



THE OTTAWA GUILD OF POTTERS

LA GUILDE DES POTIERS D'OTTAWA

Fired UP!

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President's Message by Barb Minish

We have been having a glorious fall here in Ottawa. I've found it hard to force myself into the studio but the holiday sales are fast approaching so into the studio I go. However, I did take some time away from the wheel to attend the Chandra Debus workshop Oct. 21 and 22. Wow! How very inspirational. I can't wait to get back into the studio to try out some of her very clever techniques. I also can't wait until the next time I see an unfortunate road-killed porcupine on the way up to our cottage (a fairly common occurrence). Chandra uses a long porcupine quill as a very functional sgraffito tool. Who knew? Be sure to read Kim's review later in the newsletter.

Whatever is inspiring your work these days, I hope you will consider sharing your results and submitting a few pieces into the fall exhibition coming up soon. Galerie Côté Créations, will be providing a spectacular venue for the exhibition. For those of you that have taken part in the monthly "Celebrating Clay", you are already familiar with this wonderful space. For those of you that have not yet been there, I hope you will come check it out.

I look forward to seeing you at the next monthly meeting, Monday, November 13th. Business meeting starts at 6:30 with

	program following at 7:30. Bring a mug for refreshments.
 Website  Facebook  Twitter  Instagram	<p>Next Meeting by Kim Lulashnyk</p> <p>Monday November 13th, 2017 Hintonburg Community Centre Laroche Room</p> <p>The next Guild Meeting will take place on November 13, 2017 with a spectacular presentation by three members who attended a year-long mentorship program run by Fusion: The Ontario Clay and Glass Association. The business meeting will begin at 6:30 pm and the slideshow presentation and lectures by Amy Bell, Emily Dore and Jocelyn Jenkins will take place from 7:30 - 9:00 pm. The presentations will be broken into 15 minute segments each and will describe the transformative learning experience for each of the artists who will share the development of their work over the year as they have re-thought, examined and set new objectives in their studio practice over the course of the program. The culmination of their year-long exploration took place with a powerful gallery exhibition at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa, Ontario called Dimensions, an apt title that described the complexity of the journey. This meeting will be an important, thought-provoking discussion about mentorship opportunities in clay and the power of taking risks in one's own practice.</p> <p>http://www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca/events/meetings/</p>

Last Meeting Review by Kim Lulashnyk

Far Far & Away: For the October monthly meeting, three members from the Guild gave separate presentations based on experiences that they had involving a long-distance clay workshop or gallery opportunities: Monica Rosenthal, Suzanne Denney, and Elizabeth Davies. Monica shared with us several images from a significant contemporary art exhibition in Germany called Documenta. In regard to clay, we were able to see slides from Antony Gormley, a British sculptor, and his exhibition of 35000 clay figures. Gormley explains: "I wanted to work with people and to make a work about our collective future and our

responsibility for it. I wanted the art to look back at us, its makers (and later viewers), as if we were responsible – responsible for the world that it and we were in.” Monica also shared with us a significant large-scale art piece made by Rebecca Belmore called *Trace* at the Human Rights Museum in Winnipeg on her cross-Canada 150 tour. Suzanne Denney gave a thoughtful powerpoint presentation on her week-long workshop in British Columbia with Margaret Bohls, a professor in Ceramics at the University of Nebraska. Suzanne shared the beautiful work made by Bohls and the generosity of her practice as she sought to place an emphasis on volume in the creation of pots. It was fascinating to see the projects as they progressed throughout the workshop. Suzanne would highly recommend the workshop to anyone. The final presentation was given by Elizabeth Davies who participated in a workshop with Chris Keenan in the Netherlands. This was Elizabeth's second workshop with the London-based ceramicist. The week-long master workshop focused on throwing techniques such as throwing to the inside line, bevelling and trimming on a chuck. Elizabeth successfully showed us the elegance and finish of Keenan's porcelain pots as well as gave us a hands-on demonstration by creating an invisible thumb with a piece of wire to assist with dipping pots in glaze. A marvel! Elizabeth has supplied a photo of the inside of the instructional studio and a close-up of the magical dipping tool.

