

# bead beat

## Good Eggs

These sweet little lampworked egg beads by Canadian artist Karen Elmquist successfully capture the beauty of speckled birds' eggs. The tiny treasures measure about 1/2" by 3/4" and are made of etched Italian Effetre or Japanese Satake glass with bits of enamel and silvered ivory, coppery green, and (sometimes) pink glass added for a realistic dappled effect. The eggs are usually sold in sets of five for \$24.99 through Karen's eBay store, <http://stores.ebay.com/Miss-Spiders-Web>.



## Eye Candy

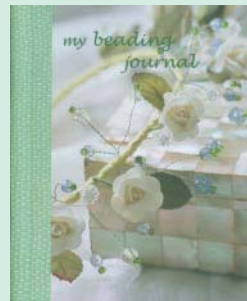
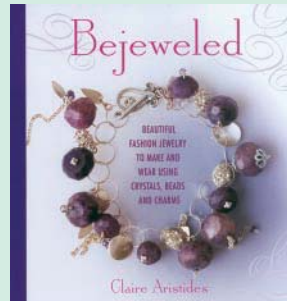
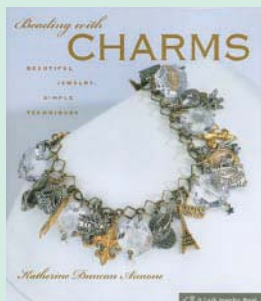
Add a splash of color to your designs with Fire Mountain Gems and Beads' new Jewelers' Candy Drops. Available in 32 sizes, 22 shapes, and 20 jelly-bean colors, these drops and links are made of brass that has been coated with colorful epoxy, then finished with silver-plated edges. Note, however, that these candylike findings come with a warning. "Do not eat them," jokingly cautions the Fire Mountain Gems catalog. "Keep these away from children and people who are on a diet." Candy Drops sell for \$2.30 to \$3.32 for a dozen at [www.firemountaingems.com](http://www.firemountaingems.com) or (800) 355-2137.



# SPRING READING

Starving for inspiration? Flip through a couple of our favorite new books. *Beading with Charms: Beautiful Jewelry, Simple Techniques* by Katherine Duncan Aimone (Lark Books) features 35 attractive charm-based projects that are conveniently sorted into beginner and intermediate categories. *Bejeweled: Beautiful Fashion Jewelry to Make and Wear Using Crystals, Beads, and Charms* by Claire Aristides (St. Martin's Griffin) also has 35 gorgeous

projects and stands out because of its thorough introduction to bead types and techniques and its beautiful photography. Both offer wonderful ideas, which you can jot down in another exciting new publication: *My Beading Journal* from Cico Books. The journal contains beading techniques and tips, as well as a handful of projects and, of course, plenty of pages for project notes. Buy these books at your local bead shop or bookstore.



Stringing, wireworking, stitching, knotting, weaving, embroidery, beadmaking—it's all part of *Beading Daily*, Interweave's online community. Sign up today at [beadingdaily.com](http://beadingdaily.com) and meet other beaders who understand the joy of beading. A free e-newsletter, free beading projects, a daily blog, tips and techniques, new project announcements, event news, galleries, and interviews are just some of the treats that await you. Come join us at [beadingdaily.com](http://beadingdaily.com).

# THE CHALLENGE WINNERS

Thanks to everyone who participated in the "Double Trouble" *Stringing* Challenge! We had 46 fabulous entries, which received a total of more than 1,000 votes.

Congratulations to Audrey Streater, whose five-strand pearl and Czech-glass necklace won first place. Second place was a tie between Serena Polheber, who created a bracelet using monkey beads of bone with wood and copper beads, and Madalynne Homme Million, who created a pretty floral necklace with crystals, pressed-glass beads, and Lucite flowers. The editors' choice is Trish Italia's necklace, which features two little turtles climbing up the focal piece.

Visit [stringingmagazine.com](http://stringingmagazine.com) between February 18 and March 18 and cast a vote for your favorite "Fun in the Sun" submission. Look for the winners in the Summer issue of *Stringing*.

The next Challenge theme is:

## CHANNELING CINDERELLA

>> Entries are due to [stringing@interweave.com](mailto:stringing@interweave.com) no later than May 16, 2008. Voting will be held between May 30 and June 30. Send us a clear, high-resolution TIF (better) or JPEG (good) photo that is 300 dpi at 3" x 5", please. Images that do not meet these specifications will be disqualified.

Please note that we have a couple of Challenge rules:

### FOR VOTERS:

In the spirit of fairness and friendly competition, please vote only once, from only one e-mail address.

### FOR ENTRANTS:

1. One entry per person, please. (So send us your best work!)
2. Submissions must be stringing projects; you may include wireworking. (It's for *Stringing* magazine, after all!)
3. We will send an e-mail to everyone who submitted projects for each challenge within two weeks after the close of voting. Please *do not* e-mail us asking for news of the winners before then. Thank you.



**1st PLACE**  
Audrey Streater



**2nd PLACE**  
Serena Polheber



**2nd PLACE**  
Madalynne Homme Million



editors'  
**CHOICE >>**

Trish Italia