and encouraged to participate, Diane said, noting that many members are already busy making new pieces for the 2025 show.

As part of each year's show, GAGU holds beginning fused glass classes for youth and adults. Forty-five budding artists took the classes offered in 2024.

More information on the 2025 RBG show will be posted on glassartguild.org and other social platforms.



WHAT DID WE LEARN FROM THE GAGU RED BUTTE GARDEN 2024 SHOW AND SALE EXIT SURVEY?

Seventy visitors filled out a half-page exit survey at the 2024 Glass Guild "Glass in the Garden" Show and Sale at Red Butte Garden - which gave us valuable information on how people viewed our 22nd annual show.

When asked if the event lived up to their expectations all 70 respondents checked that it did. Show visitors were also asked to rate the overall selection of art and the reasonableness of prices for original artwork, using a scale from 1-5. An outstanding 80 percent of respondents gave the overall selection of art the highest rating and 63 percent circled 5 when asked about the reasonableness of prices with another 28 percent giving a rating of 4.

In the comment and suggestion portion of the survey most responses were about the beauty of the art and the outstanding quality of the show. “It’s wonderful to see the work of local artists and the prices were reasonable,” wrote one visitor. “Great as always,” another visitor wrote. Suggestions included running the show longer and increasing the number of items for sale – especially jewelry and small, less expensive, pieces.

Most of the respondents said they heard about the show through the Red Butte Garden newsletter. Half of the respondents signed up to start receiving this Glass Guild quarterly newsletter.

FEATURED GLASS GUILD ARTIST: MARGY CAMPBELL

Margy Campbell has been a member of the Glass Guild since 2016. She is well known for her whimsical villages, flowers and animals, her note to detail and her fabulous sushi sets, complete with chopsticks.

“In my studio, where fire meets imagination, I’m not just an artist, I’m a conductor. I orchestrate a symphony of light and texture, using sheet glass as my canvas, powdered glass as my notes, frit as my percussion, and various adornments as my flourishes. My pieces, both decorative and functional, are testaments to the transformative power of molten alchemy,” she said in her artist statement.



Pictured in this story are two of Margy’s favorite art pieces: Whitecoat (the dragon) and California Poppies. She has displayed her art at many locations including the Salt Lake City Library and the West Valley Cultural Celebration Center. She’s an avid participant in Guild-sponsored glass shows – including the annual Red Butte Garden “Glass in the Garden” exhibit and sale. Each year she donates her glass profits to a nonprofit organization of her choosing.



Although she has lived in Bountiful for many years, Margy was born and raised in Buffalo, NY. She married her high school sweetheart, Bill (a retired Army Colonel), 55 years ago. They have one daughter and one grandson who live in SLC, and two labs and two cats (all brought home from local rescues).

She states that she loves to make functional art but “my heart truly soars with the decorative pieces. They are my unbridled fusions of form and fantasy. Flowers and leaves frozen in time, tiny houses forming a community, whimsical

creatures – dragons/elephants, emerging from the fiery depths – these are the stories I tell without words. They are odes to the unseen, whispers of the magic that lives just beyond our vision,” she said.

“Ultimately, my art is a dialogue – with the fire that grants me its power, with the glass that reveals its hidden beauty,” and when the audience is added, she said that her art is “an invitation to see the world anew, to find wonder in the everyday, to recognize the starlight trapped within glass, the whispers of the cosmos in a sun catcher.”



Margy has always been a bright light. She earned a graduate degree in clinical social work with an emphasis in gerontology and founded the first private staffing agency for the elderly called Age Connection. Later, she became a certified financial planner and created Guardian and Conservatory Services - a private guardian, conservator and trust business serving the needs of the elderly and disabled. She ran the company for 32 years and it's still serving client needs.

When she wasn't working hard, she traveled throughout the United States, Europe and New Zealand with her husband on the back of his motorcycle.

