



madisonbead.com

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MADISON BEAD COMPANY NEWS

WE'RE MOVING!

I'm sure some of you are going to notice the "FOR LEASE" sign in our window here at Sequoya Commons, so I'd better let our customers know that they do not need to fear! We have been working on getting out of our lease early and have already been searching for a new location, with a few good options on the line already for when the time comes. Once our landlords find someone to occupy our space, we're free to go!

As many of you have surely noticed, because of a downtrend in beading over the last 10 years, many bead stores have closed. When Chris decided to close the Bead Bin, I knew that opening my store was not going to be a "money maker," but I wanted to continue to service the Madison area bead community. (my joke is that I didn't want to get a "real job") The truth is, this is the hardest and most rewarding job I've ever had, and I don't want to do anything else.

I've always told people that as long as I could keep paying the bills, we'd be here. Well, financial woes have led to a decrease in our inventory, which makes me very unhappy-- so I'm trying to do something about it. We're looking to cut our rent in half, so that I can afford to buy new beads more frequently and have a better selection for you guys. That sounds like a win-win to me. I know if we can get over this hump and get more inventory, I'll be here for a good while longer to serve you. Hopefully forever!

Until we learn anything more, it's going to be business as usual here. I'll continue to do the best that I can with the money coming in, and you all know that I'm happy to order specific things in for you if you make requests, especially if it's something we've carried in the past and I know I can get it again. Shoot me an email at info@madisonbead.com with any orders you want to make, and I'll make it happen.

I could use some help from the beading community. I need you guys to spread the word that our space is available in Sequoya Commons to another locally owned business that doesn't compete with any of the other stores in the shopping center. Boutique shops, an art gallery, services excluding nail and hair salons, etc. If you know of anybody looking for a space, this might be perfect for them! There's tons of foot traffic, the library is always busy, our neighbors Luigi's pizza and Fancy Nails do a booming business.

I've been working with a realtor and my family to try to find a new space nearby (focusing in the Odana area) that's about 1200 sqft. If you think you know of a place that I may not have spotted already, please share it with me! (info@madisonbead.com) Our primary goals are to get about the same amount of space, with better parking, and good visibility. So far nothing is a 100% match to my criteria, but we're still early in the process. I might be asking for a miracle, but I have to have faith that the universe will take care of me! Sometimes you just have to throw all the chips up into the air and hope they settle in a satisfactory fashion!

In conclusion, I wanted to say THANK YOU to our customers for their continued patronage and especially for their patience with me while we go through this stressful time! I'd like to encourage you all to check out our new class schedule and take a couple of classes this spring. Visit us at the bead show this weekend! After the bead show, I'm planning a series of trunk shows to put out and start saving up for the eventual move. Wish us luck!

- Meredith and the MBC crew