

92NY ART CENTER

GILDA AND HENRY BLOCK SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Improvisational Wirework

Instructor: Marsha Davis (Marsha.Davis@92Y.org)

MATERIALS LIST –Students must have tools, wire and beads for 1st Class.

- Cloth to work on: old pillow case, etc.
- Small metal ruler marked in inches and in metric (6" or 12")
- Cloth measuring tape

Tools:

- chain nose pliers
- round nose pliers
- wire cutters (the blue handled wire "nippers" are a good choice or red handled ones from Italy)

****NOTE: STUDENTS MAY USE 92Y TOOLS IN CLASS - May want to wait to purchase

Wire assortment: Copper and/or colored copper: 20g, 22g, 26g., possibly 18g (optional)

Buy round wire. Several wire manufacturers produce colored copper:

ParaWire and Artistic Wire are both quality "craft" wires - have lots of great colors. Do not buy German style wire - too hard to work with. Sold on spools - 25 feet for 20g and 22g, 6 yards for 26g - these are small spools... probably will want to have 2 spools of each size.

If buying Sterling or Gold-filled or Bronze - order "dead soft" so that it is easier to manipulate.

Misc. beads – an assortment of sizes – odds and ends are fine – glass, semi-precious, etc. as long as they fit on the wire!.

- Sharpie Extra fine permanent marker
- Note pad and pen/pencil

Weekly Schedule:

Week 1: Basic wire working skills and discussion of wire & tools. Practice wire & Misc. beads. Preview of upcoming projects. Basic Eyes - 20g wire Wrapped wire eyes - 22g wire

Week 2 : Finish up Basic wire working skills, explore twisting and winding of wire. Lots of 26g - 2 colors would be great.

Week 3 & 4: Free-form cuffs and necklaces. All wire sizes (if fingers are strong enough: 18 g). Asst'd beads.

Weeks 5 (and 6): To Be Determined.

SUPPLIERS

All Craft Tool 135 W.29th Street, 2nd Floor (212-840-1860) Tools and wire.

Toho Shoji 6th Ave across from Bryant Park (212-866-7466) beads (not good place for tools)

On-line Sources

Fire Mountain has most everything, use their search engine - easiest way to find things. carry their own brand of wire: Zebra Wire.

Beadalon Artistic wire and tools - use search engine - much easier.

Michael's has some Artistic Wire and wire cutter is ok. Not sure about other tools

ParaWire best assortment of colors and sizes.

Also check Etsy vendors....have had great success finding supplies.