

The mission of The London Potters Guild is to be the leader in the education and promotion of the clay arts in South-western 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.

NOTE FROM THE CHAIR



Cathy Herbert with a sculpture she made during Joanna Mozdzen’s class

Note from the Chair April, 2018

Spring – a season of renewal and growth. It’s been a busy time around the Centre with the installation of all the new equipment we were able to purchase courtesy of the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant.

We have had great response for the position of Programming Coordinator and are starting the process of hiring for the job.

Spring also brings our sale and more members than ever are taking part in it this year. It’s always inspiring to see what our fellow artists are creating and I’m sure it will be well attended as usual.

Mother Nature is being a little cranky with us but there’s no denying that Spring has Sprung! Hope you are finding inspiration for your own work and having fun getting dirty!

See you around the studio.

Jude

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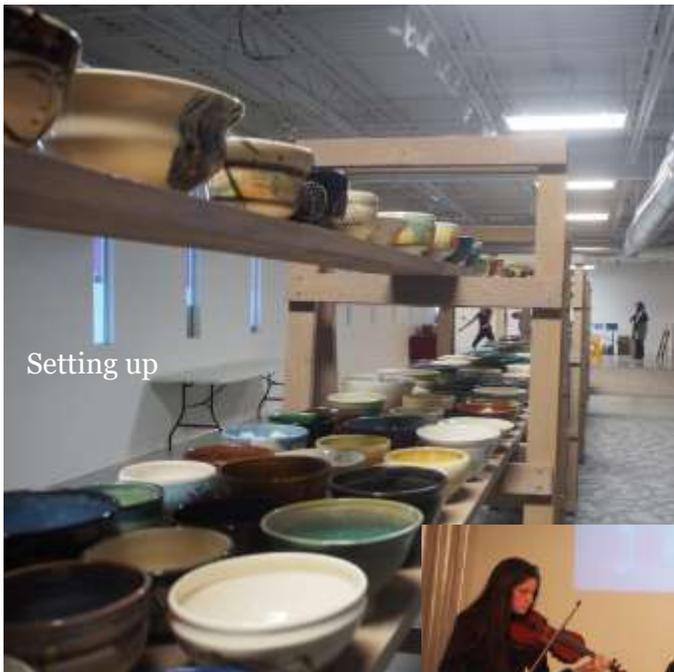
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EMPTY BOWLS– 2018

By Teresa Ainsworth

The Empty Bowls 2018 was a great success!

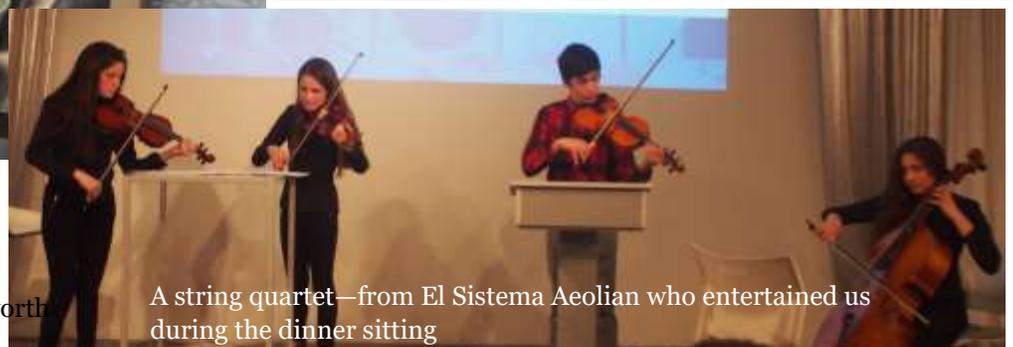
We set a record for most amount raised—just a hair over \$22,000! Tickets sold out in only two weeks—in the first 4 hours over 80 tickets were sold. We increased the number of tickets by 20 for each of the 3 sittings so more than 560 tickets were sold in advance as well as the few stragglers that just walked in and paid at the door. The two recipient organizations, **Growing Chefs! Ontario** and **Bridges out of Poverty| Circles**, collected and set up their silent auction tables and raised about \$2000 each from the silent auctions. They had a wide range of items—from potted succulents in bowls to cooking lessons to tickets to the Grand Theatre and the London Knights games. Both organizations were thrilled and amazed by the results and impressed by the members of the London Potters Guild. So was I—the quality and designs of the bowls were truly stellar and the number of volunteers who stepped up to set up, wash bowls, serve soup, and tear down was greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Ming Koh who took a day off work and drove down from Toronto to help (he has helped out for all of our Empty Bowl events).