Margy is also proud of her volunteer work with the Utah Girl Scouts, as a member of the Chamber of Commerce, as a mediator for the Utah Courts, and now as a volunteer at Ruff Haven - an animal crisis shelter for critters whose caregivers need time to heal themselves.

The Guild is proud to have such a dynamic person and accomplished fused-glass artist in its membership.

“BLING IN THE NEW YEAR” GUILD ART EXHIBIT AND SALE DRAWS A DIVERSE AUDIENCE

A Glass Art Guild exhibit, “Bling in the New Year,” at the Bridge Gallery of the Utah Cultural Celebration Center, West Valley City, attracted new and ethnically diverse patrons, said Michael Christensen, the center’s gallery curator and visual arts manager.

“My job in the center is to bring fine art to the West Valley population. People who come here probably don’t usually attend SLC art shows,” said Michael, noting that the Glass Guild show made up of jewelry and smaller items gave many center attendees an opportunity to both view and purchase one-of-a-kind glass creations for the first time. “This is very exciting,” he added.

The glass show - which ran from January 4 through March 12 – also served as a fundraiser for the center. The partnership between the Guild and the Cultural Center has been so successful that GAGU has been asked to move from the small Bridge Gallery to the much larger Pilar Pobil Celebration Gallery in 2026. This means guild members must commit to making larger pieces over and above what is available and sold at the annual Red Butte Garden Show.

The Guild has been great to work with, said Michael, adding that he hopes our artists will embrace and support the center’s multicultural nature and fill the larger gallery with large, amazing pieces and also provide some less expensive craft items.

GAGU members Barbara and Rick Busche have co-chaired the “Bling” show for the past two years and have pledged to work with Michael and the Cultural Center on a larger scale event in the future. More information will be available later in the year.

UPCOMING SHOWS & CLASSES

GUILD MEMBER LORI SCHARF WILL SHOW HER FUSED-GLASS ART AT THE 36TH ANNUAL ART AND SOUP CHARITY EVENT MARCH 25-27

Guild member Lori Scharf will be among the artists at the 36th Annual Community Nursing Service (CNC) Art and Soup Charity Event at the Mountain America Expo Center (Hall 1), 9575 State Street, Sandy. The Opening Night Gala is March 25, and the Art and Soup Expo Days are March 26-27.

The Opening Night Gala is from 5:30pm – 9pm. Attendees will receive a catered dinner, hosted bar, live entertainment, first access to the art exhibit and an opportunity to meet the artists. The evening program will include an overview of the CNS mission. The Art and Soup Expo Days will be held March 26-27 at two different times – 11am to 2pm and 5pm to 9pm. During the Expo Days attendees can browse and purchase fine art, and enjoy free soups, bread, desserts and other foods provided by 20 local restaurants and caterers. Live entertainment will also be provided.

Of the total art sales, 35 percent goes to CNS charitable care and programming. CNS provides health Care, immunizations and medical services to thousands of individuals in need throughout Utah each year. For more information go to cns-cares.org.

**INTRO TO GLASS FUSING MAY 8 – 29,
THURSDAY EVENINGS 6:30 – 9 P.M.
GLASS WITH A PAST - Jodi McRaney-Rusho**

This glass fusing class is for folks with little or no experience. This is a four-week class that explores fusing with recycled glass for 2 weeks and fusing with fusible art glass for 2 weeks. It is designed to give students a solid background in glass fusing science and theory, no matter what type of glass they choose to specialize in later. The class is limited to 8 students.

This class features all new projects for 2025, so if you have already taken it, but are interested in a repeat, you'll learn new things.

Class fees: \$300 + \$50 materials fee for a total of \$350 per person. Materials fee includes all materials, glass and firings. For more information go to glasswithapast.com.

THE 2025 GLASS CRAFT AND BEAD EXPO IN LAS VEGAS APRIL 2-6

The 2025 Glass Craft and Bead Expo will be held April 2-6 at the South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. The show is a popular venue for GAGU members due to the abundance of glass classes offered. Many of the classes for this year are sold out but registration is still open. For more information go to glasscraftexpo.com.