Chroma Lei Necklace with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1
Chroma leis
(upbeat music) - Hey, everybody. Welcome to Creative Bug. We're coming at you live like we always do on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I'm in the studio with Lisa Solomon, - Hello. - local artist, educator, and color lover. - That's true. - Lisa's been here this week filming an amazing new daily challenge. I can not wait for it to come out later this year. It's all on professional practices for artists which is something you teach at a university level. - Yes, yes. - Just give me a little like ten-second bite. - I don't know. All the stuffs: portfolio development, how to get your work out there, taxes. We talk about taxes. - CV, how to prep images, what your images should like, how you should talk about yourself in the third person. Poor Lisa's been talking all day long so she might not say much during our live shoot. But stay tuned because we'll have her back doing office hours when we actually launch that so you can ask real, in-person, live in-person questions about how to get yourself set up to be an artist out there in the world. - Hopefully, yes. That'll be good, yes. - For today's live shoot, we're just taking advantage of Lisa's color love, my color love. And because we're on the brink of many people's graduation, this is like end of summer. We have kids transitioning from elementary to junior high, college graduates, maybe personal programs. You said that your daughter is doing like a Brownie Bridge. - Yes, she just did a Brownie Bridge. It was very cute. - So there may be many milestones that we think this would be appropriate for. We are going to make rainbow lei. It's also a certain month to celebrate a certain kind of pride. - Yes! - And rainbows are very applicable for that. - It's perfect. I feel like you should show that. - Yeah, let's take a look. There we go. Look how pretty. So this is actually a project from my Playing with Surface Design book. It's a garland in the book. We're adapting it to make a lei which is traditional for graduation. So this is the book, Playing with Surface Design. It's super easy because you're just using a paper punch, paper in your color of choice, and a bunch of paper straws. Those are gonna be are spacers. - We have gold straws. - What we have in front of us is text-weight paper. This is pretty important because most punches are only good with text-weight paper. Origami paper is gonna be too lightweight, and it can be tricky to punch. Cardstock is gonna dull down your punch unless it's specifically a thick punch. But I actually like using the text-weight paper even with the thick punch. You can just double it up and punch two sheets at once. - Nice and thick. - Also, some of these punches, these ones are by Fiskars. You can get this at your local Joann. They come in kind of different sizes and shapes and styles. You can also play with different shapes. I wouldn't recommend doing anything super intricate like a lacy snowflake style because those can clog your punches, and they don't work as well for en masse punching. But Lisa's using this really cute hexi one. I have a tiny circle. And the one that we just showed you was using a big circle, like a two-inch circle. So you're gonna wanna punch a bunch of text-weight paper in whatever color way you're using. Let me grab a piece of paper here. Yeah, do you want one too? - [Lisa] Sure. You folded it. That was clever. - [Courtney] That's because I have the thick punch. - [Lisa] Oh, let's see if it'll work. Maybe not. This may not work. Don't try this at home. - So because I'm using the thick punch which is for cardstock, I'm folding mine in half. - I'm gonna try it. - The nice thing about flipping your punch over is it allows you to line up. - [Lisa] You can see. - [Courtney] You can see. - [Lisa] It works. - [Courtney] Good job. So that you're not punching off the edge if that's not what you want. Just punch a bunch of your circles. Like I said, I am punching two pieces at once. - [Lisa] I am too even though it's not thick. Aha! Can I write thick

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on here? - [Courtney] No, Lisa. - [Lisa] Oh, man. - And if you wanna save that part in the middle and really just use it, then you can cut away where you've punched so you get another clean edge. That way you're using all of your paper or as much as you can. - [Lisa] I'm not using these, but they're pretty. - [Courtney] Yeah, well, save them for another project. - [Lisa] Yeah, they don't go with my color scheme. - [Courtney] Once you start this, you can save these little punches. They make great confetti. You can make garlands with it. We're gonna make the paper leis. Like I said, Lisa has... She's doing like a blue-green kind of lei. - Analogous color! - That's right. And I'm doing the pink-red version but in circles. So start with your embroidery floss. This is inspired because I know, Lisa, you use this in your work. - [Lisa] Yeah! - [Courtney] It's pearl cotton. - [Lisa] Yeah, twisted. - [Courtney] Twisted