Setting up



During the bowl-choosing frenzy



A string quartet—from El Sistema Aeolian who entertained us during the dinner sitting

Top 2 photos from Lynn Heinitz

Bottom photos from Teresa Ainsworth

TREASURER'S REPORT

From Carol Anne van Boxtel

In January we received \$15,000 from the City of London for the Neighborhood Decision Making Initiative to install mosaics on Dundas Street. As a result we are in need of some working and kiln space for the mosaic construction and firing.

Do you have, or know someone who has, a space with a kiln, or ready to have a kiln plugged in, that the London Potters Guild can rent to work on the two smaller mosaic projects (Neighborhood Improvement and the parking lot Gateway) that we have committed to. This could be an under used studio - or even a garage. It would probably be required for a few months. Please let Judy Sparkes know if you have any leads.
jude@fullcirclepottery.com

Editor's note: if you are interested in mosaics have a look at the March 2018 issue of Ceramics Monthly—amazing tile mosaics by Jason Green.

SECONDS SALE IN AILSA CRAIG

From Marilyn Barbe

SECONDS SALE

WHEN: Saturday, June 16th, 2018, 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm (approx.)

WHERE: 115 Ness Street North, (Ailsa Craig Village Pottery) in lovely Ailsa Craig. Due to the fact that we are holding the Jenn Allen workshop at the same time as the Village Wide yard sale, we are moving the sale. Given enough notice, our loyal customers are sure to return in their normal numbers

Potters are invited to donate their “seconds” to the sale. Please leave your donation at the Clay Art Centre in boxes clearly marked “Seconds Sale”.

Volunteer jobs are: deliver seconds to Ailsa Craig on the morning of the sale, bring the swipe machine and petty cash, unpacking, packing, cash, wrap, stack, & clean-up. Please help us out; we would like to see some new faces this year. Cathy Regan has arranged storing the seconds. We also need plastic grocery bags and newspaper to wrap the pottery that we sell.

To volunteer, or to find out more information, please contact: Marilyn Barbe at 519-293-3339 or **mbarbe@execulink.com** or Cathy Regan at LCAC.

All funds raised go to the purchase of our gas kiln. Last year we raised over \$1000.00 in four short hours.

INTERESTING VIDEO LINKS

From Debbie Morris

Richard Bresnahan: The Taste of the Clay
Another interesting video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVDEHXyVY7o>

After spending nearly 4 years in Japan as an apprentice for the Nakazato Family, Richard Bresnahan returned to St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota with a wealth of pottery knowledge and skills. With the blessing of Father Michael Blecker and the Benedictine Monks at St. John's, he set up a completely indigenous pottery studio, building the largest wood firing kiln of its kind in North America and utilizing a nearby clay deposit. In September 2013, Richard and his team fired the Sister Johanna Becker kiln, named after his art history teacher and mentor, for the twelfth time. Preparations included seven weeks of loading, ten days of firing, a week of cooling, a week of unloading and nine months of cleaning. Richard's wife Collette organizes the chefs and the dinners that serve up to 300 people. The firing is a community-building event with many volunteers returning year after year. In the documentary, Richard talks about his pottery and the related philosophies that guide his life and his teaching. “When you're becoming an artist, especially working in a clay material, you're having what we call tsuchi-aji; “tsuchi” means clay, “aji” means taste. You're learning the taste of the clay. And so that's a metaphor for your taking in your exterior environment into your interior environment. You're developing a spirituality to your material.” Production funding provided by the Minnesota Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund and by the members of Prairie Public About the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund In 2008, Minnesota voters passed a landmark piece of legislation — the Minnesota Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment — which provided funding to public television stations serving audiences in Minnesota. Its mission is to help preserve and document the treasures of culture, history, and heritage that make Minnesota special, and to increase access to the natural and cultural resources we all share.

