

TEACHING STATEMENT

Warren Feld, Jewelry Designer and Instructor

For Warren Feld, Jewelry Designer, beading and jewelry making endeavors have been wonderful adventures. These adventures, over the past 31 years, have taken Warren from the basics of bead stringing and bead weaving, to wire working and silver smithing, and onward to more complex jewelry designs which build on the strengths of a full range of technical skills and experiences.

In 2000, Warren founded The Center For Beadwork & Jewelry Arts (CBA) . CBA is an educational program, associated with Be Dazzled Beads in Nashville, for beaders and jewelry makers. The program approaches education from a Design Perspective. There is a strong focus here on skills development. There are requirements for sequencing the student's classes; that is, taking classes in a developmental order. There is a major emphasis on teaching how to make better choices when selecting beads, other parts and stringing materials, and how to bring these altogether into a beautiful, yet functional piece of jewelry.

Theory is tightly wedded to applications throughout the program, from beginner to advanced classes. Since jewelry, unlike painting and sculpture, must interrelate aesthetics, function and context, much attention is paid to how such relationships should influence the designer. Jewelry Design is seen as an authentic performance task. As such, the student explores ideas about artistic intent, shared understandings among all audiences, and developing evidence in design sufficient for determining whether a piece is finished and successful. The design educational program is envisioned as preparing the student towards gaining a disciplinary literacy in design -- one that begins with how to decode the expressive attributes associated with Design Elements to a fluency in the management of Principles of Composition, Construction and Manipulation, as well as the systems management of the design process itself.

With Warren's direction, CBA in conjunction with Land of Odds, has sponsored three international contests, each with an emphasis on Design, not just craft and not just art:

The Ugly Necklace Contest – A Jewelry Design Competition with a Twist! (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014)

All Dolled Up: Beaded Art Doll Competition (2004, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2013)

The Illustrative Beader: Beaded Tapestry Competition (2011)

Upcoming related programs of CBJA include our recent effort to extend our CBJA philosophy and successes to a broader audience, with programs like Jewelry Design Camp (offering intensive 1-week long thematic sessions on some aspect of jewelry design theory and application), video tutorials online, participation with Jewel School program on JTV.com.

Warren's commitment and concern for the "teaching of beadwork" resulted from watching and talking, over the years, with customers in his bead shop, who had taken classes elsewhere, or tried to teach themselves from books. These beaders were not buying parts or using parts to their best advantage. It was obvious that many people had taken classes, but that they weren't necessarily learning something -- at least not learning something that would stick with them, and that they could comfortably apply in other situations. They were memorizing steps, rather than integrating organized processes of thinking, thus designing. In 1998, Warren organized a community advisory group made up of craft instructors and jewelry artists. This group spent 1 1/2 years researching, planning, and implementing the original curriculum and philosophy of the program.

Currently working on a book to be titled: FLUENCY IN DESIGN: A Jewelry Designer's Guide To Proficiency.

Other Teaching Experience

8/2016 – 6/2017	WRIGHT MIDDLE SCHOOL Nashville, TN Teacher. Taught 8 th Grade science, social studies, RTI-Reading, RTI-Vocabulary, and RTI-Math. Lead, teach and give my all to 130 8 th graders in this inner city, level one school
Summer 2016	TEACH FOR AMERICA (TFA) Nashville, TN Corps Member. Selected from approximately 45,000 applicants nationwide to join national teacher corps. Participate in intensive training program to develop the skills and knowledge needed to achieve significant gains in student

	achievement. Teach in summer school program run by TFA for students in MNPS schools under supervision of faculty of experienced teachers. Engage in full schedule of professional development activities, including seminars, discussion groups, workshops, individual and group reflections, readings and “learning teams” specific to my teaching license.
7/1980 – 6/1985	UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI Oxford, MS Assistant Professor. Taught 4 graduate level courses: Health Planning, Epidemiology, Medical Anthropology, Health Law. Directed Graduate Program in Health Care Administration, defined standards, developed promotional materials, counseling 20+ graduate students each year. Wrote grant proposals, articles and columns. Organized and coordinated Mid-South Research Network, including 200+ health agencies, hospitals and research organizations in Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky and North Carolina.
9/1975 – 6/1977	RUTGERS UNIVERSITY New Brunswick, NJ Teaching Assistant. Taught 2 undergraduate level courses in Urban and Regional Planning
2015-2016	NASHVILLE COMMUNITY EDUCATION Nashville, TN Instructor. Various jewelry making classes.
1989-1990	MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE Nashville, TN Adjunct Professor. Taught graduate level Health Administration class.