so that it doesn't unravel so that's nice. We've got a bunch of paper straws already cut. - [Lisa] I cut mine bigger than yours. - [Courtney] And you can play with the length. So Lisa has about... What, a half inch? - [Lisa] Maybe. - [Courtney] I have about a quarter-inch. The reason we cut these in advance is because they tend to pop. - [Lisa] Fly away. Where'd they go? I can't use any of them. - But you can see that they're really easy to cut. So we've already got ours here. All right, you can make a lei that has paper going the entire length. Or you can kind of choose to do it like a necklace so where the paper's really just at the bottom. This first part is the part that's most important 'cause it's gonna keep everything on your piece of embroidery floss. - Yeah, I'm paying attention to it. - By the way, just because we're talking about color, take a look at Lisa's nails here. Sam, can you see those? - [Lisa] They match. This was not planned. - [Courtney] So cute. So cute. Ways to use color, people. So what you're gonna do is you're gonna start and just thread on a piece of your paper straw. If you're going all the way to the end because you're gonna do a lei with paper all the way around, then you're gonna put this to about two inches. But we're gonna just do a central. So we're gonna leave about eight to twelve inches. And what you're gonna do is just loop back through with your needle. - [Lisa] Oh, loop-de-loop. - [Courtney] Trying to keep it one place so Sam can see it. So you can see it's like thread coming in, thread coming in. And this actually just locks this into place. It still can slide which allows you to adjust where all of your stacked paper is gonna be, but this is the key in making sure that everything does not fall off. - [Lisa] Okay. - [Courtney] And the process for this is you're just gonna start with your first color, whatever it is. Mine's gonna be this neon coral. We're using a tapestry needle. These are clover. We got these from Joann. Because they're tiny, even though they have a blunt tip, they're still sharp enough to just punch through paper. And we're just eyeballing the center. And you put on one piece of paper punch. - [Lisa] And then a straw? - [Courtney] And then a piece of straw. - [Lisa] Are we using same color? Alternating color? - [Courtney] It's totally up to you, however you wanna do it. Lisa's asking... - [Lisa] Oh, man. - [Courtney] And I did... On my big one, I did three colors and then switched to a new color, but you guys can do whatever you want to. For this one, I think I'm gonna do five of the same color before I switch. And remember, we're live so you can ask questions or maybe you have other ideas for using paper leis. This could be a fun, easy party craft for the right age. - [Lisa] You can make huge ones. - [Courtney] Yeah, you can make garlands. THat's what the project is from in my book, is the garland version. Play with the punch styles. And it's pretty fun and easy to do. - [Lisa] Okay, I'm gonna do three. - [Courtney] I like three; three's good. - [Lisa] I like odd numbers. - [Courtney] I'm doing fives then I'm gonna switch to my next color. So now my next color is red. Lisa, do you have any color theory ideas? Like how do you... I know you use color a ton in your work. Is there a particular way you're using it right now? You're doing some studies, right? - [Lisa] Right at this moment, I'm not doing things that are super colorful. Sadly, no. - Even your color meditations? - I haven't done one in a while. - Why is it that you're known for color? - Maybe 'cause

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big projects that I've done like Chroma with color, that I did with Christine, my partner, my color partner in crime, Christine Buckton-Tillman. - So that's the piece that Lisa did here locally, and now it's permanent home is? - Washington, D.C. - And can you talk a little bit about that project? It was kind of community... - Yeah, so Christine and I decided... I mean, we liked ordering lots of things in color, and we thought why not order stuff that you kind of would throw away. - [Courtney] Order as in arrange. - [Lisa] Color order, yes. So we had people send in basically plastic and paper bits. - Like ephemeral things. - Anything. - Like Starburst wrappers or a little plastic... - I loved those bread ties, the plastic little U guys that you get on the end of your bread which are color-coded for a reason. Did you know that? Those are color-coded for different days that the bread was made. I don't remember which day is which, but the white one was for Monday. And the green one is for Wednesday. I had a lot of white ones. - [Courtney] Monday bread. - [Lisa] Or whatever day that is, yes. And then so we glued the stuff either directly to the wall or at rare device, we put it on tyvex so it was easier to move. But we arranged it in color order from dark to light. - And maybe Faith, if you can look up Chroma and Lisa Solomon online. You can post a link to it because it's visually super stunning. - [Lisa] It's fun. It