



THE OTTAWA GUILD OF POTTERS

LA GUILDE DES POTIERS D'OTTAWA

Fired UP!

Spring is Coming!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Membership Meeting March 13
President's Message
Not for Profit Info
Great Bowls of Fire
Spring Sale
Exhibition Notice
Populace
Xperia
Articles
Guildforum Info
Website Info

Membership Renewals by Julie Poliquin

Our request to change our year end to March 31 has been approved by Canada Revenue Agency. Don't forget to take advantage of the new early bird special rate! If you renew on or before April 1, 2017, a single membership fee is \$55 and a family membership fee is \$75. If you renew on or after April 2, 2017, the single membership renewal fee increases to \$65 and the family membership to \$85.

You can download and complete the new application form from the OGP website, and mail it along with your cheque to the address on the form, or hand it to the membership secretary, Julie Poliquin, at the March 13, 2017 meeting. Don't forget that your membership must be up to date to allow you to participate in the Spring Sale in April.

It's time for the Great Guild Garage Sale !!



Next Meeting Monday March 13, 2017

Hintonburg Community Centre 7:30 pm

Garage Sale Event! Coordinator: Anne Rae

Proceeds to the Ottawa Guild of Potters

Bring your no longer used tools, books, stamps, anything that has been cluttering your studio or tool box to the meeting.

Please **pre price** all items. Cash Only! We will have a table set up and Ann will take care of selling the items.

Speaker: Top Sellers Tell All: Preparing for Your Sale



[Website](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)

President's Message by Sarah Hand

There are many exciting events and activities going on within our Guild.

First, Great Bowls of Fire (GBOF) occurred over the weekend. Thanks to Jocelyn, Ada and Colette, I'm sure it was another great success. Watch for their assessment.

The sale is coming up in April. Applications went out a couple of weeks ago. This is one way for all members to help the guild as well as gain something in return. With your table fee and percentage from sales this income to the guild will go a long way in helping our financial obligations. It is becoming such a fun event, with time to socialize with fellow potters.

Populace is also underway. Kirstin, Kim and Hilde have been working hard to make this event one that our guild should be very proud to be part of. It will bring us lots of attention in the media. If you haven't made any pieces please consider making some.

Our exhibition has been moved to the fall. Michele Macdonald has had to step down as chair but has been replaced by Isobel Salole and her team Puck Janes, Elizabeth Davies and Amy Bell.

With all these activities going on I hope you will find something that is appealing to you to get involved with.

Benefits of a Not-For-Profit by Sarah Hand

As we get closer to the end of this guild year and with many decisions having to be made during this time I wanted to share some information with you. I have had questions from members which I would like to share with all of you.

Why we are a Not for Profit organization? Back in 1977 the decision was made to become a not for profit organization. We applied to the Ontario Government and they granted that status to us. As a Not for Profit organization we get or could get many benefits.

The executive are voted onto the board and are given the responsibility to run the guild. Because of that the executive would be held responsible if something were to happen and a lawsuit was filed. We can and have got directors' insurance which allows the executive peace of mind.

We have appropriate insurance coverage which helps us when we are applying for grants. Most grants require a certain level of coverage which we have.

We are able to apply for Grants now that our finances are in order. Populace is a prime example of this. Now that we have applied for two grants and they have been approved we are realizing this is an avenue which will greatly help with revenue. We will be pursuing this avenue in the future.

Our exhibition committee is looking to give us more exposure by taking our exhibitions out of the sale and giving us more presence within the community. Without the Not for Profit status this would be a very expensive proposition. We get reduced rental rates from city run buildings. For example:

	Not For Profit Rate	Commercial/Private Group Rate
Meeting Night Room Rental	\$7.05	\$28.40
Horticulture Building	\$126.90 per hour	\$325.60 per hour

With those savings alone it makes it worthwhile to be a not for profit organization.

Why we are running the group like a business? As a not for profit organization the government treats us like a company. As such there are laws and regulations that we have to follow. With the help of professionals we are now following those laws. With a well run organization running in the background it will make it easier to focus on more enjoyable activities like GBOF and Populace.

These are a few of the reasons why we should support our organization and work hard at maintaining the Not for Profit Status we have benefitted from for so many years.