Great Bowls of Fire Call Out by Deborah Lemkow

The Great Bowls of Fire team are in the midst of planning the 2018 event, which will take place on Saturday, March 24th, 2018, at the Glebe Community Centre. Thanks to your efforts, last year was a great success - we sold many of our remaining bowls after dinner. Once again we have less than 100 bowls in our inventory!

We are looking for 12 volunteer potters to make 25 bowls each, for the next GBOF. Once again, if you are new to volunteering to make bowls- these bowls should be able to hold ~ 500 ml (plan on using 1 1/4 to 2 pounds). These volunteer potters will have their bowls and their names featured prominently on the poster for this event.

For complete information on volunteering please see the email sent out on October 20th through the Guild Forum or contact Deborah at lempower@rogers.com with the subject line "GBOF 2018 Potter".

For more information on this event check out our website at <http://www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca/events/great-bowls-of-fire/>

Annual Juried Exhibition by Isobel Salole

The Annual Juried Exhibition is now open! Don't miss the Vernissage and Award presentations this Thursday, November 2 (from 6:00-9:00pm). Which pieces did our juror Cynthia O'Brien choose to be displayed for this month-long exhibition? And who did she feel best qualified to win the awards? Do come and see for yourself, and be with us for the awards ceremony.

This year's juror is ceramic installation artist Cynthia O'Brien, who has contributed to many of the vital arts organizations in Ottawa and Canada through her teaching and exhibiting. Cynthia's work explores emotions and relationships using the expressive language of clay. As a juror, her selections and comments will resonate with all of us.

With thanks to our generous award sponsors: PSH - Pottery Supply House, Tucker's Pottery Supplies, Capital Pottery Supplies, LOAM Clay Studio, Hintonburg Pottery Shop, Mayco Colours, Spectrum Ceramics, FUSION: the Ontario Clay and Glass Association, Craft Ontario, and Populace2017.

Galerie Côté Créations, at 98 Richmond Road, is open Tuesday-Sunday from 11:00am-6:00pm.

FUSION Review by Elizabeth Davies

FUSION, vol 41, no 2, Fall 2017, published an article about the Ottawa Guild of Potters' *Populace*, setting out the challenges involved in planning, designing, and creating this large-scale outdoor ceramic installation celebrating Canada's sesquicentennial. *'Six months to plan, ten months to make, seven days to install'*, writes author Kim Lulashnyk. She and the other two volunteer directors at the Guild, Hilde Lambrechts and Kirstin Davidson believed that *'success depended on good planning, quality design, and community engagement'*. Coordination was in the hands of Kirstin, who dealt with funding, budgets and marketing; Hilde was responsible for the landscape design of the installation as well as the design of attractive, high quality roses, fleur-de-lis and feathers, but with an additional challenge: *'novices and members of the public with no clay experience had to be able to make them.'* And Kim organized events and public outreach. The team and other Guild members conducted over 50 workshops with the public, and 150 firings in potters' studios.

Celebrating Clay – October 2017 by Carol Lim and Amy Bell

The Vernissage for Celebrating Clay for October was an intimate gathering with an engaged group, again highlighting the diverse talent within our guild. Each artist (or their representative) presented their submission and talked briefly about their influences and intentions.

Some of the work presented included:

- beautifully executed and delicately finished functional work by Elizabeth Davies

was presented. She is now using a new clay body, porcellaneous Frost, and decorating with cobalt oxide.

