

FISCAL YEAR 2016
08.01.2015 ~ 07.31.2016



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.

MEMBERSHIP

180 Members

116 studio

23 summer studio

36 non-studio

5 honorary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Judy Sparkes, President

Carol Anne Van Boxtel, Treasurer

Darlene Pratt, Past-President

Shari Arnold

Karen Bailey

Cathy Herbert

Katherine Moffat

Margaret Nickle

Endri Poletti

Garry Worrall

In 2015-16, The London Potters Guild (LPG) focused on the development and implementation of a strategic plan. It was determined we needed to devise a "road map" to take us where we want to go over the next three years. Board member Katherine Moffat was diligent in her efforts and secured the funds for this project through a grant in late 2015 from the Good Foundation and we began working through the strategic planning process with enthusiasm. A sub-committee approached a series of consulting companies to find one that was a good match for an arts organization with our unique interests. After thorough vetting, we chose Kovacs Group.

We began by engaging stakeholders with an extensive survey to help us fully understand what we are doing well, as well as what we can improve in keeping with our values and mission.

We then put together a committee comprising current board members and longstanding leadership volunteers to work through three robust strategic planning sessions guided by Kovacs Group at Aeolian Hall. We identified six strategic priorities which will be our primary areas of focus over the next three years. Please refer to page 2 for a more detailed description of the priorities.

The LPG continued to run classes for all ages and skill levels, workshops, March Break programming, summer camps for kids, team building workshops and drop-in-days once a month. LPG members also benefitted from selling their work at our spring and fall sales held at offsite locations, as well as in our store which is open daily, year round.

Our artist-in-residence (AIR) program was further expanded with two new AIR's, Nicole Waddick of Waterloo and Hannah Pruder of Thompson, Manitoba, who contribute invaluable time toward the running of the studio and bring further opportunities for our members to develop as clay artists through workshops and classes.

In 2015-16, the LPG was once again awarded operational grant funding from London Arts Council (LAC) and Ontario Arts Council (OAC). The LPG benefitted from a significant increase from LAC, which allowed us to augment our studio technician hours, employ a cleaning service to keep our facilities in tip-top condition, and give an increase in pay to our invaluable Administrator - all essential to strong operations at LCAC.

The LPG continued to engage the community with its outreach efforts and helped generate \$15,000 for My Sisters' Place, making and selling over 500 bowls for the annual Empty Bowls event. We participated in Culture Days, Home County Music and Art Festival, and the annual Pow Wow at the Museum of Ontario Archeology by offering another exciting overnight pit firing.

In 2016, we reached far beyond our borders for fellowship with international artists. Following our engagement in 2015 in South Korea, 5 Master potters and their wives visited Canada to demonstrate at the FUSION Clay and Glass Conference in Toronto in June. While they were here, they took the opportunity to tour LCAC and provided an excellent free workshop for our members, who returned their generosity with one of our famous pot luck lunches.

The LPG has much to be proud of in 2015-16. The Board of Directors and all our hard-working volunteers at LCAC will continue to fulfill the guild's 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.

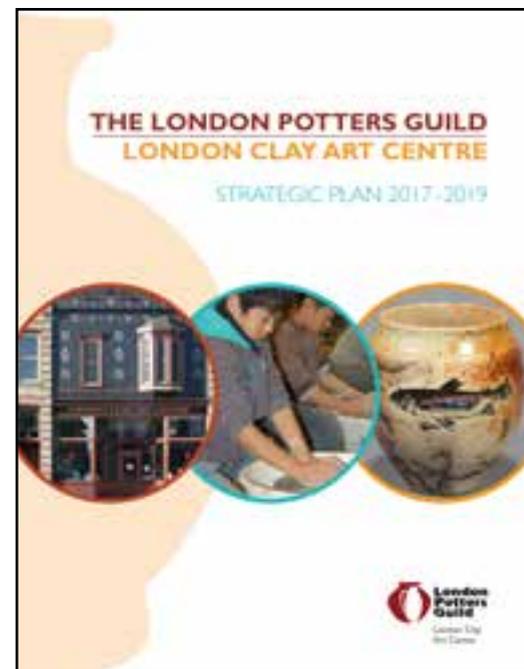
Thank you for all you do!