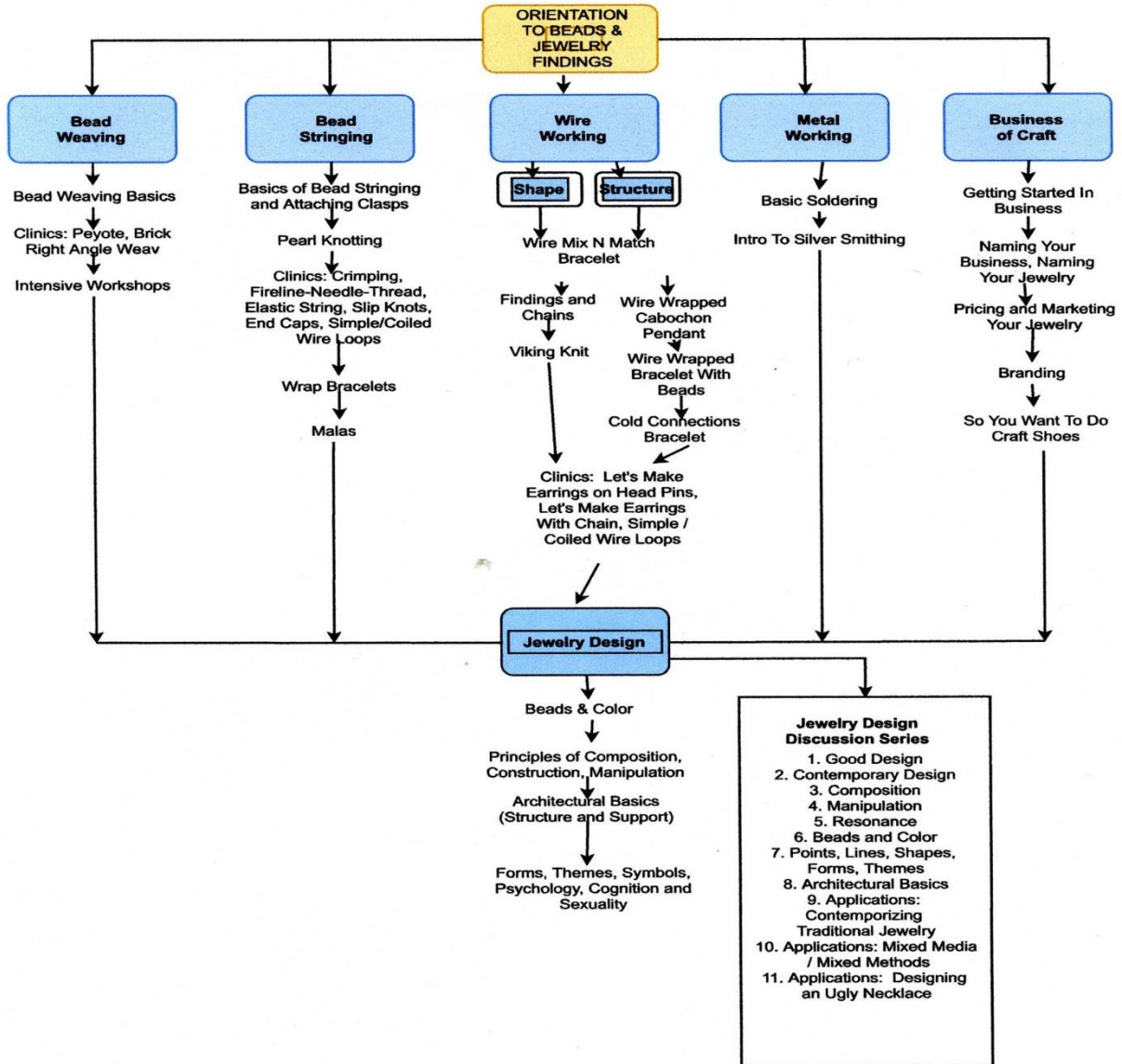
Tennessee Teacher License. Certified in High School Biology and Middle School Math.

Specialties:

Jewelry Design Theory, Bead Stringing, Bead Weaving, Wire Working, Silver Smithing, Business of Craft, Pearl Knotting, Micromacrame, Contemporizing Traditional Jewelry, Mixed Media Applications, Revival Styles, Disciplinary Literacy in Jewelry Design

Warren Feld, Director of Instruction

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM, Be Dazzled Beads



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