

# I Want to Be a Stained-Glass Artist

*My name is Tom Holdman, and I'm a stained-glass artist.*



## When did you learn to make stained glass?

In high school. After my mission I wasn't accepted to a university, so I studied on my own. I read *lots* of books. I visited Europe to study the stained-glass windows of famous cathedrals. I stared at one window in Czechoslovakia for an hour! It was

inspiring. I promised myself that someday I would try to make a window that beautiful. Now I get to make stained-glass windows for temples around the world.

## How do you get your inspiration?

I fill my mind with great art and music. When I was making stained glass for the Winter Quarters Temple, I listened to the hymn "Come, Come, Ye Saints." Nature also inspires me. When I look up at the rustling leaves of my apricot tree, I get many great ideas!

## How does your job help you share the gospel?

I was born with a speech impediment, which means I stutter. When I was a child, I was often treated unkindly. But it actually blessed me because I had to find other ways to



express myself. Through my art, people can feel my love for the Savior.

*From an interview by Amie Jane Leavitt*

## What advice do you have for someone who wants to be an artist?

Just get some paper and draw! Don't be afraid that it won't look good. I have a motto: there's always more paper! If one picture doesn't turn out, get more paper.