- Kirstin Davidson shared the evolution of her three hand built sculptural angel pieces that are part of a larger series of forty one pieces, the series lovingly documented in a bound book of her amazing work. Kirstin talked about how attending a guild workshop inspired her and translated into this series.
- Kim Lulashnyk's fascinating sculpture represented her love of Literature and Clay, through King Lear's Cordelia.
- Jocelyn Jenkins presented her bird teapots, and discussed her practice of making an annual whimsical series.
- Amy Bell's piece was a gas-fired, cone 10 vase thrown in pieces, that is a part of her larger body of work representing traditional "women's work".
- Donna Bowen-Willer's hand-built vase is rich with texture and a variety of glazes.
- the story of Emily Dore's series of gourds, illustrates how thrown pieces can be altered and hand built pieces added to produce intriguing, colourful gourds.



The OGP Annual Juried Exhibition will be held at Galerie Côté Créations for the full month of November. Therefore the usual monthly Celebrating Clay exhibition will exceptionally skip the month of November, and be back for December; please submit your pieces by the deadline of November 20.

And check out the selected entries: <https://www.facebook.com/ottawaguilddofpotters/>
Who's Who - Meet Suzanne - Communications Chair of the OGP

Suzanne Denney has been a potter for about 20 years and more seriously over the last two years after retiring from education as an elementary school principal. Her love of clay began



when she was 14 when her mother enrolled her in a pottery class at the Dovercourt Recreation Centre. She let it go until she took a cake decorating class in her early 30's which reminded her of her work with clay. It was then that her journey in clay truly began.

She has taken workshops with numerous potters including Darlene Keffer, Chandler Swain, Ron Roy, Jeff Brown, Woody Hughes and others. The most influential person in Suzanne's pottery life is Anne Chambers. She still takes classes with Anne during the year and during the summer. She constantly endeavors to improve her work and always has an ear out for new tips of the trade.

Suzanne works out of a beautiful, very well equipped home studio in Stittsville. She teaches handbuilding and throwing classes from this studio.

Suzanne is enamored with how the softness of clay can be frozen in time. She is attracted to work that is highly textured and has simple, yet interesting applications of glazes. Beautifully made forms also attract Suzanne. It is hard to nail down a specific style of Suzanne's because she is still experimenting with different techniques. As many other potters, she is on a quest to find a glaze combination that she can call her own.

She fires in an electric kiln at cone 6 and currently her favourite glaze is one that is olive green but goes a beautiful blue where it is applied more thickly. Her favourite tool is the dolan tool pictured here. She uses it for trimming the bottom of pots as they are thrown and creating a guide for the wire to follow.



She sells her work with the West Carleton Arts Association sales and the Guild's sales. Her goal is simply to make enough money to support "her habit". She feels very fortunate to have the incredible support of her husband who helps her with shows and acts often as a studio technician, sieving glazes assisting with spraying glazes, building shelves and displays and many other tasks.

As with her career in education, she considers herself a lifelong learner and feels lucky to have the time to work in her studio.

#GlobalDayofClay

Our friends at NCECA have shared this world-wide clay initiative - November 8, 2017 is the #GlobalDayofClay! This celebration of clay in all its forms will connect artists, academics, enthusiasts to share community projects, innovations, and ideas that are shaping the future of the art form. Powered by you, #GlobalDayofClay is an initiative that invites organizations and individuals throughout the world to share and participate. There is a toolkit that you can download, if you are so inclined, to learn more about how you can be a part of the experience by designing, and sharing a project or event in your own community. Posts on Facebook and Twitter about our own personal work, Celebrating Clay, the Guild Exhibition, our upcoming Christmas Sale, Populace and any/all Guild initiatives by using the hashtag will raise the profile of the Ottawa Guild of Potters on the worldwide stage. Learn more at <https://www.92y.org/globaldayofclay> and be a part of the hashtag party on November 8th!

