



FISCAL YEAR 2015
08.01.2014 ~ 07.31.2015



ANNUAL REPORT

LONDON POTTERS GUILD

Mission Statement:

To be the leader in the education and promotion of the clay arts in Southwestern Ontario. We provide high-quality programming, nurture the development of professional clay artists, collaborate with other community organizations and encourage fellowship in an inclusive and accessible facility.



Chair's Report

Throughout fiscal year 2014-15, The London Potters Guild (LPG) continued to fulfill its charitable purpose of advancing education in the clay arts by building upon its strong operations and programming at London Clay Art Centre (LCAC). Using the diverse skills and dedication of the many volunteers and limited staff, the LPG closed out another successful year "in the black".

LCAC enjoys a growing reputation in the community as a place where anyone, no matter their skills and abilities, can learn about the ceramic arts and have a hands-on experience with clay. The majority of revenue generated at the centre came from the up to 12 classes per week offered in four sessions annually, summer and March Break camps for kids, birthday parties, and corporate team building sessions.

Part of the mission of the London Potters Guild is to engage and collaborate with other community organizations. Once again, LPG members participated in community events such as the Home County Music and Art Festival, a pit firing at the annual Harvest Festival at the Museum of Ontario Archaeology, and Doors Open London. Members also created hundreds of bowls and helped run the annual Empty Bowls event to raise funds to help feed people in need in our community.

In addition, we have a strong collaborative arrangement with The Palace Theatre, Aeolian Hall, Old East Village Business Improvement Area, and the Western Fair Farmers Market to conceptualize and promote incentives for Londoners to come to the Old East Village to shop, learn, and experience the arts.

To help run LCAC efficiently and to keep the vast facility clean, we continued to take advantage of the federal government's Job Creation Program and Canada Summer Jobs program, as well as the career building programs at Youth Opportunities Unlimited in London. We were fortunate to be able to harness diverse skills and abilities spanning building maintenance, store coordination and administration, and studio management.

London Clay Art Centre's operations were once again supported by generous funding contributions from London Arts Council (LAC) and Ontario Arts Council (OAC). Funds from these two organizations allowed us to continue to employ three vitally important staff members who provide administrative and technical support essential to efficient operations at LCAC. Through the OAC's support we were able to mount

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>Darlene Pratt, Chair</i>	<i>Karen Bailey</i>
<i>Judy Sparkes, Vice Chair</i>	<i>Katherine Moffat</i>
<i>Carol Anne Van Boxtel, Treasurer</i>	<i>Margaret Nickle</i>
<i>Robin Chacko, Secretary</i>	<i>Endri Poletti</i>

MEMBERSHIP

167 Members (102 studio, 23 summer studio, 38 non-studio and 4 honorary)



two exhibitions and three special displays of members' work in a new space designated specifically to showcase the professionalism of LPG clay artists.

This year's workshop saw former Londoner, Naomi Clement, visit LCAC and provide a two-day, hands-on workshop demonstrating and teaching techniques for creating vessels using a combination of hand-building and throwing. And, the LPG once again held two weekend sales in which over 50 clay artists sold their work to London and area's most enthusiastic clay patrons.

In April 2015, The London Potters Guild and LCAC significantly broadened its footprint around the world. Five intrepid travellers from the LPG spent 15 days in Icheon, South Korea learning from five ceramic masters! From all accounts their adventures were spectacular and their learnings deep, profoundly altering their future clay practice. We look forward to having the masters visit LCAC in the spring of 2016 to share their cultural heritage and expertise with our members and the wider London community!

Once again, the London Potters Guild achieved its mission of being the leader in the education and promotion of the clay arts in Southwestern Ontario by providing high-quality programming, nurturing the development of professional clay artists, collaborating with other community organizations, and encouraging fellowship in an inclusive and accessible facility.

Congratulations!

Chair's Report by Darlene Pratt (Director of Marketing Communications at the Centre for Imaging Technology Commercialization and an LPG member since 1992)

2015 Empty Bowls Report

Once again, The London Potters Guild supported the Empty Bowls initiative and this year the proceeds of the March event were donated to El Sistema Aeolian. The El Sistema program runs out of Aeolian Hall in London's Old East Village. It is part of a global movement designed to offer free universal access to an intensive collaborative music program for youth with a focus on classical orchestral music. The program also offers healthy meals and snacks to its young participants.

This year's Empty Bowls comprised three sittings and another successful silent auction through which \$10,000 was raised to support the development of El Sistema's dinner program for the kids.

