

Riva' Sunset Notes from the Studio

Pamlico Rose Institute Artist in Residence
Sue Kammers, Riva Glass
March 20th, 2021

Over the last year, as I have healed and gained strength, I have spent more and more time in my studio working on stained glass, and actually, I am sure that being out there has been a big part of my healing. I told my family that being in my studio has helped me through the restrictions due to COVID as well. As I do more, I also want to learn more and improve my skills. Having the Artist in Residence opportunity has encouraged me to push my skills and my knowledge. I can see that my glass cutting abilities and soldering are improving. I am now part of a stained glass blog group where I can ask questions of other glass artisans and see what they are doing and how they accomplish it. I am taking an online class to learn how to do leaded glass and although I'm not quite ready to show my work with lead and glass versus copper foil and glass, I'm getting close.

Because I have ordered glass online several times over the last 6 months instead of going to a stained glass store in Raleigh or Asheville, I have needed to learn about the types of glass, the companies that make and distribute glass and even how it is made. I have called the supplier and asked questions prior to ordering as well as researching the types of glass. Is it cathedral glass, which lets in more light or opal which limits the light? Is it smooth or rippled? For example, most glass for use in stained glass is now rolled out while it is a molten liquid and then cooled where as it used to be blown and then heated so it would be flat.

I enjoy designing my own pattern, which interestingly enough, they call a cartoon.

I can bore you to tears talking glass, lead, zinc, types of solder and tools. Just ask my friends!

I recently made a piece that represented a sunset over water. It was amazing to see how one piece of glass could show the setting sun colors.



This growth and desire to learn more is inspired by being Artist in Residence. I love it! Thank you!



Pamlico Rose Institute note:
Sue Kammers spent the last 13 years of her nursing career working as a nurse in the VA supporting women Veterans. For more information on Sue's career with the VA and how it has shaped her art, see the article, Stained Glass Resilience
<https://www.pamlicorose.org/long-form-template/>



From the Pamlico Rose Institute:
This is the second of a series of notes from Sue Kammers, our initial artist-in-residence.

For more on the PRI artist-in-residence program visit our website at www.pamlicorose.org/hvw

**Or Contact
Kaitlyn O'Donnell, Community Resource Associate at kaitlyn@pamlicorose.org**