



## Bulletin from Mayor Elaine Scruggs

People have been creating beads throughout the history of civilization. Did you know that beads found in archaeological digs are believed to date back to 75,000 BC and earlier? Did you know that beads have historically been used as currency, were traded by the thousands and played a role in the settlement of the United States? These are the types of interesting facts that you will learn when you visit one of Glendale's treasures, the Bead Museum, the only museum in the world that is dedicated strictly to beads.

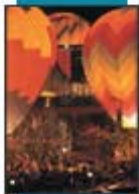
The Bead Museum is located in downtown Glendale. It sits right next to the Civic Center at 5754 West Glenn Drive. The Bead Museum was founded in 1984 by Gabrielle Liese, after she was working as an interior decorator and wanted to find the deeper meaning of a bead that she used in her work. The Bead Museum moved from Prescott to historic downtown Glendale in 1999.

The museum houses an international collection of over 100,000 beads and beaded artifacts. The museum features permanent and changing exhibitions, and education and outreach programs of lectures, tours, and classes for its visitors. [\(Click Here\)](#) to visit the museum website and learn more about the exhibitions and programs.

The Bead Museum also contains the Gabrielle Liese Research Library which includes a comprehensive collection of books and journals on beads, adornment and cultures from around the world. The library houses the Peter Francis Jr. library and archive collection. The Bead Museum Store features handmade jewelry, artists beads, collectible beads, books, gifts from around the world and instructional materials.

The Bead Museum would not exist without the support and generosity of its many community partners. The museum offers exciting membership opportunities that result in great benefits all year round. [\(Click Here\)](#) to learn more about the memberships and for an application. Volunteers are also necessary and there are opportunities to work as a tour guide, librarian, greeter and sales associate. Training for volunteers is provided and hours are flexible. The Bead Museum also accepts cash donations, as well as donations of beads, supplies and cultural objects for the Education and Outreach Department and the Museum Store.

The museum is open Monday-Saturday from 10 AM to 5 PM, Thursday from 10 AM to 8 PM and Sunday 11 AM to 4 PM. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children ages 4-12. There is free admission on Thursdays after 5 PM and it is always free for the members of the museum. You can contact the museum at (623) 931-2737 with any questions.



We are extremely lucky to have this one of a kind opportunity right here in downtown Glendale. I encourage all of you to visit the museum and learn about the fascinating historical and cultural significance of beads.

*Thank you taking the time to read my "Glendale Bulletins". Please contact me at (623) 930-2260 or [mayorscruggs@glendaleaz.com](mailto:mayorscruggs@glendaleaz.com), if you have any comments or questions. I strive to provide the most timely information and best possible service to you, the citizens of Glendale. I sincerely appreciate your feedback.*