



AKS Newsletter

What's happening in the World of Braiding

For Additional Information, Visit the AKS Website



2018 Gathering Class Catalogue posted on the AKS Website!

Registration Dates to be Announced



Clockwise: Adrienne Gaskell, Giovanna Imperia, Makiko Tada and Jacqui Carey

The AKS Gathering begins its 3-day kumihimo event on October 26th, 2018 at the Hilton Tampa Westshore in Tampa, Florida.

This year more than 30 classes are offered. Internationally renowned teachers including Makiko Tada, Jacqui Carey, Giovanna Imperia and Adrienne Gaskell are back as well as old friends and new teachers with exciting new projects and techniques. Classes are now posted on the [AKS website](#).

Kumistas who pre-registered for the 2018 Gathering at last year's event will be notified via email prior to registration opening. Notice of registration dates for AKS members and the public will follow. [Join AKS](#) and take advantage of the earlier registration.

This year, in addition to the classes, there will be a vendor marketplace, an optional day trip to the Dali Museum on October 25th and other special events.

[Read More Here](#)

New AKS Class Coming Soon

Braid About 2

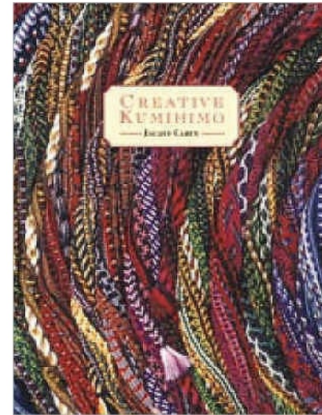
A *Braid About* is similar to a study group. The guide or instructor chooses a book or series of braids/projects and the participants complete the braids one-by-one. There is much opportunity to share braids and to discuss the braid structure. AKS sponsored the first *Braid About* a year ago and it was a success!

Carolyn Oliver-Haushalter will be the guide for AKS's ***Braid About 2*** and has selected Jacqui Carey's ***Creative Kumihimo*** as the course textbook. The *Braid About* will be geared to both kumihimo enthusiasts who have little experience with the marudai, as well as more intermediate or advanced students who routinely make 16-element braids.

The course will begin at the end of March (Date will be announced) and continue for 12 weeks. Participants will make, share and discuss a new braid structure from ***Creative Kumihimo*** each week. ***Braid About 2*** is free of charge to all AKS members. A Marudai and Jacqui's book are required.

Stay tuned for information

Creative Kumihimo by Jacqui Carey. Order from [BraidersHand](#) or [Amazon](#).



Kumihimo Meetups and Study Groups

3 New Groups Started!

There are three new kumihimo groups popping up across the country!

1. The Southwest Florida Group - Tampa/St. Pete to Fort Myers - met in January 2018 in Fort Myers. A second meeting is planned for March 18 in St. Petersburg. Contact [Adrienne Gaskell](#).
2. North Phoenix -- will meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month beginning April 12, from 12:30-4:30 pm. Contact [Linda Lawrence](#).
3. Dallas / Ft Worth Kumihimo Study Group - met for the first time February 27th. Meets monthly on the last Monday of the month at 3. Contact [Cheryl Focht](#).



Other ongoing groups include Cleveland ([Jane Peterson](#)) and the Northern California Area Kumihimo Study Group ([Diana Miglionico Shiaishi](#)).



Bead and Button Show

Enter the BeadDreams Competition

Entering the annual BeadDreams competition isn't just an opportunity to put your work alongside outstanding artists and see how it stacks up. It's also a way to be honored and recognized for your

accomplishments as an artist.

And new this year: A "Young Beader" category for anyone 25 years or younger. Competition organizers created this opportunity to encourage up-and-coming beaders and give fresh new talent a chance to shine.

But hurry! The deadline to enter is April 6. If that sounds daunting, don't worry. Here are five simple things to know:



1. The entry process requires only a digital photograph (finalists are asked to pack and ship their creations at a later phase). You'll also need to fill out a form and pay an entry fee.
2. You can enter something you created last week or last year. As long as it has not been previously submitted as a BeadDreams entry, there's no restriction on when your item was created.
3. You have a choice of three categories: Finished Jewelry, Objects and Accessories, and Young Beader. You can enter in more than one category if you wish.
4. Submissions can be jewelry, accessories or objects including single pieces or ensembles, sculptures, wall hangings, purses, shoes, or dolls. Materials can be any bead-related media.
5. Additional details are easy to find at the BeadDreams website, just follow [this link](#).

The Annual BeadDreams International Jewelry Artistry Awards is now in its 19th year. In addition to earning prizes, winners are officially recognized at the Bead&Button Show each June in Milwaukee, WI. They're also spotlighted in *Bead&Button* magazine and on its sister website, [FacetJewelry.com](#).

[Read More Here](#)

In Addition, Don't forget to Register for Bead and Button and Convergence!

This year, five AKS members are bringing their skills, expertise and kumihimo passion to the Bead and Button Show. Adrienne Gaskell is teaching a three-day master class as well as a two-day fundamentals of the marudai class. Bob Galivan is teaching five classes on the ins and outs of Andean braiding as well as kumihimo. Cheryl Focht, Rebecca Combs and Yin Guang each have several project-oriented classes offered. Students can use either a foam disk or marudai. Registration for these classes is open!

[Read More Here](#)

Convergence, the annual meeting meeting of the Handweavers Guild of America, will meet from July 6-12, 2018 in Reno, NE. Three AKS members, Adrienne Gaskell, Rosalie Neilson and Karen Huntoon are teaching.

[Read More Here](#)

Fun Stuff

Lanyard/Braid Contest for The AKS 2018 Gathering

Last year many Gathering participants used their kumihimo talent to create a lanyard to attach to his or her Gathering name badge. After all, ooohing and aaahing about what people are wearing around their necks (or arms) is part of the Gathering fun. This year, we're going to have a contest! We'll be looking for "The Most Creative", "The Prettiest", and "The Most Traditional." Stay tuned for more information. In the meantime, get your kumihimo thinking caps on to design your entry!



Note: The attached photo shows creative methods to attach a lanyard to a name badge.
You can use an end cap with a simple piece of string.

STAY CONNECTED



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