Great Bowls of Fire

March 4th 5PM – 8:00 PM

Stay tuned for next month's edition of "*Fired Up*" for a review on Great Bowls of Fire 2017!

It's Got Heart: Populace 2017



Since the Ottawa Guild of Potters began this project in September of 2016, over 1000 individuals have made a clay sculpture: either a rose or a feather or a fleurs de lis. Many participants have been young - students in elementary, intermediate and high school system. Many participants have been seniors. Canadians from all backgrounds have been delighted to make and create a clay sculpture for the Populace 2017 installation.

As of March 1, 2017, the Populace team has reached the goal of having 2/3 of the making of the pieces complete which means that over 6000 bisqued clay pieces have been made! It took over 50 workshops that included visits to local schools, to community centres, and in the studios of individual Guild members. Several of these workshops were held at three important making sponsors in our community: LOAM Clay Studio www.loamclaystudio.ca, Gladstone Clayworks www.gladstoneclayworks.ca and Hintonburg Pottery www.hintonburgpottery.ca.

At the Guild meeting in February, it was announced that Populace received a second, very important Grant from Ontario 150. This Grant, in the amount of \$10,000 is instrumental for the completion of the Populace project. Thank you to Ontario 150 for this amazing gift and we look forward to making Ontarians proud of the Ottawa Guild of Potters.

Further, we have had another amazing donation from Tuckers Pottery in the amount of 24 boxes of mid-smooth stone clay! Kim picked up half of the donation right from the source in Toronto. Thank you Tuckers for your incredible support of this project. Should you have an opportunity in your own practice to deal with Tuckers, let them know how much we appreciate their contribution.

On February 23, 2017, Kirstin, Hilde and Kim drove to Cobden, Ontario to spend the day at Opeongo High School. We were delighted to be joined by Christina Ruddy, Operations Manager of the Algonquin Way Cultural Centre from Pikwakanagan First Nations, Golden Lake. Christina has been a significant support in terms of the language and content relating to the indigenous component of the Populace project. Several First Nations students at Opeongo HS made roses and feathers.

At the meeting in February, several members took home a roll of pugged clay to make Populace pieces in their own studios on their own time. We are looking forward to the outcome from that batch. Shout out to our major makers Johanna J., Klara B., Hilde L., Kirstin D., and Kim L. who are coming along with hundreds and in one case (Hilde) thousands of pieces they are creating in their studios. Thank you to all the Ottawa Guild of Potters potters who are continuing to create Populace pieces in their own studios: only 3000 left to make! Keep up the good work as we are almost there!

Hilde has developed a streamlined glazing method, overcoming many initial problems and obstacles with crawling and coverage. The glazing has begun. Hilde has also been glazing all of the feathers to date and has completed 150 special edition flowers and feathers that have been touched with GOLD!

For some great images from recent events, that include roses and fleurs de lis, please visit our facebook page or blog: www.facebook.com/populace2017 or www.populace2017.com/blog

Upcoming events include a March Mega Making Marathon event that will be organized again across the city. We encourage everyone to participate in this fun healthy competition. The date will be set near the end of March. Populace will be at Gloucester Pottery Studio on Wednesday, March 8 from 12-3 p.m. and there are still some spots available for people wishing to sign up and make some pieces in the company of others! Further, this month Populace will be giving workshops at Colonel By HS, Gloucester HS, the St. Mary's North March Anglican Church, LOAM Clay Studios with the Network of Sculptors, and will be attending Nocturne at the Canadian Museum of Nature. Lisgar HS and the Pearly are also confirming dates for workshops this month.

Our television crew that will be producing a 3-minute promotion video on Populace has been following along on several workshop events and will have the first draft of their video project ready by Easter. Thanks to Algonquin College for the opportunity to make this piece for us and for Isobel for making the initial contact!