President, Judy Sparkes (Territory Manager, Flanagan Foodservice since 1999. LPG member since 2007)



Six Strategic Priorities for 2017-19

1. **Human Resources:** Historically, the LPG and LCAC have relied very heavily on the involvement and support of members, in conjunction with a few paid staff who play key roles in the success of day-to-day operations. Although we will continue to lean on LPG members to ensure the work gets done, we want to be intentional about attracting and retaining skilled staff so the organization can sustain operations and achieve growth.
2. **Facilities & Equipment:** We will focus on ensuring we have the facilities and equipment needed to effectively serve our current membership while promoting future growth. This includes evaluating our existing space to maximize its capacity while maintaining and adding to the equipment available to members.
3. **Programming & Education:** We will further develop programming at LCAC, as well as in the community, so people of all interests and abilities have an opportunity to enjoy and broaden their skills in working with clay.
4. **Financial Sustainability:** We will continue to build upon our solid financial foundation by diversifying funding streams to enable us to strategically pursue our diverse organizational goals.
5. **Branding & Communications:** We want more people to know who we are and what is available through our organization. We will develop a strategic marketing communications plan and establish a consistent brand identity that clearly defines the relationship between the LPG and LCAC. This important work will help us more effectively promote ourselves, bringing greater awareness of our work to local, national, and international audiences.
6. **Community Partnerships:** We will build stronger community partnerships and look for more ways to collaborate. We will strive to find mutually beneficial opportunities to impact individuals, groups, and organizations throughout London and beyond.



Empty Bowls Report

The 4th annual Empty Bowls event took place March 2016 at the Goodwill Centre. Over 400 tickets were sold for three meal sittings raising \$15,000 for My Sisters' Place. The silent auction raised \$1400 and a whopping \$2000 was raised selling My Sisters' Place mugs!

More than 500 bowls were thrown, trimmed, decorated, and glazed by a dedicated group of LPG members. 14 local restaurants and 3 bakeries participated this year, donating all the soup and bread needed for the event.

Thanks to the efforts of all the potters, donors of silent auction items, restaurants, bakeries, our clay suppliers and patrons, we have once again helped feed the hungry in our community, one bowl at a time!

Empty Bowls Report by Judy Sparkes (Empty Bowls chair since 2012)

Classes Report

In this reporting year, the LPG offered four sessions of classes for parent-and-child, adults, teens, and children as well as classes designed for specific groups. London Clay Art Centre provides a core curriculum of general and wheel courses as well as hand building classes. During the four sessions, we ran 43 courses taken by a total of 412 students, averaging over 9 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 7 half-day camps and 1 full-day clay/art camps in July and August. In all, 74 children and teens were actively and happily engaged in clay!

Classes Report by Nancy Marshall (Full time painter and clay artist) and Karen Bailey (Retired teacher and part-time clay artist)





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. To ensure a consistently high quality of work offered to the buying public, every piece in the store is inspected for technical flaws by dedicated members of the store committee before they can be placed on display. Pottery sales over the reporting year totalled \$40,655, an increase of over \$3,500 from last year.

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



Sale Report

The LPG held its two annual sales in November 2015 and May 2016, plus another during the Home County Music & Art Festival in July 2016. The three sales combined enjoyed the attendance of well over 2,000 people who viewed and purchased the work of approximately 60 LPG members generating the following sales totals:

Fall 2015	\$41,917
Spring 2016	\$28,754
July 2016	\$ 5,359
TOTAL:	\$76,030

Sale Report by Nancy Friedrich (former Research Technician at Western University and LPG member since 2008)

Exhibitions Report

LCAC's gallery space is located directly behind the store and features up to 10 specially-themed shows annually to display the developing work of several LPG artists in the same show. In addition, members are invited twice per year to submit a new body of work for jurying and the opportunity to exhibit for a full month on their own. This past fiscal year, Joanna Mozdzen and Geordie Shepherd were awarded the honour in October 2015 and April 2016.

