

# The Original Denver Gem and Mineral Show – August 2023 Update

The 2023 Denver Gem & Mineral Show (DGMS) in conjunction with the Hardrock Summit will be held at the Colorado Convention Center from September 15-18, 2023. The Hardrock Summit has 4 shows at the Convention Center this year, including the Evolution Show, Sparkle & Joy Jewelry and Gemstone Show, DGMS, and AGTA Gem Fair. Visit <https://hardrocksummit.com/#summit> and <https://denvermineralshow.com/> for more information.

The DGMS will occupy the same space as last year on the upper, entry level of the Convention Center. The DGMS 2023 show will include about 30 dealers, fluorescent room, club tables, speakers (see list below), display exhibits, education and public sector tables, gold planning, Mr. Bones, and grab bags. The theme of the 2023 DGMS is ***Gem Minerals: Nature's Bling***.

Hours for the Show are Friday through Sunday 10:00am to 6:00 pm and Monday 10:00am to 3:00pm. Admission for Hardrock Summit this year is **FREE**; however, everyone is required to register to obtain a visitor ticket, which allows you to enter all the shows all 4 days. If you plan to attend the show, you can pre-register before the show to skip the registration lines by going to the following link <https://tickets.hardrocksummit.com/en/shop/tickets>, entering your information, and a ticket will be emailed to you that you can print out and bring with you. You can enter up to 5 tickets under one registration. Lanyards will be available at the show if you want to wear your ticket as a badge.

## Volunteers Needed

The non-profit DGMS is put on by the area Denver gem, mineral, and fossil clubs. Your participation as a volunteer is the life blood of a successful show and we need about 200 volunteers. Volunteers should work a minimum of 4 hours and will get a volunteer badge and be reimbursed for parking/public transit reimbursement (up to \$12 per day) on the day(s) you actually volunteer. The Convention Center parking garage is \$12 per day. We encourage you to take public transportation and there is a light rail station across the street from the Convention Center. An online volunteer sign up is located at the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D45A5AD2EA2F94-2023>

If you are volunteering for a club table, put in which club table in the comments. You do not need to register with an account for Signup Genius, unless you want to be able to edit your entries. If you can't get signed up online, please send Joe Walkowich an email at [joewcai@yahoo.com](mailto:joewcai@yahoo.com) with days and hours you want to volunteer, email address, phone number, and City and State that you live in and he will add you to the online database. Starting about two weeks before the show, the volunteer spreadsheet will be uploaded to Hardrock Summit's system and an automated email with your volunteer badge will be emailed to you and you can print out in color. If you don't have a color printer, the registration desk at the DGMS can print it out for you. Lanyards will be available at the registration booth. General admission badges/tickets are gray, so the color print will help the people with the scanners identify the volunteer and VIP badges (speakers and exhibitors).

Here is a list of volunteers and duties:

**Display Case Set-up and Tear Down** - About 30 wooden display cases to put together and take down – Wednesday 10am-4pm (lunch will be provided) and Monday 3pm-7pm.

**Information Booth** – Sitting position to answer questions and direct people to the shows.

**Registration Booth** – Sitting position to collect attendee/visitor information in a laptop and print out visitor badges.

**Scanners** - Sitting or standing position to scan volunteer and visitor badges to get into the DGMS.

**Dealer Unloading Drop-Off Area** – Direct dealers/exhibitors to drop-off and unloading area, manage parking areas, help dealers and exhibitors as needed. Thursday 8am-7pm and Monday 3pm-7pm.

**Grab Bags/Pins** – Sell to attendees.

**Club Table** – Sitting at club table to answer questions, do demonstrations, and recruit for your club.

**Fluorescent Room** - Answer questions.

## Speakers List

Here is the list of speakers so far as part of the Hardrock Summit and DGMS. All Speakers will be located in Room 401 near the entrance to the Hardrock Show. A schedule for the speakers is forthcoming.

Speaker	Topic/Title
Bill Larson	San Diego County Tourmalines, and recent finds at the Tourmaline King
Jeff Scovil	The Dreher's, A Legacy of Beauty
Stephen Nash	The Enchanted Gem Carvings of Vasily Konovalenko
Kim Vagnar	Gem Minerals of the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals
Laura McCall, Lizzadro Museum	Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art-Sharing the beauty of hard stone carvings for over 60 years.
Mark Jacobson	Spodumene - An Exotic Gemstone
Kimberly Collins, Niklai Israileff, Robyn Dufty, John Bradshaw; Moderator: John W. Ford	AGTA Shares It's Love of Colored Stones and Cultured Pearls
Jenna White (Mines), Kimberly Collins, John W. Ford	AGTA and Colorado School of Mines Update on the Transparent and Traceable Gemstone Supply initiative
Ed Raines	Fun for Curators: validating gem minerals or precious metals and encounters with fakes and frauds
John Rhodes	Colorado Faceted Gemstones
Renata Lafler	"Crowns and Cleavage – Gems from the Mines Museum of Earth Science"
Brain Walko and Conrad North	Silver Foxes of Fluorescence
Albert O'Ray	Unearthing the beauty of Chihuahua, Mexico

## Request for Club Members Display Exhibits and Competitive Exhibit Options

Another outlet for your support for the DGMS would be to enter an exhibit in the show for the enjoyment of our visitors. For over 50 years, these displays have set us apart as unique from the rest of the area shows. We encourage exhibits that feature the show theme of "Gem Minerals: Nature's Bling", but any display is appreciated like fossils, mining history, collections, and educational/hobby topics. Exhibited material need NOT be self-collected. Contact Larry Havens at [lwrnchavens@comcast.net](mailto:lwrnchavens@comcast.net) or 303-757-6577 if you are interested in putting together a display case in the DGMS. Setup for the display cases will be Thursday, September 14th.

In addition, we are offering the following competitive exhibit options with awards:

- Both Adult and Junior (ages 6 through 14) Prospector Competitions - The collecting period for eligible personally-collected specimens is September 12, 2022 to August 25, 2023.
- The Species Competition – Entries are mineral specimens (one per category) in the following categories: thumbnail, toenail, miniature, cabinet, oversize cabinet, self-collected, best of Colorado, lapidary/jewelry, gem fossil, and organic gem. You may enter one, some, or all the categories.
- The Best Fossil Personally Collected in the Field Competition – Up to three specimens can be entered.

For full information and entry forms contact Larry Havens at [lwrnchavens@comcast.net](mailto:lwrnchavens@comcast.net) or 303-757-6577. The link for the forms is located at <https://www.denvermineralshow.com/copy-of-exhibits->

[exhibitors](#). Deadline for the competitive entries is September 1st. We will provide display cases and liners (if requested).

If you have any questions, please contact Amber Brenzikofer, 2023 DGMS Chairperson, at [amberbrenzikofer@gmail.com](mailto:amberbrenzikofer@gmail.com) or 720-480-5234.

Thanks and let's have a successful show this year!