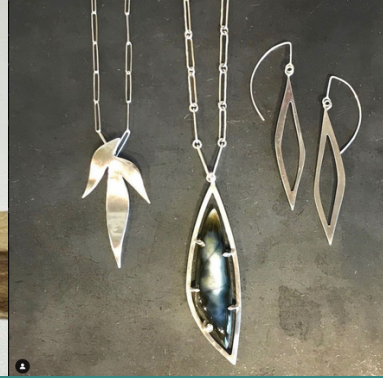




**Creative  
Metal  
Arts  
Guild**



February 2023

CMAG Members: Mandy Allen, Susan LeGuyader, Heather John

## IMPORTANT DATES

**2/21, 7pm**

February CMAG Meeting

**2/28**

Spring Show  
application deadline

**3/21, 7pm**

March CMAG Meeting

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## February Presentation: Thomas Tietze

Thomas is an accomplished jeweler, designer and instructor with more than 45 years of experience. After an apprenticeship and further training from the Revere Academy in San Francisco he was instructed by the renowned Dieter Mueller-Stach at CSULB. Since Thomas' career spans 4 decades of custom work for design jewelry stores, there were many opportunities to learn from other metalsmiths along the way. In addition Thomas taught classes and created his own line of designs.

In his home studio he sculpts his designs using Lost Wax Casting and Torch Fabrication techniques. Lately he has been conducting small intensive workshops in his studio covering topics such as Wax Carving, Stone Setting and Tips and Tricks.

"I feel there is an increasing need to mentor and teach the next generation of artisans and pass these increasingly rare skills on."

Thomas will be demonstrating the tube setting of small faceted gems. This is a handy and easily acquired skill for adding sidestones and accents to your designs. There'll also be a discussion about soldering pre-set gemstones in place.



## Spring Show Registration - New Updates on Parking, Case Availability

Registration for CMAG's annual Spring Show will close at 11:45 PM on February 28. You can register on the CMAG website. Here's some information about this year's show:

As usual, the show will be held the last weekend of April at the Oregon Convention Center as part of the Gathering of the Guilds (GotG). The Oregon Potters' Association's Ceramic Showcase will be held simultaneously in the same hall. The five participating guilds include CMAG, the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers, the Portland Bead Society, the Oregon Glass Guild, and the Portland Handweavers Guild.



The floor plan will be almost identical to last year's. We decided that we liked the more spacious layout, and the booth arrangement is the same. One difference is that booths with a two-foot gap on one side will be considered inline and not corner booths.

There WILL be I-5 parking this year. The Convention Center decided to reverse its previous decision and will provide outdoor parking. CMAG will receive 12 spots; passes can be purchased ahead of time and priority will be given to disabled people and people with large vehicles. There will also be parking for \$12 a day in the underground garage.

There will be five cases for \$150 each, with a flat-rate commission of 10% in return for 10 volunteer hours. These were Emerging Artist booths, but the Spring Show Committee has decided to open up the spaces to all CMAG members who are not ready to commit to a full-sized booth. Each artist has an 18-inch case on an elevated table, and of course a chair. Lighting is provided, though the artist must provide the displays.

Commission rates:

10% – 25%, depending on the number of volunteer hours worked (up to fifteen). Your booth fee is subtracted from from your total sales before commission is calculated. If friends and family volunteer on your behalf, their hours count as yours.

Show dates and times:

Friday, April 28, 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Saturday, April 29, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Sunday, April 30, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Setup

Thursday, April 27, 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Refund policy

If a registered artist needs to drop about, he or she must email the steering committee. Refunds will be issued as follows:

- 100% refund if the cancelation is received before March 1, 2023.
- 50% refund if the cancelation is received between between March 1 and April 1, 2023.
- No refunds after April 1, 2023, barring an emergency or the show being canceled due to Pandemic Rules and Regulations.

# Local Learning Resources: Portland Jewelry Academy

by Mary Wong



## The Professional Bench Jeweler - A Vanishing Supply

We are at a time in the jewelry industry that is full of contrasts. Some people pick up pliers, beads and wire and call themselves a jewelry designer. Others take some classes and passionately create jewelry and metalwork pieces with basic techniques. Most jewelry available in retail stores and online is designed with CAD and the finish work is outsourced overseas. True custom design work is becoming scarce. Anyone can create an ETSY store and sell online, no matter the quality of their work.

The generation of European trained jewelers that came to this country after World War II were the ones that handed skills down to the next generation. But those jewelers are now gone so that no longer happens. In this country, there is no standard education or training required to call oneself a jeweler, so where do you go to develop the skills to be a professional bench jeweler that is well versed in the traditional craft of designing and making and repairing all types of jewelry?

Jason Chandler answered that question when he founded the Portland Jewelry Academy in 2014, one of only a handful of schools in America that teach the craft of becoming a professional bench jeweler.

Jason discovered jewelry and metals while at college in Idaho. In addition, he worked in trade shops, attended a jewelry trade school, worked on the bench in high-end jewelry retail, learned from others, and taught himself as he went. Jason also took note of the things he didn't learn and where the holes were in his own acquisition of skills. He knew he wanted his Jewelry Academy Curriculum to be comprehensive in teaching both traditional jewelry making skills and the knowledge to compete in today's technological arena.

Jason is acutely aware of the skillset that is being lost in this country. He is passionate about his school where the discipline of the craft and understanding of the technical aspects are his focus when teaching to this next generation of bench jewelers.