There will also be the first and only open public making event put on by Populace at the Ottawa Guild of Potters Spring Sale. This very exciting opportunity will be advertised by the local media who are very interested in the public aspect of this project. Populace will set up inside the Horticultural Building and is looking for volunteers to demonstrate the making of the rose and feather to the public. Please contact Kim L. at kim@kimlulashnyk.com if you are interested. Please note that if you are in the sale itself, your volunteer duties would still be required as Populace will be 'staffing' its making tables separate from the Sales Committee. Therefore, if you are not able to participate in the sale this spring, this is a wonderful opportunity to come down and lend a hand at the making table!

Thank you everyone for your support. This is a great event for our Guild and the Community.

www.populace2017.com
<https://www.facebook.com/populace2017/>
<https://www.instagram.com/populace2017/subscribe>



Spring Sale by Carol Holmes-Kerr

We are accepting applications for the Annual Spring Sale at Lansdowne, April 28, 29 & 30th. We have some wonderful things planned for this sale, including an opportunity for our customers to "Meet the Makers" on Friday evening, 5-9pm. Populace will be at the event, offering an opportunity to make flowers and feathers throughout the sale. We also plan to have some interesting and interactive educational sessions throughout the weekend. We need to show people what we do and where they can go to learn to do it too!

This promises to be an exciting sale, and interest in the Guild is growing. Our sale is the largest gathering of local potters in the region. The application is attached and can also be found in the members section of the OGP website. It can also be completed at our March 13/17 general meeting. Registration deadline is March 15/17. Bring your best pots and join your fellow Guild members at one of our premiere events.

Rack cards will be available soon and we encourage you to take as many as you like to give to friends, family, customers and anyone else who you think might be interested. We will be posting on social media regularly in the month before the event and during the sale in an effort to raise the profile of the event.

Fri April 28th 12 – 9PM, Sat April 29 10AM – 6PM, Sun April 30 10AM – 5PM
Horticulture Building at Lansdowne Park – 450 Queen Elizabeth Dr Ottawa

Exhibition by Isobel Salole

The 2017 OGP Exhibition will be held this fall. The Exhibition committee is working with some partners to plan a renewed Exhibition, to be held separately from Sales. We are building on all the previous successful exhibitions, and also taking into account the 44th Anniversary of the Guild, the success of Populace 2017 and a growing interest in ceramics generally. Stay tuned for more details, and bring your best work this fall! If you are interested in helping, please contact Isobel.

Xpeeria by Kim Lulashnyk

At the February meeting, we had an interesting presentation from two representatives of a new Ottawa start-up called Xpeeria. Thank you to Brooke Hansen and Matt Guzzo for coming out and sharing their new company with us. It is a great opportunity for our members to be part of something new and exciting and to make some money from our craft by connecting us with people who would like a pottery experience.

Here is a link to their platform and I invite everyone to check it out - not only for the pottery but for our own lives - as this start-up seeks to connect people with interesting life experiences. Coaches, that would be the potters, are paired up with people seeking experiences and transactions for the delivery of the experience is made through the website - similar to the way Uber works and many other instances in our world today. Lots to think about and explore.

All the information is self-explanatory on the website-in-progress and you have Brooke's email at the top if you have any further questions as she has said she is happy to assist. For your information, already over 50 people have expressed interest in having a pottery experience and as such, there is a market for you! Another great reason to be a member of the Ottawa Guild of Potters! <http://xpeeria.com/>

February Meeting Review by Kim Lulashnyk

At the February members' meeting, potters shared tips and ideas they found helpful in their own practice. Several individuals brought in objects, photos, and stories to share and presented several of their favourite tips and techniques. The evening was a success judging by the numbers of ooh's and ahh's that were heard throughout the night. Check out the Fired Up February Review document under Newsletters on the website.

We hope to have another **Member's Tips of the Trade** night in the future.

A Creative Approach to Getting Back into Making Pots by Bruce Jones

Just when I was starting to shake off the Holiday laziness yet also on the verge of slipping into winter hibernation, I came across a note tucked away under a pile of papers that I hadn't touched for quite a while.

It was a veritable recipe for getting back to work! It was a note from the website of John Middlemiss a U.K. potter. He describes how he used a working cycle of 6-8 weeks for over 15 years. You can read it for yourself at <http://middlemissart.com/archive.html> but in a nutshell this is his recipe, and I quote:

- A period of drawing and visualization / contemplation.
- The development of ideas for several different areas for making, into the following three areas:
 - 1) established work
 - 2) work starting to emerge
 - 3) completely experimental work.
- A complete list of pieces to be made in groups or families.
- An exact timetable
- Necessary time allocated to allow pieces to grow out of the interaction between groups, themes, etc.
- All work being recorded, and, once sold, the studio cleaned out completely in preparation for the next session.