was really fun. But it's cool to really think about trash not being trash. - [Courtney] So these are things people normally throw away. And just by sorting and arranging them with attention. - [Lisa] They become really pretty. - [Courtney] Like your art. - [Lisa] And then like, you know, broken toys. It was fun. - [Courtney] Oh, yeah, there we go. - [Lisa] Counting. - [Courtney] This would be fun. I feel like you could do a very hungry caterpillar kid's tutorial, something with this. - [Lisa] Or you could do like... You know when you do coffee filter flowers, you could make little shapes. Stack the paper. - [Courtney] We're using all the same shape just because it makes it easy to eyeball it, but you guys could also play with... - [Lisa] Oh, you could do like a graduated small to large circles. That would be fun. I wanna like have a party and put these on all the chairs. - [Courtney] That'd be really pretty. I have to say this is such a satisfying project. The celebration garlands I made in the book, I still have. And I have them displayed because they make you happy. - [Lisa] Where'd you put them? - [Courtney] I had them on a vintage mannequin so they were kind of like a lei on a vintage mannequin. And sometimes I'll hang them on a doorway. And they're lightweight so you can easily just tape them up with some masking tape. - [Lisa] Washi tape. - [Courtney] Sometimes. Sometimes it's too heavy. Ooh, that looks so pretty. - [Lisa] I don't know where I am. One, two, three, one. Okay. All right. I'm a little spacey from talking all day. - [Courtney] Yeah, I bet. If you guys have questions, feel free to write in and let us know. - [Lisa] Do you have a favorite color, Courtney? - [Courtney] Oh, boy. I do love the pinks. Not so much to wear, but in decor and crafting, I do love the pinks. Of course, I love the indigoes. And I actually love gray. - [Lisa] Me too. - [Courtney] How about you? - [Lisa] Gray is, I think, my go-to. It's a non-color. I also like the pinks. I feel like you make really interesting color combinations. Like less safe. I'm always on kind of the safe side of color combos. - [Courtney] Yeah? - [Lisa] Yeah. - [Faith] Karen would like to know where you got the gold straws. - [Courtney] Hi, Karen, welcome. Karen's asking where we got the gold paper straws. I have to say, because of time's sake, I bought them online on Amazon. But you can use any paper straw. I feel like a lot of places have paper straws. It could be like your local art supply store. They'll do like patterned, cute ones. - [Lisa] Don't cooking supplies have them now? - [Courtney] Cooking supply. There's a lot of places. - [Lisa] Table or whatever that... - [Courtney] Yeah, a lot of places have paper straws, even like Target. - [Faith] Phil has a question. - [Courtney] Hey, Phil. - [Faith] What do you do when you're not feeling inspired to create? Is there a go-to color you have to help spark creativity? - Phil, that was a good question. What do you do when you're not feeling inspired to create? Is there a go-to color you have? That's a good question,

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Phil. Lisa and I were actually just talking about what happens when you don't have the... - Inspiration. - Inspiration. - Just do it anyways. - Yeah, do it anyway. - Go-to color. I think I would say like hot pink. If I'm like, "I don't know." Then if I grab hot pink and start doing something then I get more excited. - [Courtney] That's a good point. - [Lisa] Or other neon. - [Courtney] I feel like hot pink would definitely kind of kick off something. That's one of my favorite colors too. I don't know. Do I have a go-to color? No, I would say that I get inspired by seeing a pattern or a color in nature. And then I'll go from there. So I... - [Lisa] Yeah, that's true. - [Courtney] So I recently just started this painting calendar project, and I'm using green this month. So I feel like because I had that intentionality... - [Lisa] Oh, you didn't specify that. - [Courtney] Yeah, I'm using mostly green. - [Lisa] I noticed that. But I didn't realize it was... - [Courtney] Next month I'll change my colors so we'll see what happens. - [Lisa] What if you pick something then it's really hard to find things in that color? - [Courtney] I'll just have to... I think that's a thing is like you don't notice how much you see it until you say, "Hey, I'm just looking for this." I'm looking for goldenrod. That's the color right here. - [Lisa] Oh, okay. - [Courtney] We're in a pretty good time though for color because everything is blooming. - [Lisa] I know. I'm almost done. - [Courtney] Oh, my God, you're faster than I am. I'm doing five. - [Lisa] You're doing five, yeah. - [Courtney] I have two more colors left. - You tackled. One, two, three, one, two, three, one, two, three. - [Courtney] You can also see... - [Lisa] I did. - Oh, that's beautiful. The color of our straw really does make a difference 'cause it is pretty visible. - Oh, five is... - It's pretty fun. It's pretty satisfying. - I'm moving these down. - You can play with