



Beads of Courage has had an increase in interest from generous wood artists kind enough to donate their lidded bowls and boxes to our Beads of Courage members. With the program growing exponentially, there is an even greater need for wooden boxes. Children and young adults are finding strength in a whole new way by receiving handcrafted beautiful boxes. The gift of having a safe place to keep hard-earned Beads of Courage can bring a sense of comfort to the heart and is a beautiful way to honor the strength and courage of children battling serious illness.



Wood Artist Guidelines



Beads of Courage receive thousands of beads. It is desirable for the boxes to hold them all. As a result, turned or rectangular lidded boxes need to be large. Larger the better! Recommended interior dimensions for turned boxes are 6" diameter and 5" height. Recommended interior dimensions for flatwork boxes are 4" x 6" x 4".



The base needs to be wide enough so that the box is stable. The lids should be easy for small or ill children to remove or lift. Any finials should be easy for a small child to grasp and not too elaborate so they don't break.



Finishing of boxes is extremely important. The members who receive these boxes are susceptible to germs/infections. They need to be sealed so as not to harbor mold. Please take the time to ensure you are using a safe finishing process that does not contain toxic materials. Also do not use finishes like linseed oil that take a long time to outgas.



All kinds of wood are beautiful! Please refrain from painting Beads of Courage boxes. Instead, highlight the beauty of the wood with clear varnish, a stain, and/or burning.



It is nice if you can personalize your donation. Marking your name or initials, type(s) of wood, and date on the box bottom is one way. It is also nice to include a personal note of encouragement, business card etc. inside the box.