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A Sustainable House Made Of Clay | Over Grow The System

<http://overgrowthesystem.org/sustainable-house-made-clay/>



JUDY RISELING IN MEXICO

Judy and Bob Riseling have been spending some of the winter in Mexico—poor things - missing out on snow, ice and sleet. Anyway, here are a few pictures from them.

The first three are of the pottery and art studio at the Instituto Allende--me (Judy) with my pot and glazing it before it blew up in the gas kiln! The next one is one of the three large kick wheels in the studio.

The next pics are at the Delores-Hidalgo ceramic factory. Many painters carefully filling in the designs with their paints; The large kiln and a rack of pots ready to go into it. And then the shelves of finished product.



JONATHON'S GALLERY



The Jonathon Bancroft-Snell Gallery has evolved into Canada's leading national gallery focusing on ceramic art. The exhibition that most defines the gallery is Matter of Clay held every five years in August.

Join us to celebrate 18 years of show-casing Canadian Ceramics.

Friday April 6th at 7pm

The current exhibition will feature a Canada selection of ceramic Art plus paintings by our various gallery artists, Trevor Kyle Carter, John Climenhage, Scott McEwan, Kim Atlin and Sean MacPherson.

TOM THOMSON GALLERY

Anatomy of a Collector

May 17th 7pm opening

Anatomy of a Collector is an exhibition of Canadian ceramic art featuring 64 artists with over 86 works from across Canada. The show is currently at The Tom Thomson Art Gallery in Owen Sound, Ontario until April 29th

A ROAD TRIP TO THE BURLINGTON ART GALLERY

From Robin Chacko

Robin organized a road trip to the Burlington Art Gallery as part of the Membership Engagement

Our group included Bernadette Pratt, Melody Green, Margaret Nickle, Kerri Jerome, and me. It was a great trip! The gallery was beautiful, and we saw some amazing work. The photos are just a sample of what was on display. I encourage everyone to go and check out the gallery. It's such a bright and energetic space.



I'm hoping to schedule another road trip on Saturday, June 1st to The Clay & Glass Gallery in Waterloo.



EXTERNAL WORKSHOPS

From Marilyn Barbe

Jennifer Allen Workshop, mark your calendars for the weekend of June 9 and 10, 2018 at the London Clay Art Centre. 664 Dundas, London Ontario. 9:30 to 4:00 pm both days. Pot luck lunch. We are fortunate to be able to present this workshop with this young, very well established potter. Take a look at her remarkable work: <https://www.jenniferallenceramics.com/> . Fee for the workshop is \$150.00 for members and \$175.00 for non members. To quote Jen: "I strive to embrace subtle imperfections and focus on the hand-made. All pots are wheel thrown, hand built and hand decorated. They are then fired to cone ten in a reduction atmosphere. Glazes all stem from a traditional Chinese celadon base glaze that breaks and pools over the subtleties in the form."

Jen Allen is a studio potter, educator and mom who lives and works in Morgantown, WV. She holds a Masters of Fine Arts degree from Indiana University and a BFA from the University of Alaska, Anchorage. Her studio work draws inspiration from holiday meals (specifically, Thanksgiving at her grandmother's house in rural Virginia), historical ceramics and Asian/American textiles. Jen's most recent work focuses on texture and how a monochromatic palette with raised and recessed decoration can communicate in a tactile way.

WIN FREE CONFERENCE FEE TO FUSION

Come to the next few General Meetings, put your name on a ballot and if you are lucky you could win a **free admission** to the annual Fusion Conference courtesy of the LPG.

Details of the Fusion conference are on the next page— even if you don't win, it will be a great conference to attend.

Where's the bunny ??????????????

For another way to win a ballot, find this image on a page and tell me the page and where it is on the page. email me (Teresa) at



tainsworth1@gmail.com and the first person who emails me with the correct answer will win an extra allot for **free admission** to Fusion.

Hint—the answer is NOT page 6.

In case you were wondering, the image is one of the winning entries of the Christmas party Clay



FUSION CONFERENCE

The 2018 FUSION Conference on the campus of Wilfred Laurier University, will feature two stellar presenters: Peter Powning, from the hills of southern New Brunswick; and Samantha Dickie, from Victoria, British Columbia. Join us for the 2018 FUSION Conference, June 22-24, in Waterloo, Ontario!

