



# MAKING AND TAKING IN MKE

Milwaukee's best classes for wannabe artists and creators

BY LAUREN SIEBEN

By February, the symptoms of cabin fever can start to set in for Milwaukeeans. If you're feeling restless, don't distress — there are still plenty of ways to pass the time locally, and none of them involve counting down the days until June.

This winter, take your creativity a step beyond the usual wine and paint night by learning a new skill. Whether you'd like to try your hand at jewelry making or at crafting your own homemade cheese, the Milwaukee area is brimming with workshops and classes for aspiring makers, artists and foodies.

## DECORATING AND DESIGN AT BOHEMIA HOME DESIGN

This design shop offers an assortment of classes, from pottery to sign making. Classes are led by local artists, and participants are encouraged to bring a beverage to sip while they create. Upcoming classes will teach students the art of Sgraffito carving, furniture chalk painting techniques and abstract floral painting.

W62 N587 Washington Ave., Cedarburg; (262) 375-2700 or [jenny@bohemiahomedesign.com](mailto:jenny@bohemiahomedesign.com)

**Next classes:** Feb. 1, 8, March 15. Register by phone. Prices vary from \$45 to \$65 per person.

## LETTERPRESS PRINTING AT BAY VIEW PRINTING CO.

Bay View Printing Co.'s weekly Drink & Ink nights live up to their name: During BYOB workshops, participants create one-of-a-kind posters using antique wood type. All you need to bring is yourself and any snacks or beverages you desire. Larger groups can book a private Drink & Ink session for a creative night out with friends, family members or coworkers.

2702 S. Howell Ave.; (414) 744-0844 or [ashley@bayviewprintingco.com](mailto:ashley@bayviewprintingco.com)

**Next classes:** Most Thursday nights from 6 to 9 p.m. Register online. \$30 per person.

## FLORAL DESIGN AT BANK OF FLOWERS

Skillful floral design is an art, and Bank of Flowers can help awaken your inner florist with its monthly floral design classes held in Menomonee Falls. In February, classes will focus on fragrant urban design, instructing students on how to use fresh eucalyptus and cut flowers to create a mini-garden that's suitable for city dwellers. In March, budding florists will learn the art of French garden design, using trailing greens and large blossoms to create a kitchen table centerpiece.

N88 W16723 Appleton Ave., Menomonee Falls; (262) 253-9111 or [info@bankofflowers.net](mailto:info@bankofflowers.net)

**Next classes:** Feb. 26, 27, 28; March 12, 13, 14. Register by phone. \$40 per person.

## CHEESE WORKSHOPS WITH THE CHEESEMAKER

For cheese lovers eager to take a peek at how Wisconsin's favorite snack is made, local cheese maker Steve Shapson offers a delicious crash course. During his weekend workshops, Shapson teaches students how to create their own cheeses, yogurt, cultured butter and crème fraîche. Students finish the weekend with a new

appreciation for cheese making, tasty snacks to show for their hard work, and a certificate of completion.

11611 N. Grace Court, Mequon; (414) 745-5483 or [steve@thecheesemaker.com](mailto:steve@thecheesemaker.com)

**Next classes:** By appointment; call to schedule. Four weekend workshops are planned for 2018. \$490 per person; includes a wine and cheese social, Saturday lunch and all tools and equipment needed to make the cheeses.

## JEWELRY MAKING AT TASHA RAE JEWELRY

"We supply the materials; bring your favorite beverage" is the tagline for Tasha Rae Jewelry's classes hosted at Tasha's Bay View studio. Students let out stress as they hammer out brass, copper or sterling silver to create original, hand-forged metal jewelry under the tutelage of two professional jewelry makers. Aspiring blacksmiths can craft their own cuff bracelets, statement necklaces, earrings and more.

3074 S. Delaware Ave.; (715) 574-8989 or [tasha@tasharae.com](mailto:tasha@tasharae.com)

**Next classes:** Feb. 8; March 1, 15, 29. Register online. Starts at \$40 per person.

## CHOCOLATE PAIRING CLASSES AT INDULGENCE CHOCOLATIERS

If you prefer to wash down dessert with an adult beverage, Indulgence Chocolatiers regularly hosts pairing classes to help participants match chocolates with a complementary beer, wine or cocktail. Upcoming classes will focus on pairing chocolates with winter cocktails, old-fashioned and romantic wines — just in time for Valentine's Day.

211 S. Second St.; (414) 223-0123, [indulgencechocolatiers.com/classes/](http://indulgencechocolatiers.com/classes/)

**Next classes:** Check website for dates. Register by phone. \$30 per person. **M**