



## *The Artist's Statement*

I have had a broad spectrum of interests and a thirst for knowledge since childhood. My mother fostered in me a passion for reading, while my father molded me into a “do-it-yourselfer” with a can-do attitude. Through my aunts I gained an interest and skills in handcrafts and clothing construction. I became a life-long learner with the philosophy that, “Life is continuing growth through the process of gaining and sharing knowledge.” So it is not surprising that my careers have spanned the fields of medicine, education, library science and art.

## *The Artist's Background*

### **Education:**

- Diagnostic X-ray Technologist - Training at Peninsula Regional Hospital
- BS Degree in Liberal Studies with concentration in Art Studio and Art Education - Salisbury State University
- Post Graduate coursework – Salisbury State University, Boston State University, University of Southern Mississippi, Clarion University of Pennsylvania
- Master of Library Information Studies Degree - University of Hawaii at Manoa

### **Professional Experience:**

- Diagnostic X-ray Technology - full and part-time in Maryland, Delaware and West Virginia until 1992
- Maryland Public School Education - Art Teacher and Library Media Specialist for 24 Years
- Adjunct Faculty Blackwell Library, Salisbury University 2000- 2003

In the 1980's, while seeking a distraction from a period of personal turmoil, I was introduced to stained glass as a hobby. I soon wanted to take it beyond that level and explore it as an art form. I continued to work with stained glass as time permitted while teaching, working part-time, attending graduate school and taking on the role of care-giver for my aging mother.

Now retired from teaching, I have combined my artistic expression and a passion for glass, forming them into a business. *Splendor in the Glass* is a studio for the design and construction of original stained glass art, not a workshop cranking out mass-produced crafts from pattern books. The glass and related materials are the media I use to create pieces of art. I continue to push the limits of glass as an artistic medium, by exploring unique configurations and incorporating materials beyond the confines of the expected. The works resulting from these explorations and personal expressions will be made available for sale, but the focus of the business will be commissioned works for individual clients.

*Splendor in the Glass ~ Stained and Leaded Glass Art*

**M. Hope Kirk-Thornton**

29901 Brighton Court, Delmar, Maryland 21875  
410.896.3710 [info@glass-splendorinthe.com](mailto:info@glass-splendorinthe.com)



### **Business Mission Statement**

At Splendor in the Glass I design and fabricate quality original stained glass art for the aesthetic enrichment of your living or work environment. It may be functional as well as decorative. Work commissioned by a business or an individual will be unique to them, designed to fit their personal style and architectural needs.

### **Art Glass Styles and Materials**

1. I use came and foil techniques or combine these to suit the design and purpose of the work.
2. I design traditional and contemporary pieces, representational or non-objective
3. I use various types of glass
  - o Colored, transparent, translucent and opaque
  - o Clear architectural glass
  - o Smooth or textured
  - o Mixed media

### **Information about art glass and related materials**

**Architectural glass:** Clear glass that may be frosted or iridized and usually has textures that are random or figural.

**Stained glass:** May smooth or textured, it can be transparent, translucent or opaque. It can also be iridized or mirror coated.

**Bevels:** Clear, colored or textured glass with angled sides. They may be single geometric shaped pieces or clusters which may be geometric or representational.

**Came:** It may be made of lead, zinc, copper or brass, used between glass pieces or as a frame around a design to hold the artwork together. Bare in mind that lead can be toxic if ingested and care should be taken when handling it. Cover open wounds and wash your hands thoroughly after handling it. Keep it away from children. Lead free came and companion solder is now available.

**Foil:** Copper strips wrapped around the edges of glass pieces and soldered together, as an alternative to came. Foil sheets may be cut, attached to the glass and soldered as a decorative motif.

**Solder:** A combination of lead and tin in varying proportions. Used to join came sections or foiled edges in a design.

### **Art Glass for the Business or Residence**

For a note of distinction, add stained glass art and your home or business will stand out from others in the area.

- Glass-signage, of a numerical address or the name of a business creates a great first impression.
- Removable window panels add color and personality to rental homes, condos, and apartments.
- Large windows are great; however they create privacy issues and additional expense over the long term. Placement of art glass panels behind bathroom windows or front door sidelights give privacy without losing the natural light.
- Where sunlight causes problems, stained glass art may be the answer. Draperies, carpeting and furniture are faded and damaged by bright sunlight. Beautiful stained glass panels let in that light while controlling its damaging effects, reduce glare on computer or video or TV screens.
- Stained glass art may play a part in the restoration or preservation of historic buildings.
- Enhance the décor of any space by the use of stained glass art items. Mirrors, fireplace screens, panel inserts for furniture and cabinet doors, room dividers or privacy screens, even small items like candle shelters or keepsake boxes add to the atmosphere of a room.