Dedicated LPG members threw, trimmed, decorated, and glazed over 500 bowls! After ticket sales, we had enough bowls left over to give each child in the program their own hand-crafted keepsake.

The Goodwill Centre once again donated ample space and coffee and tea, while the delectable pots of soup and baskets of dinner rolls were generously donated by 14 local restaurants and three bakeries.

Thank you to all of our community partners for helping us put on another outstanding event!



Classes Report

In this reporting year, the London Potters Guild offered four seasonal sessions of classes for adults, children, teens, and parent-and-child, as well as classes designed for particular groups. London Clay Art Centre provides a core curriculum of general and wheel concentration courses in levels I and II as well as hand building classes. During the four sessions, we ran 45 courses taken by a total of 379 students, averaging over 8 students per class. We have a group of over a dozen highly trained and enthusiastic instructors. March Break and summer clay camps were again a success, providing 6 half-day camps and 3 full-day clay/art camps in July and August. In all, 85 children and teens were actively and happily engaged in clay!

Classes Report by Sandy Harquail (Visual Arts Teacher and LPG member since 2009)



Store Report

The LCAC store is the ultimate showcase for what is produced at London Clay Art Centre by members of The London Potters Guild. Over the year, the store was filled with exciting pottery in an ever-changing variety of styles, shapes and colours. Due to space limitations, we deemed it necessary to limit the number of clay artists selling work in the store to 40, which has created a waiting list. To ensure quality control, every piece in the store has been juried and is then put on display by dedicated members of the store committee. Pottery sales over the reporting year totalled \$36,982.10, which represents a nominal decrease from last year.

Store Report by Margaret Nickle (former Supervisor, Customer Service, Bank of Montreal and LPG member since 2011.)



Exhibitions Report

"Kingdom Come" (October 24 to November 6, 2014)

"Kingdom Come - A Delicate Collaboration of Paper and Porcelain: A Narrative Come to Life" was an exhibition to showcase the work of Kaitlyn McGill, the first artist-in-residence (AIR) at the London Clay Art Centre. Throughout 2014, as AIR, she brought her extensive clay skills and knowledge to inspire London potters through classes, workshops, and personal instruction.

Kaitlyn McGill was raised in the small town of Cranbrook, British Columbia and pursued a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at the Alberta College of Art & Design. The delicate details of her childhood, and romantically optimistic view of the world around her led Kaitlyn to the enchanting art of narrative through ceramics and paper cutting. McGill's work is a sweet and light-hearted collaboration of memory and material. She tells her stories through magically moulded bits of clay and delicately carved sheets of paper.

"5 for Five" (June 26 to July 26, 2015)

"5 for Five" was an exhibition of work by five LPG members after they returned from a two-week international cultural exchange with five Master potters in Icheon, South Korea. The exhibition showcased the creative influence of the Masters, as well as Korean life and culture, on the LPG members ceramic forms and decoration.

The five LPG potters were:

- Pauline Durham - Sandy Harquail
- Jordan Scott - Chris Snedden
- Judy Sparkes



Sale Report

Three sales were held during fiscal 2014-15, including in November 2014, May 2015, and at Home County Music & Art Festival in July 2015.

The combined total from the spring and fall sales was \$65,587. Attendance at the spring sale was down as were the number of participating artists, due to a conflict with the annual sale of the Hamilton guild and several LPG members in Korea in the spring. Total sales were down approximately \$4000 in comparison to previous years, which precipitated the committee's decision to move the spring 2016 sale to the Mother's Day weekend.

Total sales for the past three Home County Festivals have been relatively steady ranging from \$4650 in 2013 to \$4513 in 2015.

Job Creation Program Report

The Job Creation Program, funded by the Department of Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC, formerly HRSDC), allowed The London Potters Guild to hire two staff people for 30 hours per week over a 40 week period. JCP positions at London Clay Art Centre were part of a larger grant that was applied for jointly with the Palace Theatre, Aeolian Hall, Western Fair Farmers' & Artisans' Market, and the Old East Village Business Improvement Area. The Store Administrative Assistant and Custodian positions, held by Kelly Greene and Bob Haggerty respectively, extended into the 2014-15 fiscal year. JCP participants were extremely valuable to LCAC operations, lessening some of the administrative and facility management burden of staff. Three new JCP staff started at LCAC in late spring 2015, comprising Volunteer Coordinator, Health and Safety and Website Design Specialists.