This is a true vocational training program that teaches that quality work comes through the disciplined application of learned techniques. Using a "wholistic manufacturing" model, his students learn to make all of their own metal stock for a given project. Fabrication, wax carving, casting, stone setting (through advanced techniques), CAD and production, and metallurgy are all taught during the course of this full time curriculum. Platinum fabrication is an additional area of study.

What Jason knows is that there are not enough bench jewelers for the industry. This is the case throughout all areas, including manufacturing. Locally, I always noticed the amount of "Bench Jeweler Wanted" signs I would see at West Coast Findings.



## Local Learning Resources: Continued

Many of the custom jewelry stores in the area have closed and this is a national trend. The closures are often successful retail operations, but there is no family member to step in and take over, and there are no interested bench jewelers ready to spread their wings into retail ownership opportunities. What is being lost on the local level are the jewelry stores that create lasting trust and relationships in their communities.

Jason knows that opportunity exists in all facets of the jewelry industry for the well-trained bench jeweler. When you have a full skill set you have options and are not limited to any given path. Jewelry manufacturing, creating art, focusing on custom design and creation, product development, opening a retail or trade shop – the possibilities are limited only by the imagination.

Contact Info:

Owner: Jason Chandler  
Portland Jewelry Academy  
534 SW 3rd Ave. #322  
Portland, OR 97204

503-444-55623

Website: [Portlandjewelry.academy](http://Portlandjewelry.academy)  
email: [information@portlandjewelry.academy](mailto:information@portlandjewelry.academy)



## Library Update

We have added 21 new books to the CMAG library donated by Susan Hunter. She also gave us a variety of jewelers magazines. Since our library is getting full, the magazines are up for grabs and will be offered during the meeting. Here is the listing of our new books.

Thank you Susan for the wonderful donation!

Broom Casting (Smith, Bradford M.)	Metal Magic (St. Jean, Kim)
Creative Stone Setting (Cogswell, John)	Mixed Metals (Barta, Melinda & Fox, Danielle)
Custom Cool Jewelry (Barta, Linda)	Silver Wire Fusing (Jones, Liza)
Fabulous Woven Jewelry (Hettmansperger, Mary)	The Creative Jeweler (McSwiney, Sharon)
Jewelry Techniques (Young, Anastasia)	The Jeweler's Bench Book (Lewton-Brain, Charles)
Making Connections (Kazmer, Susan Lenart)	Wonderful Wire Works (Baskett, Mickey , 1999)
Making Metal Jewelry (Gollberg, Joanna)	
The Jeweler's Directory of Decorative Finishes (McGrath, Jinks)	
The Jeweler's Studio Handbook (Holschuh, Brandon , 2009)	
The Jewelry Making Handbook (McSwiney, et al, Sharon , 2007)	
Finding & Finishings, a beadwork how-to book (Bateman, Sharon)	
Getting Started Making Wire Jewelry and More (Chandler, Linda & Ritchey, Christine)	
Handcrafted Wire Findings (Peck, Denise & Dickerson, Jane)	
Heat, Color, Set & Fire: Surface Effects for Metal Jewelry (Hettmansperger, Mary)	
Jewelry Fundamentals of Metalsmithing (McCreight, Tim)	

## CMAG Board & Staff FY2022

### Executive Board:

President: **POSITION OPEN**

Treasurer: Barbara Covey

Vice President: **POSITION OPEN**

Secretary: Anne Johnson

### General Board & Staff:

Member-At-Large: Mary Wong

Education: Madeleine Moore

Communications:

Social Media: Catherine Chandler

Web Site: Madeleine Moore

Spring Show: Tai Vautier

Programming: Madeleine Moore

Librarian: Kristin Fudalla

Refreshments: **POSITION OPEN**

Newsletter Editor: Jen McCaw

Membership Chair: Carli Schultz

Public Relations: Eric Little

Registrar: Francesca Kennedy

## GUILD BUSINESS

### GENERAL MEETING (MONTHLY)

When: General CMAG member meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month.

Meetings begin at 7:00 pm, and adjourn by 9:15

Where: Multnomah Arts Center

What: Meetings consist of general business followed by a program which may be a demonstration of a technique or tool, a slide presentation, a panel discussion, or other presentation of interest to CMAG members.

Who: Meetings are open to CMAG members and their guests

### BOARD MEETING

Board meetings are held prior to the General Meeting at 6:00 pm. Members are encouraged to attend and contribute.

## CONTACT INFO

Creative Metal Arts Guild (CMAG)  
PO Box 8946, Portland, OR 97207

Email: [cmag@cmaguild.org](mailto:cmag@cmaguild.org)

Web: [cmaguild.org](http://cmaguild.org)

## NEWSLETTER ITEMS WANTED

We're looking for news about you and from you! Virtual trunk shows, tools you can't live without, books you love, online workshops or webinars you've attended or upcoming classes you recommend. And photos of new work you'd like to show fellow CMAG members. Include body text in an email with any links, and attach photos (ideally jpeg format) where available.

Submit to: [cmag@cmaguild.org](mailto:cmag@cmaguild.org)

Deadline: 2nd Monday of every month

## WAYS TO PROMOTE CMAG, OUR MEMBERS, & EVENTS

GENERAL:

Talk us up among your artist friends - invite them to a Third Tuesday meeting! Update your membership page on the website with photos, especially! Like our public Facebook page and Like, Comment on and Share announcements on your own page and on groups you think would appreciate them

<https://www.facebook.com/CreativeMetalArtsGuild/>

Follow us on Instagram, like our posts and tag us @creativemetalartsguild in your own appropriate posts

<https://www.instagram.com/creativemetalartsguild/>

Use hashtags in your social media posts:

#creativemetalartsguild

#creativemetalartsguildpdx