

Learn about Indigenous beadwork at workshop

By Lisa Britton

Go! Magazine

LA GRANDE — Pamela Pascali has grown up learning the artwork of her ancestors, and she will share these traditions during two Indigenous beadwork workshops at Art Center East, 1006 Penn Ave. There are two workshops scheduled: Aug. 6 and 7, and Oct. 8 and 9.

Both include two days, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. All supplies are included. Cost is \$70 for ACE members or \$85 for nonmembers. Youth scholarships are available. To learn more, or to register, go to www.artcentereast.org/calendar and click on the workshop.

INDIGENOUS BEADWORK

Pamela Pascali will teach two, two-day workshops on Indigenous beadwork at Art Center East, 1006 Penn Ave. in La Grande.

Dates: Aug. 6 and 7 and Oct. 8 and 9

Cost: \$70 ACE members, \$85 nonmembers

Register: artcentereast.org/calendar or 541-624-2800

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Pascali grew up in Pocatello, Idaho, and she lives there now as she pursues a master's degree at Idaho State University.

"I practice traditional artwork because of my heritage," she said.

That heritage is the Ute tribe of north-east Utah, and specifically the White River band.

During her workshops at ACE, Pascali will talk about the history of Indigenous beadwork. She said tribes along the Pacific Coast used natural items, such as shells and bones, to make beads. When explorers came west, they started trading colorful glass beads.

She said specific patterns are associated with different tribes.

"You can really tell tribes apart by the patterns that they used," she said.

Pascali works in contemporary bead-



These are examples of contemporary Indigenous beadwork by Pamela Pascali, who will teach a workshop at Art Center East on Aug. 6 and 7, then again Oct. 8 and 9.

Pamela Pascali/
Contributed
Photo



work, and that's what she'll be teaching at the workshops.

"I don't do a lot of traditional patterns because those go with specific regalia — bright and colorful," she said.

At the workshops, she will talk about traditional beadwork, and then lead participants in using contemporary designs to make a pair of earrings or a keychain.

"I'll explain as I go," she said. "I want to introduce people to this culture and the history of it as storytelling — heritage or creation myth."

She wants, she said, to offer participants a chance to learn more about beadwork and understand its history.

"To have people dabble in it," she said. "It's a cool medium for people to explore."

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