Library Report

The library was re-organized and placed into used shelving units in the second floor meeting area. The new arrangement allowed LPG resources to be displayed in a logical fashion with greater accessibility. Greater visibility has encouraged members to sign out and enjoy more of the books and magazines. In addition, it has increased donations of reference materials, including a bequest from the estate of the late Jean Jie Chen, a long-time member of the LPG, and gifts from the private libraries of members. Portions of the LPG's private collection of historical and purchased clay work was also displayed in the library area.

Sale, Library and Staffing Report by Teresa Ainsworth ((LPG member for 17 years; Membership Coordinator and Sale Committee member.)

Financial Report

THE LONDON POTTERS GUILD
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT JULY 31, 2015

ASSETS			
	2015	2014	
Current Assets			
Cash	\$ 82,892	\$ 30,732	
Accounts receivable	2,721	18,278	
Prepaid expenses	<u>1,024</u>	<u>1,435</u>	
	86,637	50,445	
Tangible Capital Assets (note 3)	<u>1,327,139</u>	<u>1,382,027</u>	
	<u>\$ 1,413,776</u>	<u>\$ 1,432,472</u>	
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 33,457	\$ 20,322	
Government remittances	2,832	2,995	
Deferred revenue (note 5)	35,860	33,813	
Current portion of long-term debt	<u>17,065</u>	<u>16,423</u>	
	89,214	73,553	
Long-Term Liabilities			
Long-term debt (note 6)	203,744	220,954	
Deferred contributions (note 7)	<u>913,818</u>	<u>951,894</u>	
	1,206,776	1,246,401	
Net Assets			
General fund	(2,912)	(21,557)	
Invested in tangible capital assets (note 8)	192,512	193,228	
Building fund	<u>17,400</u>	<u>14,400</u>	
	<u>207,000</u>	<u>186,071</u>	
	<u>\$ 1,413,776</u>	<u>\$ 1,432,472</u>	

The attached Independent Auditors' Report and notes form an integral part of these audited financial statements.

THE LONDON POTTERS GUILD
STATEMENT OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2015

	2015	%	2014	%
Revenues				
Product sales	\$ 154,697	38.40	\$ 137,427	35.43
Class instruction, workshops and programs	92,315	22.91	98,557	25.41
Grants	30,740	7.63	21,166	5.46
Ontario Arts Council grant	18,500	4.59	18,500	4.77
Amortization of deferred contributions	38,076	9.45	39,662	10.22
Membership fees	35,913	8.91	28,386	7.32
Fundraising and donations	12,452	3.09	19,329	4.98
Studio space rental	14,171	3.52	9,975	2.58
Interest and miscellaneous	<u>6,029</u>	<u>1.50</u>	<u>14,914</u>	<u>3.83</u>
	402,893	100.00	387,916	100.00
Expenditures				
Accounting and legal	7,105	1.76	18,373	4.74
Administrator salary	24,835	6.16	22,390	5.77
Advertising	10,333	2.56	10,377	2.68
Amortization of tangible capital assets	59,813	14.85	62,207	16.04
Commissions	84,024	20.86	85,762	22.11
Fundraising	10,285	2.55	9,172	2.36
Instructor fees	47,575	11.81	48,303	12.45
Insurance	7,106	1.76	6,688	1.72
Interest and bank charges	6,943	1.72	7,430	1.92
Interest on long-term debt	7,117	1.77	7,551	1.95
Office and general	11,221	2.79	6,675	1.72
Property tax	11,491	2.85	11,310	2.92
Repairs and maintenance	11,456	2.84	24,605	6.34
Studio technician	29,819	7.40	24,951	6.43
Supplies	28,077	6.97	25,379	6.54
Telephone and utilities	<u>24,764</u>	<u>6.15</u>	<u>24,748</u>	<u>6.38</u>
	<u>381,964</u>	<u>94.80</u>	<u>395,921</u>	<u>102.07</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures				
	<u>\$ 20,929</u>	<u>5.20</u>	<u>\$ (8,005)</u>	<u>(2.07)</u>

