

Stephanie Astalos-Jones

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Stephanie Astalos-Jones presents the ancient art of pysanky. Making pysanky (pysanky-plural, pysanka-singular) was a job for the woman of the household in ancient times. It was a sacred, secret task undertaken once everyone else was in bed. Animal, floral, and geometric designs flow across the surface of eggs of all sizes. Folklore and symbolism abound in this beautiful and traditional Ukrainian art form. Pysanky have been decorated since ancient pagan times. Many of the motifs used to decorate pysanky can be traced back to the Bronze Era, 5000 years ago.

For a demonstration, Ms. Astalos-Jones has been creating the traditional of pysanky for 15 years. The detailed designs are written on eggs using hot beeswax and alternately bathing the egg in various colors of dye. Every line carries meaning.

Ms. Astalos-Jones will set up a display of beautiful eggs and egg art pieces. She will also present the history, folklore and symbolism and demonstrate the art of making pysanky in the manner rooted in the purest form of tradition. This presentation is fun for all ages. Audiences should be no larger than 50 for best visibility.

Ms. Astalos-Jones has been written about by the *Atlanta Journal/Constitution*, the *Athens Banner/Herald*, and *Southern Living Magazine*. Also a professional actress and creative dramatics teacher, she loves working with all age groups and sharing the beauty of pysanky.



Bookings: Stephanie Astalos-Jones *Artist*

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Fees: Demonstrations \$100 to \$200 (plus travel expenses)

Educational Outreach \$150 basic demonstration, \$300 demonstration/pysanky making (plus travel and supply expenses)

Demonstration Specifications: Space Dimension: 8' x 5' • Setting: 5' table, 1 chair • Lighting: direct over-head