Fusion Fall Workshop with Chandra Debuse by Kim Lulashnyk



Twenty-eight participants. Two days in a sun-filled studio in October. One unforgettable experience. Fusion: The Ontario Clay and Glass Association gave Ottawa the opportunity to host an exceptional visiting artist and the Ottawa Guild of Potters rose to the occasion. For the twenty-eight registered participants, meeting and watching the making and surface decorating techniques of Kansas City potter, Chandra Debuse, was the opportunity of the year. Hintonburg Pottery was the site of the workshop that was titled "Sketch, Stretch and Scratch: Building Illustrated Pottery" and the bright, light-filled studio, decked out with an assortment of comfortable old chairs, was the perfect setting for this high-level experience in clay.

The workshop focused on creativity, finding one's purpose in one's practice and enjoying making objects that matter to the maker. Thoughtful messages and profound approaches were interspersed with good laughs and an abundance of techniques, tips, tricks and new uses for

everyday materials that could be applied with ease and beauty to both hand-built and wheel-thrown forms. While Debuse, a student of Linda Arbuckle, focused mainly on hand-building, most of her techniques might be applied to add more volume and interest into thrown pots. Saturday, Debuse gave an insightful slide presentation and focused on building forms: plates, mugs, vases, spoons, a set of twin vases and a three-tiered dessert platter. The theme was “clay through holes” and most of the pieces were thick slabs dropped through simple, hand-made wooden molds.

She constructed plates using craft foam pushed on 3" furniture foam with various objects such as wooden balls, door handles and wood. On Sunday, the beautiful surface decoration was explored as she used underglaze and wax resist as her main media for decorating on a leather-hard greenware surface. This process allowed for more clean-up, Debuse explained, and a greater



range of design as she scratched into the clay with handmade tools, a knife, a pin tool and

recommended that we could find joy by tapping into our our expression. One tip offered to the group described Debuse's interest in a hand-drawn line to define her work: "defining a form with a hand-drawn line gives a visual definition to the architecture of the form." This was one of the many practical strategies offered to the participants. There was an abundance of group sharing and interaction and several people were lucky enough to get the chance to own a pot from a few pieces Debuse brought from Kansas City. Known for her squirrels, Debuse demonstrated her painting process for the group late Sunday afternoon. It was nuts! Creativity and play, symbolized by the squirrel, are central concepts in Debuse's work and the workshop was well-worth attending. For more information about Debuse, visit her website at

www.chandradebuse.com and enjoy some of the photos posted on our Facebook site. A longer review of the workshop will be available in the next issue of the Fusion magazine.

We have been busy setting up Populace At Home - a presentation of The Ottawa Guild of Potters' project for Canada 150. This exhibition will be at the Dust Evans Gallery in the Shenkman Arts Centre. It's a beautiful opportunity to see some of the spectacular ceramic vase creations by several members of the Guild and see how powerful a bit of Populace can be in your home.



Art of the Horse by Colette Beardall

“Art of the Horse” is a collective art exhibition featuring the works of sculptor Colette Beardall, painter Crystal Beshara and equine photographer Sandy Sharkey.



While the artists share a common passion and expressed affinity for the horse, it was Sandy

Sharkey's idea to approach Beardall and Beshara about the exhibition, to which they unequivocally, without hesitation, answered "yes".

ART OF THE HORSE
Colette Beardall Crystal Beshara Sandy Sharkey

Three different perspectives
of the magnificently wild and wonderful
HORSE

NOVEMBER 2017 - 3 days only

Friday Nov. 10th. (Vernissage) 6-9pm
Saturday Nov. 11th, 12-5pm
Sunday Nov. 12th, 12-5pm

(131 Loretta Avenue North, Ottawa, Ontario)
#ArtOfTheHorseOttawa

Why The Art of the Horse?
Humans have documented the horse since the Paleolithic age and contemporary artists have continued to attempt to capture its form and spirit in every imaginable medium. Well beyond the simple aesthetic beauty of the horse, it is the universal symbol of freedom, without restraint, that continues to draw people to its magic and power. Entire exhibitions in Europe and throughout the Southwest are dedicated to Equine Art. For Beardall, Beshara and Sharkey, they want to bring some of that passion to Ottawa.

