



**Melanie Gamache**

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borealis\_beading



Borealis Beading

## SUMMARY

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A passionate Manitoba Métis artisan working to share the Métis (The Flower Beadwork People) Culture and Heritage through the art of beading.

## EDUCATION

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February 2021	Indigenous Canada – University of Alberta, Faculty of Native Studies
December 2019	Finger weaving – Carol James – Musée Saint Boniface Museum, Winnipeg, Manitoba
July 2019	Split Toe Moccasins – Jennine Krauchi & Maureen Matthews – Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg, Manitoba
April 2018	Introductory Beading – Jennine Krauchi & Maureen Matthews – Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg, Manitoba
Winter 2017-2018	Smoke / Brain tanning – Carl Froese – Manitoba Buckskin, Winnipeg, Manitoba
July 2015	Métis Moccasins – Jennine Krauchi – Fort Gibraltar, Winnipeg, Manitoba

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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July 2015 – Present      Ongoing mentorship with Jennine Krauchi, a Métis beadwork artist and designer. She creates clothing and does replica work for many organizations, including the Manitoba Museum, Parks Canada, the Canadian Museum of History, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and other institutions in Scotland, France and the US. Some of her pieces can be seen worn by Métis National Council President Clement Chartier and Manitoba Métis Federation President David Chartrand. She has also taught quillwork and moccasin/mukluk making in schools and at festivals in Canada and Europe.

November 2019	Art of Managing Your Career-Indigenous Perspectives – Creative Manitoba
October 2016	Manitoba Business Start Program – Small Business Development, Entrepreneurship Manitoba
October 2016	Business Plan Development Workshop Series – Women’s Enterprise Centre of Manitoba

## MEMBERSHIP’S

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Creative Manitoba  
Churchill Northern Studies Centre  
Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Education Center  
Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada  
Mentoring Artists for Women’s Art

## EXHIBITIONS

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November 2018- January 2019    McCreary & District Library – Burrows Trail Arts Council

## COLLECTIONS

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- “A Familiar Memory” – Custom beadwork on leather jacket – Mark Sweeny, Special Advisor Indigenous Cultural/Stakeholder Initiatives – Manitoba Hydro
- “Peek a boo Flower” – Custom beadwork on handbound journal – Jennine Krauchi
- “The Blue Bear” – Private Collection
- “Lucy’s Halter” – Francine Labossiere
- “The Last Run” – Private Collection
- “My Favorite Memory” – Private Collection
- “Three peas from the same pod” – Custom beadwork on buffalo leather jacket and matching gauntlets – Private Collection
- “Remember the Bison” – Custom beadwork on leather vest – Private Collection

## FACILITATOR

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Spring 2015 – Present Manitoba Hydro Indigenous Artist/Artisan Market Coordinator, Winnipeg, Mb –

January 2018 – December 2019 - Burrows Trail Arts Council, McCreary, Mb

Introduction to 2-needle Beading (3 workshops)

- Beginner Project (1 workshop)
- Leather Medicine Bag (1 workshop)
- Beaded Journal Cover (1 workshop)
- Leather Mitts (1 workshop)
- Beginner Loom (1 workshop)
- Métis Moccasins (1 Workshop)

September 2019 - Pembina Hills Art Council, Morden, Mb

- Introduction to 2-needle Beading (1 workshop)

September 2018 - Art Sur 59, St Pierre, Mb

- Introduction to 2-needle Beading (1 workshop)

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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October 2020 – Present

Dawson Trail Museum, Richer, Manitoba

January 2019 – Present

Dawson Trail & Arts Tour – Executive member, Art sub-committee member, Heritage sub-committee Chairperson

September 2016 – Present

The Flower Beadwork Circle – Participating member

May 2015 – Present

Indigenous Awareness Committee – Manitoba Hydro