Exhibitions Report by Melody Green (LPG member since 2011; sale, store and exhibitions committee member)

PIEKNO Exhibition

Joanna is a mask-maker, sculptor and a teacher. Her primary motifs are faces and human figures. Her works touches on themes both serious and humorous (and everywhere in between). Joanna's exhibition revolved around the concept of the beauty and expressive nature of the human body featuring figurative sculptures.



Manifest Exhibition

Somewhere in-between that which we contain and the description of those same contents, a yawning discrepancy comes to light. We struggle to match the descriptions to the objects but nothing ever comes up exactly correct. We suspect something has changed, perhaps been modified, but by who? Ourselves? Questions emerge, curiosity rises, creativity sparks. And life moves on, carrying the gap forward.



Diverse Community Engagement



Syrian Refugees toured LCAC; Hannah Pruder gave a demo on April 20, 2016.



Korean Masters demonstrating at LCAC workshop on June 9, 2016.



Pit fire opening at the Museum of Ontario Archaeology at their Annual Harvest Festival and Pow Wow on September 20, 2015.



Internal Workshops

Internal workshops are designed for LPG members to share their knowledge and expertise using a fee structure that makes them attainable for the widest possible audience. Workshops focus on providing lifelong professional development opportunities while fostering a community spirit at LCAC. We are fortunate to have several LPG members who have extensive experience as clay instructors at the college level and through workshops at various guild's and high schools across the province.

August 23, 2015	Sandy Harquail	Handbuilt Teapots
September 13, 2015	Gene Timpany	Naked Raku
October 4, 2015	Chris Snedden	Surface Decoration
January 24, 2016	Nicole Waddick	Sculpture Magic
February 21, 2016	Leslie Donald	Amazing Coil Pots
March 6, 2016	Leslie Donald	Amazing Coil Pots
March 20, 2016	Beth Turnbull Morish	Lettering & Slip Decorating
May 15, 2016	Nancy Marshall	Cool Tools
May 29, 2016	Nicole Waddick	Glaze Application Techniques

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



Studio Potter Program

LCAC's Studio Potter Program (SPP) was designed to educate new members about safe and hygienic studio practices as well as how to approach the more technical aspects of running a ceramics studio including: kiln loading and firing, glaze making, and clay reclamation. This past year's sessions were well-attended. As a result, more and more members are learning essential skills that will help them run their own studios, if they choose that option in the future, as well as provide invaluable effort in conjunction with our studio technicians toward efficient studio operations at LCAC. In 2015-16 the following sessions took place:

October 25, 2015	Chris Snedden	Kiln Loading and Firing
November 29, 2015	Teresa Ainsworth	Glaze Making
January 2, 2016	Pauline Durham	Reclaim Session
January 31, 2016	Shawn Durant	Studio and Equipment Maintenance
February 28, 2016	Chris Snedden	Kiln Loading and Firing
March 20, 2016	Chris Snedden	Glaze Making
April 24, 2016	Pauline Durham	Reclaim Session
June 15, 2016	Chris Snedden	Kiln Loading and Firing

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



Michiko Nakamura

Michiko's studio and home is nestled in one of the beautiful forests of Northumberland County on a gently rolling hill just north of Port Hope. Her intriguing, unique pieces are a result of a collaboration between her vision and elements – earth, water, air and fire. Through the interaction with those elements, she grasps more inspiration to bring her insight into form. Seeing her work is an invitation to the viewer to investigate their own inner world, to explore their own life's path.

Exhibitions Report by Marilyn Barbe (owner of Ailsa Craig Village Pottery; adn LPG member for over 30 years)



Artist in Residence (AIR)

The AIR program was created to provide professional studio space to up-and-coming clay artists in exchange for 5 hours per week of studio technician support at London Clay Art Centre. Our residency programs allow clay artists to pursue their artistic endeavours while working in a state-of-the-art studio and contributing to the community of fellow artists.