There is actually quite a lot to think about there. For instance, could you really start at the beginning if you haven't finished the last cycle, like cleaning out the studio completely in preparation for the next session.

The period of drawing and visualization also seems so idyllic! Do we ever allow enough time for that or do we jump right in drawing up a list of things to make?

I decided to revisit John Middlemiss's website and came across another intriguing piece on his work. Although he seems to have closed his pottery studio now, devoting more time to his painting, he did at one time stop potting for ten years and then came back to it. In an article in Ceramic Review, May/June 2013 John shares his approach that brought him back to ceramics. No spoiler alert needed here, you'll have to read it for yourself.

<http://www.middlemissart.com/CR261-Jonathan%20Middlemiss%20'Fields%20of%20Perception'.pdf>

Guildforum - What is it? by Johanna Jansen

The guildforum is an email discussion group for the Ottawa Guild of Potters members. It allows members to share ideas and information to all members using one email address. Any member may post to the guildforum. Occasionally, a message is held for approval due to size - often because of attachments or if you posting for the first time. If a message is held, a notification is sent to two members for approval, and you will also receive an email notifying you that your message is held. We ask that you allow 24 hours for time-sensitive postings in the event neither member is logged on.

If you would like to make a posting to the Guild forum please send an e-mail message to guildforum@ottawaguildofpotters.ca. Remember that you must use the e-mail address that you provided in your Guild membership application form otherwise your message will bounce. If you need to change your e-mail address or other options (such as receiving in a digest format), please contact the Membership Secretary at ogpmembership@ottawaguildofpotters.ca. When you request a digest format you will receive a consolidated list of e-mail once in a few days.

Website www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca by Johanna Jansen

The following are the components of the website and terminology. Infologistix is our current **Host**: a company that provides the servers, backup services, automated plugin updates (like apps on your phone), and technical on-call support if and when required. **Software**: the application where code is written: we use Wordpress software (free) - you might have heard about it as it is used widely by corporations, including Microsoft. Wordpress allows many options to function as a word-processor rather than writing html and other code. This makes it less technical and easier for non-IT people to update. **Content**: this is the text and images that are provided and written by members. This is what you read when you navigate to the website. **Domain**: this is our web address: www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca

The website has Public and Members Area pages. The Public pages are our face to the world, a **Home** page with scrolling images, **Events**-Meetings, Sale, GBOF, Workshops; **Populace**;

Membership; Portfolio; Members-(each member is entitled to have a page), Guild Exhibitions; **Blog; Resources**-Learning-(library)-Making-Selling-Newsletters; **About Us**-who's who-Historical Timeline-Media Coverage.

The Member's Area requires a userid and password. The Membership Secretary is your contact for this access. It contains information concerning the guild activities: **Administration; Member and Contact Information**-Portfolio-Photography Tips; **Meeting Minutes**-Executive, General Minutes and Treasurer's Report by year-month; **Sales**-Current Sale-Archive, **Standards Resources, Exhibitions**. The content of these pages is maintained by the respectful Chair or Committee.

We hope that helps your navigation of the site. Questions / comments can be sent to: ottguildadm1@gmail.com.

Volunteers

Be sure to speak with the executive if you have some volunteer time for your Guild. Together we can make it even better! The Annual General Meeting will be held June 12, 2017 and that is a great occasion to meet new executive and committee members and become involved.

Currently looking for: Guildforum Monitors. This is an easy way to help the guild and be involved with minimal demand. You simply need to be connected to the internet.

Contact the Newsletter Team

We would love your input! Committee Chairs and all members are encouraged to submit ideas and articles for upcoming issues. Deadline for the April Issue is March 31, 2017. Publication date is April 3, 2017. Email: newsletter@ottawaguildofpotters.ca

See you next Month!

'There is a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in.'

Leonard Cohen