*Splendor in the Glass ~ Stained and Leaded Glass Art*

**M. Hope Kirk-Thornton**

29901 Brighton Court, Delmar, Maryland 21875  
410.896.3710 info@glass-splendorinthe.com



### **Studio Policies**

- All original designs and stained glass art works are subject to copyright laws. Specifics will be included in sales contracts.
- I do not do installations. But stained glass artwork may be prepared for hanging, framing or installation
  - Rings may be soldered to came framing with chain added
  - Clips for installing window or cabinet panels are available.
- I am not responsible for damages to artwork after the shipment or delivery of a purchase.
- I make repairs with fees charged for time and materials.

### **A 10% discount will be given to:**

- Returning commission customers.
- Commissions with more than one piece done from the same design.
- Customers purchasing multiple pieces of (non-commissioned) studio art glass.

### **Gift certificates in \$25.00 increments may be purchased.**

- They must be redeemed within one year of the date issued.
- If used for a commissioned work the receipt for the design-drawing fee must be dated no later than one year from the date of issue.
- Commission customers who make client referrals that result in a commission or sale will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate to be used toward their next purchase. It must be redeemed within one year of the date issued.

### **Pricing Art Glass Work**

A variety of factors determine the cost of a piece of artwork regardless of the media used to create it. Each artist or studio will price work based on a formula of these factors. Therefore, prices are not absolute nor does a standard scale exist. Some of these factors may seem obvious or concrete to a client while others are not so simple or clear cut.

Allow me to list some of items that influence how I determine the price of my artwork. Of course there are the factors common to any business; overhead, transportation and advertising, which I don't think need to be explained.

Factors more specific to the artwork are size, complexity of design, materials and labor.

- Size is based on the square foot. To determine the size in square feet; measure in inches the height and width, multiply the height X width, and divide that figure by 144. This figure is then multiplied by a dollar amount.
- Complexity involves the number, size and shapes of individual pieces in the design.
- Choice of materials involves the glass and method(s) of fabrication.
  - Fabrication is how the glass is held together, this is done using
    - Copper foil and solder or
    - Came made of lead, zinc, brass or copper and solder
  - Glass costs are determined by each manufacturer, outlet or studio based on
    - Color; single or multiple; transparent or opaque; iridized or mirrored
    - How it is made, by hand or machine which determines quality and texture
    - Amount and where purchased; small pieces, full sheets, multiple sheets; direct from factory; through a distributor/catalog, local outlet/shop
    - Special preparation; beveled pieces or clusters, etching or sandblasting

*Splendor in the Glass ~ Stained and Leaded Glass Art*

**M. Hope Kirk-Thornton**

29901 Brighton Court, Delmar, Maryland 21875  
410.896.3710 info@glass-splendorinthe.com



- Labor means the artist's time and skill; how glass is chosen, cut, placed and fabricated. This is the most difficult to calculate because it determines the physical and aesthetic quality of the finished product.

My prices are based on a charge of \$125.00 - \$150.00 per square foot. Because of the previously listed factors these figures are not absolutes nor are they guaranteed not to change. The artist's personal non-commissioned artwork may not be priced exactly the same per square foot as commissioned artwork.

#### **Commissioned Artwork**

- There will be a pre-paid, non-refundable charge of \$50.00 for drawing the design.
- Major changes requested after the final design is accepted are subject to additional charges.
- Upon signing the commission contract a minimum deposit equal to 25% of the final cost is due.
- Once materials for a commissioned piece have been ordered 25% of the final cost becomes non-refundable.
- Major changes, in the design or changes in the choices of glass, made by the customer after materials have been purchased will result in additional charges.
- Payment of the total balance is due upon in-person delivery of the artwork.
- Maryland residents will be charged 6% sales tax on the total commission price.
- Shipping and insurance costs are to be paid by the customer.
- The shipment must be signed for at the time of delivery.

#### **Artist's Non-commissioned Artwork**

- Total costs are due upon purchase. If work is being shipped the total cost will be due and cleared before shipment.
- Maryland residents will be charged 6% sales tax on the total price.
- Shipping and insurance costs are to be paid by the customer.
- The shipment must be signed for at the time of delivery.

*Splendor in the Glass ~ Stained and Leaded Glass Art*

**M. Hope Kirk-Thornton**

29901 Brighton Court, Delmar, Maryland 21875  
410.896.3710 info@glass-splendorinthe.com