

Rights vs. Responsibilities

What is our Right as a bead enthusiast and what is our Responsibility?

Whaaat?

I feel that it doesn't matter if you are an artist, teacher, beading professional or just someone that likes pretty little objects; I think that there are lines of rights and responsibilities that we should uphold.

Is it your right to give away work that you have beaded? Yes.

Is it your Responsibility to tell who the original pattern designer of your work is? Yes, but it is an ethical thing not a requirement. It Is your responsibility to not take credit when it is not due to you though.

Is it your right to give away patterns for free?> ONLY if they are your own patterns that you have made yourself. Then Yes it is. It is not OK to Copy patterns from someone else and give them away or sell them either. It is then your RESPONSIBILITY to make sure you do not commit theft of someone else's work.

Is it your right to place a dollar value on your work? Yes.

Is it your right/responsibility to tell others how they should price their work? No. If your opinion is asked you can give it. But it is not OK to go sticking your nose into someone else's business and tell them what and how to do something.

Is it your right/responsibility to tell someone their work is not good enough? This is a tricky one! You should not downgrade someone's work/ability but you should not falsely lead them to think they are more skilled than they are either. Say someone beads up an amulet in peyote and it is very loose and has gaps in it and they wanted to place it on some site for sale- I would gently suggest they take their time and improve before making the jump to sales. It would be awful if they put it up and sold it and then got horrible remarks about how poor the quality of the item was. BUT, I would in no way Discourage them from moving forward to achieve that goal. Offer your assistance/help but don't intrude.

Is it your right/responsibility to say when something is in bad taste? Yes. Everyone has likes and dislikes and their own taste, but if something turns you off or you feel it is in bad taste I would speak my mind.

Is it your right/responsibility to speak up when you feel someone is trying to take advantage of someone? Yes. You should speak out for what you feel is right.

Is it your right/responsibility to tell others if someone is trying to take credit where credit is not due? Yes, but again an ethical thing. You are not bound to tell but it does show you are trying to be truthful and conscious that there is someone out there that is being hurt by you not saying something to let others know the one person is trying to claim something that is not their right to.

Is it your right to say whatever you want or your responsibility to be careful how you speak ? A little of both I think. I think you should have the right to voice your opinions but I also feel you should be careful how you say your words as a beading professional as there are those who are new and old who may look up to you for creative inspirations and may admire you and your work. I understand frustrations of the business world but you should NEVER EVER take it out on innocent bystanders. And don't let yourself fall into the assumption that they should just not read what you write if they don't like it, that they should leave the kitchen if they can not stand the heat! That is an outright Copout.

To anyone I may have offended by what I have said in an off day I sincerely apologize. And to that PLEASE feel free to contact me and voice your thoughts and concerns.

Not only as a beading professional but as a Fellow Beader I regard you, respect you, fellowship with you, and understand you.

I hope to earn and keep your respect.

Thank you,

Rafannette Dooley