



Focus On...

Monique Moriarty

Monique started doing stained glass around 2003. She was living in England and the Arts and Crafts Center where she worked offered a class. After taking the class she fell in love with stained glass and became the teacher's assistant. Monique took a break from stained glass for a few years so she could focus on school and getting her degree, but she got back to it as soon as she could.



What Monique loves about working with glass is the how it can be both methodical and unpredictable. She explains that glass doesn't always break the way you want and it can be challenging. Monique is quick to add that usually, as long as you follow the steps, you'll end up with a great piece. One aspect of glass that she loves is how it filters light and changes the environment around you.

When asked why she started teaching, Monique exclaims that she loves it! She loves getting people excited about a new skill and craft. She also loves seeing people's 'a-ha' moments when they've worked out a solution to a challenging part of their project. Stained glass has been around for a long time, but its popularity ebbs and flows, so Monique enjoys being able to pass on its history and tradition.

Monique says, "Teaching stained glass at SGS has been wonderful because of the creative collaboration available. It's so nice to be able to get a second or third opinion if you're thinking twice about something.

"Working in a creative space like SGS is very inspirational and exciting."

"Being around other forms of glass artistry at SGS is very intriguing and motivates people to try new things or even combine different forms together." She explains that you can add things like rondelles from the Hot Shop or fused pieces from the Warm Shop into your stained glass piece.

"Things I love about stained glass are if you learn the steps then you can do it! The glass community is also full of wonderful people who love to share ideas, tricks, and patterns. So even if you don't consider yourself a creative person and you don't feel confident in creating your own patterns, usually there are a bunch of free ones on the internet. One fun thing about stained glass people sometimes don't realize, is that if something doesn't melt, like bolts or seashells, then most of the time you can solder it into your panel."