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Internal Workshops

August 10, 2014	Chris Snedden	Copper Matte & 24K Gold Lustre Raku
August 17, 2014	Chris Snedden	Foil Saggar & Horsehair Firing Raku
August 18-22, 2014	David Moynihan	Tricks, Tips & Techniques – Throwing
August 18-21, 2014	David Moynihan	Open Studio Clinics
September 7, 2014	Gene Timpany	Naked Raku
October 5, 2014	David Moynihan	Watercolours on Clay
October 26, 2014	Jennifer Gerardi	Slip Trailing
January 18, 2015	David Moynihan	Open Studio
January 25, 2015	David Moynihan	Watercolours on Clay
February 1, 2015	Sandy Harquail	Handbuilding with Extruded Pieces
February 22, 2015	Kaitlyn McGill	Platter Moldmaking
March 1, 2015	Jordan Scott	Yunomis & Tea Bowls
May 24, 2015	David Moynihan	Open Studio
May 31, 2015	Kaitlyn McGill	Gold Lustre
July 26, 2015	Chris Snedden	Raku for You

Internal Workshop Report by Judy Riseling (former music teacher, Orchestra London Box Office Manager, and LPG member for the past four years.)



Studio Potter Program

October 5, 2014	Sandy Harquail	Studio and Equipment Maintenance
November 30, 2014	Teresa Ainsworth	Glaze Making
December 28, 2014	Pauline Durham	Reclaim
February 8, 2015	Kaitlyn McGill	Studio and Equipment Maintenance
February 15, 2015	Chris Snedden	Kiln Loading and Firing
March 29, 2015	Teresa Ainsworth	Glaze Making
April 19, 2015	Pauline Durham	Reclaim

Overall, the Studio Potter Program (SPP) is well received and we continued to offer multiple sessions as part of the benefit of taking an LPG membership at London Clay Art Centre. All LPG members are eligible to take part in the sessions which are taught by knowledgeable instructors with extensive experience in the SPP areas of focus. Participating members become better educated about effective studio hygiene practices as well as techniques to enhance studio efficiency. We received very positive feedback about the depth of information provided and its usefulness in helping keep the LCAC studios clean and running smoothly. In 2016, SPP sessions will extend through the summer to accommodate individuals who purchase summer memberships.

Studio Potter Program Report by Elly Pakalnis (Administrative Assistant in the Dean's Office, Faculty of Social Science at the Western University)

External Workshops

Annually, we invite clay artists from far and wide to conduct demonstrations and hands-on workshops to enhance the learning and skills of LPG members and non-members at London Clay Art Centre.



Antoinette Badenhorst September 20-21, 2014

Antoinette Badenhorst, a clay artist from Mississippi, USA demonstrated her special techniques for thrown and hand-built pieces over the weekend of September 20-21. Working in porcelain, "the diva of clay", her presentation was very engaging; she provided us insight into the history of porcelain, and shared images of the landscape and flowers of her place of origin in Namibia and South Africa, which are inspiration for the decoration she places on her work. The colours she uses to accent her porcelain pieces are the same colour tones of the African landscape. Her expertise was evident as she provided workshop participants many tips and best practices for how to work with porcelain. Antoinette created thrown and hand-built teapots, bowls, and sculptural vessel using her special envelope technique.



Naomi Clement June 27-28, 2015

Born and raised in London, Ontario, Naomi studied ceramics with Walter Ostrom at the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design (NSCAD), graduating in 2003 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, minoring in Art History. In the years since graduation she pursued her craft in many different ways: working as an apprentice to studio potter Joan Bruneau of Lunenburg NS, as the Ceramics Technician during NSCAD's summer session, as a contributor to the book *Utopic Impulses: Contemporary Ceramic Practices*, selling and promoting her work at various craft shows and sales, and as an active member of the Woodlawn Pottery Studio in Toronto, ON. Towards the end of 2012, beginning of 2013, she had the opportunity to spend an extended period of time in the studio—to simply play with clay, take risks, and make work on her own terms. This intensive time in the studio not only reinvigorated her art practice, but gave her the space to realize that at heart, she is a maker-of-things, and would like to dedicate more time to making ceramics a full-time pursuit. She currently lives in Baton Rouge Louisiana, where she is pursuing a Masters of Fine Art in ceramics at the Louisiana State University.

Naomi is a very generous presenter who demonstrated the combination of wheel-thrown and hand building techniques she uses to create her work. She showed us how she makes cruet sets, different handles, flower bricks, and a serving dish and platter. Her pieces are designed to capture her glazes to perfection. This was a hands on workshop where participants concentrated on making the cruet set as well as decorating tiles with slips and underglaze.

External Workshops Report by Marilyn Barbe (owner of Ailsa Craig Village Pottery; has been a potter and LPG member for over 30 years.)



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