

BEAD SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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THE BEAD MUSEUM AND THE BEAD SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON ANNOUNCE THE 2005-2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Washington, D.C (July 20, 2005) – The Bead Society of Greater Washington (BSGW), the parent organization of The Bead Museum, recently elected their 2005-2006 Board of Directors.

Elaine Robnett Moore, past Coordinator of Development and Chair of the Gala Committee will serve as President. Robnett Moore's past work for both the BSGW and The Bead Museum emphasized the importance of local bead societies working together. Robnett Moore hopes that, "The Bead Society of Greater Washington and The Bead Museum, like beads from around the world, will represent the multitude of interests and needs of the public as well as the great support of our membership. Together the board will develop a plan for the next 20 years for a cohesive and vibrant organization."

Museum Director Tania Said welcomed the new board, noting, "I look forward to working with such a talented group of community leaders representing the greater Washington metropolitan area, the bead world and beyond!"

The current board of the Bead Society of Greater Washington serves from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. The BSGW board is elected by the members of the Bead Society of Greater Washington at their annual meeting in June.

Biographies of the BSGW board members follow.

**BIOGRAPHIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
BEAD SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON AND THE BEAD MUSEUM
2005 - 2006**

PRESIDENT: Elaine Robnett Moore, Incumbent. BSGW Board Member 2003-04, BSGW Coordinator of Development and Chair of the Gala Committee 2004-. Under her leadership, the Greater Washington bead societies are working together to support The Bead Museum for the first time. Formerly a business consultant, a travel agency and real estate development business owner, **Elaine** is an independent designer of fine jewelry, a consultant in jewelry making and micro business development to artists, in emerging countries. She travels worldwide giving workshops, lectures, shows, and searching for distinctive bead and jewelry materials.

1st VICE PRESIDENT FOR MUSEUM: Hilary Whittaker, Incumbent. BSGW Strategic Planning Coordinator 2002-2003; BSGW President 1996-1998 when she spearheaded founding its Bead Museum; and Secretary Third International Bead Conference in 1995. A former international program manager; fair elections consultant in Africa and Near East; Peace Corps director in Mali, Sierra Leone, Togo; a training officer in India; and director of American Red Cross Centers in Morocco and France. She is also active with Vassar College alumni and her condominium board.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMS: Judy Carlsson, Incumbent. Immediate-Past president of BSGW, she was also the society's second president from 1986-1988 and BSGW Vice President for Museum from 2002-2003. She is a partner in Art Expo, a 25 year old company formed to import contemporary and antique jewelry and beads from India and the Himalayas. Judy also served on the Prescott, Arizona Bead Museum board from 1985-1995.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP: Georgia Sargeant. BSGW member since 1995 and newsletter volunteer for two years, Georgia is the author of *Polymer Clay: Exploring New Techniques and New Materials Explorations*, amongst other writings. She was previously on the board of the National Polymer Clay Guild for six years. A lifelong journalist and art lover, she works in public relations at the American Psychological Association.

SECRETARY: Sharie Blum. Incumbent. Formerly BSGW Treasurer, Sharie chaired BSGW's Second International Conference in 1990 and served on the original board of The Bead Museum. Her late mother, Beverly Pittle, was a founder of the Society and its first treasurer. Sharie was an active BSGW member until she moved to Baltimore several years ago. She co-chaired and ran BSGW's early Bead Bazaars and is a longtime collector. She works at Mercy Hospital in Baltimore.

TREASURER: Rich Reichley. Rich is the Treasurer of the Bead Society of Greater Washington and its Bead Museum. He also works in the accounting department of The Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C. Prior to his career in museum finance and administration, Rich worked as a business analyst and project manager for supply chain software projects at Intel Corporation, was an operations manager for an online retailer, and was in the U.S. Army for ten years. He has a finance degree from American University and an MBA from UCLA. He lives in Maryland.

COORDINATOR FOR COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT: Barbara Pringle. Incumbent. Barbara is a retired history teacher interested in artifacts of the past. A world traveler, she developed an interest in arts and crafts, specifically in beads, when she lived in West Africa. She was chairman of the Ganesh Society volunteers at the Central Museum in Jakarta, Indonesia, and is active as a church and community volunteer. She previously volunteered on the collections of The Bead Museum improving their records and storage.

COORDINATOR FOR PUBLICITY, NEWSLETTER, and WEBSITE: Melody Miller. Is an avid beader who volunteers her time as an EMT in a regional fire department and works for Raffa, P.C., a provider of consulting, accounting, technology and outsourcing services for nonprofits. She has diverse experience in communication, research and writing, as well as computers, human services, organizational development and teaching.

COORDINATOR OF BAZAARS AND SPECIAL EVENTS: Open.

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