

Draw your fine feathered friends at Seaside library

SEASIDE — Do you like birds? Do you like to draw? Sign up for our “Mini Bird Drawing Class” with local artist and illustrator Dorota Haber-Lehigh!

The workshop will take place 1 p.m. Saturday, March 17, and is sponsored by The Friends of the Seaside Library.

You must sign up for this class and can do so at the circulation desk or by phone. All levels of artistic ability are welcome.

Participants will create a whimsical mini bird portrait using colored pencils on walnut ink paper. They will begin with a foundation sketch, then learn how to transfer their drawing and layer gentle colors using colored pencils. Loose texture application and color blending will also be a focus.

With step-by-step guidance you will create a beautiful bird portrait. There will be the option to use watercolor or

gouache as a foundation for your bird, so bring a set of watercolors or gouache if you already have one. All other materials will be provided, including watercolor pencils and gouache. Bring a reference photo or two of the bird you intend to draw.

Dorota Haber-Lehigh received a bachelor of arts degree from Pacific University with a focus on printmaking and art history. She designed, illustrated and published a children’s book, “ABC of Native Plants of the Coastal Pacific Northwest,” and is currently working on books about native berries and wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest. She is a member of the Oregon Botanical Artists and Native Plant Society of Oregon.

The Seaside Public Library is located at 1131 Broadway St. For more information, call 503-738-6742, or visit us at seasidelibrary.org.



COURTESY SEASIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

A drawing of an owl by local artist Dorota Haber-Lehigh

Sharon Amber teaches ancient jewelry-making technique

CANNON BEACH — Renowned jewelry artist Sharon Amber presents an intimate, hands-on, three-day repoussé and chasing workshop in Cannon Beach.

Over the course of three afternoons — 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 20, to Thursday, March 22 — students will design and create their own piece of handmade, one-of-a-kind copper jewelry. No experience is necessary.

“If I can teach fifth graders to do it,” Amber said, “I can teach anyone.”

Repoussé and chasing are ancient forms of metalworking developed some 5,000 years ago.

Designs will be developed, transferred to the copper, traced, hammered and cut out. As the low-relief process is tapped out in a bowl lined with tree pitch (which cushions the blow), works of repoussé and chasing exhibit more three-dimensional qualities.

While Amber will assist with design-making and provide examples, she suggests that students consider what they might like to put on their copper canvas in advance.

“I want everyone to bring some designs in mind,” Amber said. “But I will also bring some art nouveau designs in books. Celtic knots, faces, flowers and art nouveau lend themselves to this technique very well.”

Amber began her jewelry career working in repoussé and chasing, partly because of the low barrier to entry. “You just need a few hand tools,” Amber said. “It’s very mobile.”

Students will gain all the necessary skills to continue working on their own. The



COURTESY TOLOVANA ARTS COLONY

Repoussé and chasing pieces created by Cannon Beach jewelry artist Sharon Amber

cost of equipment — mostly a set of hand chisels — is also relatively modest.

Other forms of jewelry making, such as wax cast-

ing, require more intense equipment, such as a kiln.

“Wax casting would be a much bigger investment,” Amber said. “It’s

harder to do at home on an amateur budget. But repoussé and chasing is really accessible, and the results are absolutely beautiful.”

It’s a very meditative art, and “you end up watching this piece of jewelry just appear before your eyes,” Amber added. “It’s really cool.”

The workshop costs \$200. All materials are included. Class size is extremely limited, and an RSVP is required.

To register, contact the Tolovana Arts Colony at tolovanaartscolony@gmail.com or call 541-215-4445. Classes will be held at Tolovana Hall (3779 S. Hemlock St.).



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