Registration open NOW

Conference 2018 Features:

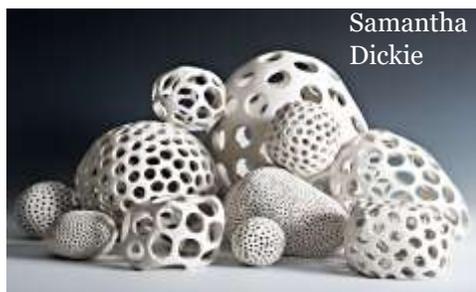
Friday:

- Garth Clark: seminar on marketing and promotions
- Opening reception of *Breakthrough: An Exhibition of FUSION Emerging Artists*
- *Then, Now, and Next*: a Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery exhibition

Saturday-Sunday

- 2 days of demonstrations and seminars by Peter Powning and Samantha Dickie

FUSION: The Ontario Clay and Glass Association is very excited to be partnering our 2018 Conference with two special anniversaries: the 25th Anniversary of The Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery; and the 50th Anniversary of The Waterloo Potters' Workshop. Together, this partnership forms a series of exciting events in celebration of clay and glass.



WORTHWHILE WANDERING—part 1

By Elly Pakalnis

Just two hours from London is the Pewabic Pottery in Detroit, Michigan, where Mary Chase Perry Stratton began an arts and craft pottery in 1903. Her artistic and marketing abilities propelled this modest sized pottery to an integral part of the International Arts and Crafts movement. One of the hallmarks of her pottery was the development of an iridescent glaze on tiles and pottery. Her business partner, Horace James Caulkin was the kiln specialist.

If you have the opportunity to go, you will see that they have an intimate exhibition gallery of their historical pottery works along with a number of beautifully tiled fireplaces, a sales area with a display of current arts and crafts movement tiles for residential projects along with original drawings displayed on the wall for various tile commissions. In addition to this there is a display of an array of American potters' works. The second floor of the pottery has some museum pieces along with an exhibition space where we had seen a display of contemporary drinking vessels. Attached to the pottery display area is the current pottery studio with samples of their current production and numerous slip cast molds. It is definitely a happening place where they also currently offer classes.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Studio News:

The new Peter Pugger has arrived and Andrew is setting up training sessions on how to use it. If you are interested, either email Andrew or wait for the next training session announcement. The new oval kiln has arrived and was set in place with the help of the electrician who came to wire up the pugmill, and 2 random guys who mistimed their tour of the building. We were expecting it to arrive in sections but it came assembled and since it weighed some 700+ pounds (315kg+) Andrew thought he needed some help (what a wimp). The new slab roller is set up in the members area—instructions are posted but ask for assistance if you need it from Andrew or Teresa. Don't forget, there are different canvas pieces for different coloured clay bodies. Still to come is the front loading kiln (maybe the end of April) and eventually the installation of a folding wall to separate the hand-building studio from the meeting space. A few photos from the arrival of the new things.



Dauma opening wooden cases for the pug mill, kiln and slab roller



Arrival of the pug mill



Andrew assembling the slab roller



Just a bit of a contrast between old and new

SALE

From Teresa Ainsworth

FYI the early bird registration for the Sale application is now over. Application fee is now \$50 plus \$5 towards the draw baskets. I am happy that this year the number of Spring Sale entrants is one of the highest we have had in recent years.

An email will be coming shortly for you to sign up for shifts at the sale.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

GET YOUR DRAW TICKETS FOR FREE FUSION CONFERENCE FEES BY ATTENDING THE GENERAL MEETINGS

-**April 10th** Rick & Nancy Hilborn—Marketing Pottery CANCELLED DUE TO ILLNESS

Instead, Guild members will be bringing in pottery they have collected during their travels and talking about them - where, what, who.....



LIBRARY NEWS

From Teresa Ainsworth

PLEASE RETURN YOUR BOOKS AND DVDs!!!!

Three new DVDs have been purchased and are now in the library. They are :

Figure Sculpting in Clay with Melisa Cadell

Layers of Color—Exploring Form and Surface Pattern in Slip-Cast Pottery with Andrew Gilliatt

Lively Forms and Expressive Surfaces with Mark Peters

A large number of general art and sculpture books and magazines have been donated to the library and will be put on the shelves soon. Check them out.

