

An Invitation to the Wissmach/Kaiser-Lee Kiln Forming Challenge

by Petra Kaiser

Here is an invitation from Wissmach Glass and Kaiser-Lee to help spark your creativity and kiln forming skills. If you're wondering what to make, the possibilities are endless. There are a few things to consider as you plan your entry, which is due by December 15, 2018.

Rules for Entering the Challenge

Your final glass art can be any size and can be one piece or a series of pieces that you have made with your multifunctional Kaiser Lee Board mold. You can also enter a series of drop vases, cocktail dishes, suncatchers, an installation, or cast glass sculptures, to name just a few suggestions. As long as you have used one or more pieces of 6" x 6" Kaiser Lee Board and the Wissmach 90 or 96 COE glass, you are eligible to enter the competition.

Together we brought the art of glass fusing and kiln forming where it is today, and with a little challenge we might be able to spark a few new ideas. All you need to do is to take one or two pieces of 6" x 6" x 1" of Kaiser Lee Board and some Wissmach Glass and start creating.

Glass fusers are a sharing community. That's why we also have a category where you can enter as a group—maybe just yourself and a friend or even a whole class. We can hardly wait to see what you all will come up with.

A Sample Project

In the images you see two examples of how Kaiser Lee Board molds can be set up to kiln form glass projects. I won't be eligible for a prize, but I wanted to take on the challenge myself, and I hope you will too.

My goal for creating the eight to twelve pieces I needed for a ceiling installation was to change the setup of the mold slightly for each hanging part. Each piece can move freely, which means that they will be seen from the front and the back.

Wissmach Luminescent Glass is ideal if you work with sculptural pieces that should look good from both sides. The texture in the Kaiser Lee Board catches the light at different angles, which adds even more interest to each piece. As a design feature, I used Wissmach Clear Textured Glass painted with Unique Artisan Paints. As always, you can full fuse and shape in one firing when you are using Kaiser Lee Board as your choice of mold material.

Participant Rewards

Every participant is a winner! Once you enter the challenge and send in your pictures, you will receive a copy of the e-book that will result from this challenge. Thirty participants will win a spot in the *Challenge E-book*. We will also have a variety of shopping coupons available.

Visit kaiserlee.com/the-6-challenge or e-mail Petra@kaiserlee.com to find out more. There you will also find a video with suggestions and instructions.



This 1" x 6" x 6" setup was made with 1-1/2" Kaiser Lee Boards.



This 1" x 6" x 6" setup is made with one Kaiser Lee Board.

Petra Kaiser, internationally renowned kiln formed glass artist and instructor, has a distinctive style that captures Florida sun, light, and water in sculptures, functional glassware, and wearable designs. She is always drawn to 3-D sculptures and abstract shapes, and when first introduced to glass fusing in 1997, she found the available mold options rather limiting. This gave birth to Kaiser Lee Board, a perfect kiln forming medium developed by Petra and husband Wolfgang, that is easy to cut and form into any shape for fusing molds.



Petra loves to teach and shares her cutting-edge techniques and designs with students in her Fuse It Studio and all over the world, and is a regular instructor at the Glass Craft & Bead Expo, BIG Arts, and Edison State College. She has also shared her innovative ideas in three books from Wardell Publications as well as through numerous articles in various international glass magazines. Visit www.kaiserlee.com to learn more about Petra's glass art and workshops.

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