Nicole Waddick

Nicole is a multi-disciplinary visual artist from Waterloo, Ontario. She creates ceramic sculpture, drawings, paintings and prints. The subjects of her artwork come from the worlds of science and nature. She graduated with an Interdisciplinary BA from Carleton University in 1993. Nicole has been in residence at LCAC since September 2015 and will end her term in 2017.

Hannah Pruder

Hannah was born and raised in Thompson, Manitoba. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Art, from Brigham Young University, Idaho in July 2015 and started her residency at LCAC in January 2016. Hannah will finish her time as AIR at the end of June 2017.



Financial Report

THE LONDON POTTERS GUILD
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT JULY 31, 2016

	ASSETS	
	2016	2015
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 131,184	\$ 82,892
Accounts receivable	4,144	2,721
Prepaid expenses	<u>970</u>	<u>1,024</u>
	136,298	86,637
Tangible Capital Assets (note 3)	<u>1,274,259</u>	<u>1,327,139</u>
	<u>\$ 1,410,557</u>	<u>\$ 1,413,776</u>
	LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 27,452	\$ 33,457
Government remittances	2,941	2,832
Deferred revenue (note 5)	50,179	35,860
Current portion of long-term debt	<u>17,328</u>	<u>17,065</u>
	97,900	89,214
Long-Term Liabilities		
Long-term debt (note 6)	186,407	203,744
Deferred contributions (note 7)	<u>877,265</u>	<u>913,818</u>
	1,161,572	1,206,776
Net Assets		
General fund	34,726	(2,912)
Invested in tangible capital assets (note 8)	193,259	192,512
Building fund	<u>21,000</u>	<u>17,400</u>
	248,985	207,000
	<u>\$ 1,410,557</u>	<u>\$ 1,413,776</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, 2016

	2016	%	2015	%
Revenues				
Product sales	\$ 159,845	37.75	\$ 154,697	38.39
Class instruction, workshops and programs	110,388	26.07	92,215	22.89
Grants	33,173	7.83	30,740	7.63
Ontario Arts Council grant	17,575	4.15	18,500	4.59
Amortization of deferred contributions	36,553	8.63	38,076	9.45
Membership fees	35,590	8.40	36,013	8.94
Fundraising and donations	12,049	2.85	12,452	3.09
Studio space rental	13,313	3.14	14,171	3.53
Interest and miscellaneous	<u>4,985</u>	<u>1.18</u>	<u>6,029</u>	<u>1.49</u>
	423,471	100.00	402,893	100.00
Expenditures				
Accounting and legal	6,702	1.58	7,105	1.76
Administrator salary	25,976	6.13	24,835	6.16
Advertising	8,714	2.06	10,333	2.56
Amortization of tangible capital assets	56,082	13.24	59,813	14.85
Commissions	93,247	22.02	84,024	20.86
Consulting fees	5,260	1.24	-	-
Fundraising	-	-	10,285	2.55
Instructor fees	45,867	10.83	47,575	11.81
Insurance	7,517	1.78	7,106	1.76
Interest and bank charges	7,118	1.68	6,943	1.72
Interest on long-term debt	6,365	1.50	7,117	1.77
Office and general	8,990	2.12	11,221	2.79
Property tax	11,616	2.74	11,491	2.85
Repairs and maintenance	13,145	3.10	11,456	2.84
Studio technician	26,716	6.31	29,819	7.40
Supplies	28,080	6.63	28,077	6.97
Telephone and utilities	<u>30,091</u>	<u>7.11</u>	<u>24,764</u>	<u>6.15</u>
	381,486	90.07	381,964	94.80
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	<u>\$ 41,985</u>	<u>9.93</u>	<u>\$ 20,929</u>	<u>5.20</u>

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



London Clay Art Centre
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The London Potters Guild gratefully
acknowledges the support of



London **Arts** Council



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