A NEW POTTER - STARTING YOUNG

From Christine Torres

Her name is Hannah Dolphin, age 4 and my best friend ;) She made Valentine's Day ornaments for her friends and teachers, a bathroom cup for herself and her younger sister and 2 cat bowls for her cats.

MARCH CLAY CAMP

From Karen Bailey

News on our Youngest Potters

Our children’s classes continue to thrive and do well at the Guild, and if you have visited the upstairs space on a weekend, you have likely seen (or maybe heard?) them for yourself. In both fall and winter sessions, we offered Adventures 1 (Beginner) and Adventures 2 (Intermediate) classes on Saturday afternoons. In each session, the first project was to create a bowl, completed just in time for an ice cream sundae party on the last class. In case you are wondering about the “cookie-cutter” type creations going through the kiln, each child also receives a pottery medallion in celebration of their creative spirit.

As well, 20 young potters between the ages of 6 and 13 participated in our 1/2 day March Break Camps with another 6 camps scheduled for the summer of ‘18. As these very eager young potters learn different ways to use pinch pots, coil, and soft slab while trying out the wheel, they continue to remind us that, given the correct techniques, young minds are not afraid to try and are often the most creative! Thanks to the Beal students who gave up part of their March Break to help out with the camps and the loyal volunteers who help out on Saturdays.

If you know of a future potter between the ages of 7 and 14 who might be interested in being part of either our summer camps, or our regular classes next fall, be sure to have them check the website! And should you ever want to see for yourself, just pop upstairs on a weekend and say “hi”. The students are always happy to show off their creative efforts, and many of them will be invited to be part of the “student exhibition” that will be taking place again during the month of October.



Sarah (from Beal High School) a volunteer at the March Clay Camp—throwing tall



Photos from Lynn Heintz & Karen Bailey



**PHOTOS FROM SOME RECENT EVENTS
AT THE GUILD**

Images from Nicole Waddick's Artist-in-Residence Exhibition

Tenacity

opening on March 9th and extending until April 8th, 2018.



Photos from Marilyn Barbe

Worthwhile Wanderings—Part II

Appetizer Clay Experience

NCECA 2018 in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania by Elly Pakalnis

Recently I had the extraordinary fortune of finally making it to NCECA (the National Council for Education in Ceramic Arts) Conference with Christine Torres, fellow clay enthusiast, for a day and a half. Thankfully, we had chosen a number of presentations and activities that we each wanted to attend in advance, compared our lists and then made executive decisions on our route. It was truly a whirlwind of frenzied activity seeing various presentations including the emerging artists, the various university and art centre exhibits, vendors selling high end equipment to numerous tempting decorative supplies, books and DVDs, individual potters' displays, children's impressive clay works, international sculpture exhibits, and galleries around Pittsburgh, some with especially powerful humanistic and political perspectives.

Highlights included the "Potter and Chef" presentation by Gregg F. Moore who creates thought provoking bone china to make people aware of the route of food from the fields and pastures to the table. He reinforced that there is a significant difference in where our food comes from. He had burned the bones of grass, grain and industrial farm fed cattle, to create his own bone china. The differences are notable as he indicated the bone china of grass fed cattle was a neon white compared to the white of the other grain and industrial fed farm cattle. The conference ended with Richard Notkin, educator and progressive political activist presenting an overview of his work which is politically based and fit perfectly in relation to the current U.S. political climate under the leadership of President Trump. Humanity is a universal theme.

Guess what was missed? Potters' demonstrations. Realistically we could only capture a snippet of all the activities in a conference that attracted over 6,500 attendees. Their cup sale generated over \$44,000 to be used towards scholarships. Definitely another NCECA adventure will be in future.



One of the exhibits at the Mattress Factory

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LPG Executive Board

Left to right:

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Middle Row: ,Cathy Herbert, David Moynihan,
Endri Poletti, Karen Bailey

Bottom Row: Lawrence Durham, Ashley Keller,
Shelley Boa, Marilyn Barbe



Seize the Clay—Fundraising Campaign

London Potters Guild
c/o London Clay Art Centre
664 Dundas Street London ON N5W 2Y8
519-434-1664 www.londonclayartcentre.org

Yes, I want to support the fund-raising campaign of the London Potters Guild

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