doing like a patterned straw. Like I said, there are a lot of patterned straws with stripes or little floral things or something. - [Lisa] Polka dots. - [Courtney] Polka dots would be fun. - [Lisa] You could paint them too, right? Don't you do that in the book? - Yeah, in the book I paint them to kind of give them a more mark-making feel. - Okay, it just has to fit over if we're doing it this way. - Good. So I think Lisa's going on, and she's just gonna tie a knot to hers. Did you do... Did you lock in? I like to lock in. - The last straw too? - Yeah, and I'll show that in just a sec. You can still move everything, but it keeps it from falling off. - [Lisa] I'm sure I just messed up mine here. - [Courtney] I don't know, Phil. Do you have a favorite color that is your go-to inspiration color when you're not feeling inspired? - [Faith] We did have a comment from a different Karen who said when she is uninspired, she watches Creative Bug. - [Lisa] Aw! - [Courtney] Oh, Karen! Karen said when she's uninspired, she watches Creative Bug. I should say, you know what? Thank you for saying that because I often hear that people don't have time to make something, and I feel like you don't have to be making something to be creative. It could just be about switching your mindset or taking a minute to appreciate creativity in a way when you're not making. I think Creative Bug is an excellent place for that 'cause I go to that place too. - I order things in color. - There you go. Sorting, right? This is a thing that satisfies your inner six year old. - [Lisa] Really bad. - [Courtney] My whole life, I had a really big room growing up, and my parents and I would endlessly battle about how tidy it was. And I would be the kind of person that would, even as a teenager, take out my beadbox and reorganize everything by color and just totally not look at the rest of the room because I was obviously feeling overwhelmed. - Just the beads were good. Yeah, my poor mom, she hated my room. It was a mess. And now I'm looking at my daughter's room, and I'm like, "Ugh." - The same. - But it can change. - It can; it's true. Okay, this is the last part. So just like we started, we're gonna end with a bit of straw. You're also gonna loop twice. It doesn't matter if it's as taut because we're gonna have a minute to change, to kind of adjust it. So again, loop through it again. Remove your needle, and then you can tighten it up. And you can see here... - [Lisa] Pretty. - [Courtney] That my string is not the same, and that's fine. So what you're gonna do is just gently shimmy up that gold bit of straw. You can push

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everything else down. And then shimmy this one down, and it allows you to have some flexibility until you have even bits. - I like yours. - [Courtney] I like yours. I love the hexi; it's really fun. - [Lisa] I like the five. I should have gone for more. - [Courtney] So this is just a simple way to use paper. We only used less than a sheet each of eight and a half by 11 text-weight paper. You can see I have all these great circles I can make more leis with. I can do confetti. I can save them for another project. And then you just simply tie a knot. Put both your strings together, do an overhand knot so that you can wear your lei or gift it to somebody else. - Woo hoo! - You can double up. - Yeah, I like the doubling. - I feel like... But this one's longer. I would want the big one on the bottom. - That's true. - And then my small one on the top. - If you had done a slip knot, you could. - I know. I didn't have a long enough string. But again, you can also make these into garlands. That's how it is in my project in my book. But I think they make a really easy lei because they're lightweight. A lot of like real floral leis can be very heavy especially if you have a lot. - So if you're doing this for people graduating from school, you could do school colors. - School colors, team colors, favorite colors. - What else could you do? - There are a lot of things you can celebrate. I think it would be fun to do a birthday lei and have it every year. Or change up the color every year. So I think it's good for any celebration or even if you just want some impromptu party jewelry. You can just make a lei or a necklace. - Or a crown. - Or a crown. - Maybe, I don't know. - Yeah, that works. - Okay. - Do we have any other questions, Faith? Are we good? Thank you, guys. Hopefully, you'll have found some color inspiration. Stay tuned for Lisa's exciting professional practices. That's gonna be released later in the year. But you can also check out her existing classes. She is an acrylics master and color master. She also has a great daily challenge on drawing shadows which is really fun. - That was fun. - Overlapping shadows. - I feel like I should do that now. - Yeah, when you're feeling stuck, go to the daily challenges. Faith will post a link to that, and we'll see you on Thursday for our next live shoot. Bye. - Bye! (upbeat music)

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