

# Glass Art Fest focuses on classes

## CHECK IT OUT



The first Victorian Glass Art Festival is scheduled for this weekend with classes, workshops, demonstrations and a self-guided glass art tour of Victoria sites. There will also be introductory classes for beginners and hobbyists and a free, teaching-technique forum Sunday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. where organizer Dennis Brady anticipates "we'll do a little brainstorming."

Class costs range from \$30 for a class in kiln construction to \$400 for a two-day stained glass design class. Other classes will cover cutting, soldering, model cars and ships, mosaics, and various aspects of the glass business. Evening workshops will focus on selling wholesale, retail craft shows, wholesale gift shows and selling to the U.S. Free demonstrations all Saturday will feature installing windows, reinforcing glass panels, production and cutting guides, and packing and shipping.

"My sons and I have been visiting big glass expositions for years," said Dennis Brady, a designer and master artisan who founded DeBrady Glass in 1982. "This is the first time anyone has tried a glass art festival in Canada. One of our goals is to try to develop better teaching techniques. People are coming from all over the U.S. and Canada, and we're already making plans for next year's festival where we're going to invite more manufacturers. Next year we'll also have more crafts and focus on how to make a good living working with glass."

For more information on the Victorian Glass Art Festival call 382-9554 or check the Web site at [www.victorian-glassartfestival.com](http://www.victorian-glassartfestival.com). *Joseph Blake*



Jason Brady is not only a glass craftsman, he is a partner and general manager of De Brady Glass and the son of the company's founder. Here, he works on a piece representing a spaceship, which went on to win an international award. He later sold it and another prize-winning piece for \$8,000 US. *Special to the Times Colonist*