



Advanced Silversmithing: Lapidary and Inlay G26040410

With Jamie Halpern and Brandon Ruppert

April 26–May 2, 2026

Welcome to Advanced Silversmithing: Lapidary and Inlay!

This is a hands-on course in silver jewelry-making and lapidary for students who already have basic silversmith skills. Techniques are demonstrated but learning comes from actually doing the work. Problem solving is a significant part of this learning process. Studio work will be supplemented by demonstrations and discussions and perhaps some guest instructors.

Students will learn lapidary and channel inlay bracelet construction and will leave with multiple pieces of wearable art and a discovery of their own creative potential! We are very excited to have the opportunity to introduce lapidary and stone-inlay techniques to advanced silversmith students. The fully-equipped Ghost Ranch Silversmith Studio provides a wonderful opportunity for students to learn the skills and techniques of silver jewelry-making and stone inlay in a beautiful location with a long history in the creative arts. Ghost Ranch is a place of beauty and serenity that nurtures the creative spirit in everyone it touches.



General Workshop Hours: The daily class schedule is 9–noon and 1–3:30. For those who are interested, the studio will also be open in the late afternoon and evening, though participation in other Ranch activities is also encouraged. Ghost Ranch is a wonderful place to visit with many things to do and many places to explore!

Supply List: The studio is fully equipped with all the needed tools, supplies and equipment. Students may bring their own hand-tools, stones and/or silver supplies if they have them, but please make sure any tools are labeled with the student's name.

NOTE: Students will need to purchase the silver used in the class if they don't bring their own materials. Ghost Ranch has all the needed silver available for purchase at the studio.

PLEASE NOTE: Students should expect to spend between \$100 – \$300 or more on silver for the week unless brought from home – and this cost is NOT included in the class fee and will be paid at the end of class. Payments for silver purchased will be made to Ghost Ranch at the end of the week; cash or checks are the preferred method of payment.

Students should also bring clothing that can get dirty and closed-toe shoes for safety.

Recommended Resources: There are many books available in the library or on-line that illustrate southwest- style jewelry and jewelry construction



techniques. Two excellent books to look for are: *The Complete Metalsmith* by Tim McCreight , and *Indian Jewelry Making* by Oscar T. Branson

Instructor Contact Information: Jamie Halpern is a silversmith and lapidary artist and jewelry instructor and lead for the Ghost Ranch silversmithing programs. Brandon Ruppert, another accomplished silversmith and Ghost Ranch instructor, will be co-teaching with Jamie. If you have any questions, you are welcome to e-mail Jamie at finnpern@gmail.com