

Lisa & I have been going to the Beadfest Lancaster show in Pennsylvania since 2017, with obvious breaks for the covid years. This show has traditionally taken place in August each year with Interweave Press/Golden Peak Media as the show promoters. We've always loved it and have done well as vendors. This year Lisa had prior family commitments and couldn't attend.

Consequently Rochelle Peterson from TOHO Beads & Bobby Bead in Mpls came with me. We had a stellar show to say the least. I think it's safe to say we were the most popular/crowded booth at this event! I'm convinced the increased attendance is a result of the new focus on multiple "Maker" disciplines, drawing in crowds from all these communities (see next paragraph). I've included some pics of the show and our booth Make & Take classes.

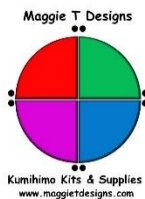
Before this year's show the focus was always on bead vendors and anything to do with beading. This year, however, Golden Peak Media has combined their emphasis to become "Maker Fests" including beading, yarn, art & sewing. In addition, they've expanded their venues to include Milwaukee, WI in the Spring as well as Mesa, AZ in October. The Milwaukee show took place this past spring and was a success for Lisa & I. We're planning on attending the first-time Mesa show as both vendors & teachers and expect this show will also be successful.

The promoters have a stage where JewelTV, Beadalon and other companies demonstrate various techniques and products. In addition, Katie Hacker usually does a charitable event to benefit the Beads of Courage charity.

Here's the link to the upcoming Mesa, AZ event.

<https://www.makerfestivals.com/mesa/>

Maggie Thompson





Rochelle & Maggie soooooo tired after setting up booths Beadfest Lancaster Aug 2023



Maggie teaching her Triple R #2 Bracelet Beadfest Lancaster 2023



**Rochelle teaching her
Light Wheel Earrings Class
Beadfest Lancaster Aug 2023**



**Maggie & Meredith Roddy
from Beadalon
Beadfest Lancaster Aug 2023**