The Glass Academy is the creative brainchild of founding artists Chris Nordin and Michelle Plucinsky. An extensive background in the glass arts with Bachelors of Fine Arts from College for Creative Studies in Detroit and Alfred University in New York respectfully, both artists have a wide resume of skills. The creative duo attended workshops from Maine to Seattle to prefect their glass skills in addition to teaching at professional levels, traveling to work abroad in Italy, and running a production studio at the Henry Ford Museum.

The current studio functions in a variety of ways, a teaching facility, and event space, and a design studio for the couple. This 14,000 square foot facility, tucked away in a vintage tool and dye area of Dearborn’s west side, the Glass Academy aims to expand the consumer’s awareness of how handcrafted glass can be utilized as a functional and/or decorative element in modern applications. Glass is a great tool for the architect or builder.

Open to the public 4 days a week, Wednesday thru Saturday, the staff works on various projects from private sculptures and awards, to corporate and public sculptures for clients such as Marriott Hotels, Allegra Printing, and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Most evenings at the studio involve a variety of glass “experiences”; Custom Mug Night–featuring our famous craft beer mugs, Coffee Nights– a drop in workshop, and other seasonal classes that allow the general public access to the craft of glassmaking for an evening of entertainment. The goal of the studio here is to create an awareness of the many facets of hand crafted glass while sharing the love of the process in a fun atmosphere.

Six to eight times a year, the studio is host to seasonal themed events such as Hot Glass + Cold Beer, Pumpkin Fest and Holiday’s in Glass. Live commentated demonstrations during these shows blended with a gallery filled of Michigan Made glass products; attract thousands of spectators and soon to be customers to the Dearborn studio.

Combined, each aspect of the Glass Academy highlights the true essence of what it means to be modern Art studio. Come by to experience it yourself!