For three days only, the artists will share their uniquely different expressions via sculpture and ceramics, drawing and painting and large scale photographs all

connecting the viewer in celebration of The Art of The Horse.

The artists are pleased to be accepting donations for The Therapeutic Riding Association of Ottawa-Carleton (TROtt) which has provided therapeutic riding lessons for children and adults with disabilities for over 40 years.

2017 Holiday Pottery Sale by Amy Bell



The Guild's 2017 Holiday Pottery Sale is taking place in the Horticulture Building at Lansdowne Park on December 8, 9, and 10th. The Committee is hard at work, setting the scene for the event and prepping for media and social media promotion. We are adding a feature this year, "Setting the Table" a welcoming table set for the holidays with pottery. For those in the sale, you'll be hearing more directly.

If you aren't in the show, you can still take part! We will be looking for wheel throwers to help with wheel demos on the 9th and 10th. Please join the Meet the Artisans event on Friday, December 8th between 5-9pm.

The current Committee would like to thank Carol Holmes Kerr (former Chairperson), Robert and Melanie for all their work on the Sale in the last few years, building successes each on the other.

Stay tuned to the Guild website, Facebook and Instagram accounts!

Classifieds

For Sale – Bartlett Handheld Data Logging Pyrometer
\$30

1 owner, approx. 5 years old includes manual
full info available at <http://www.bartinst.com/kilns/9>
contact: Trina Conboy at tayleapottery@storm.ca



For Sale - Cone Art Kiln model # 1822
\$500

2nd owner in good shape, fires true
3.3 cubic feet 17.5" across & 22" deep
Kiln Sitter model # LT-3K
includes manuals & fire schedule for cone 6
contact: Trina Conboy at tayleapottery@storm.ca



Let us know of any items for you have for sale, services you offer - like kiln repair, or any other items you feel other members would like to know about. Be sure to include your contact information. Please send submissions and

suggestions to Trina @ newsletter@ottawaguildofpotters.ca

Calendar of Events

<p><u>Populace at Home</u> October 20th until December 13th Dust Evans Gallery Shenkman Centre 245 Centrum Blvd, Orléans, ON K1E 0A1</p> <p><u>OGP Annual Juried Exhibition Vernissage</u> November 2nd 6-9 pm Galerie Côté Créations 98 Richmond Rd, Ottawa, ON K1Z 6V9</p> <p><u>OGP Annual Juried Exhibition</u> All Month Galerie Côté Créations 98 Richmond Rd, Ottawa, ON K1Z 6V9 Tuesday-Sunday from 11:00am-6:00pm</p> <p><u>260 Fingers</u> November 10-12 Glebe Community Centre 175 Third Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 2K2 https://www.260fingers.ca/</p>	<p><u>Art of the Horse</u> November 10-12th 131 Loretta Ave North, Ottawa, ON</p> <p><u>OGP Annual Christmas Sale</u> December 8, 9 & 10, 2017 Horticulture Building, Lansdowne Park</p> <p><u>Great Bowls of Fire</u> March 24th, 2018 Glebe Community Centre 175 Third Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 2K2</p> <p><u>Martha Grover Workshop</u> April 14 & 15, 2018 Ingersoll, ON www.creativeartscentre.com</p>
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Please send submissions and suggestions to Trina @ newsletter@ottawaguildofpotters.ca

Contact the Newsletter Team by Trina Conboy

Are you a fan of this newsletter? Do you have a keen eye for little mistakes? Do you have a few hours you'd like to volunteer for your Guild? Then we need you! We need someone to proofread the monthly editions before publication - a final check before it heads off to the membership. If this sounds like you then get in touch with me at ottawaguildofpottersnewsletter@gmail.com Suzanne & I would love the help!

Deadline for December newsletter is November 24th.

The sky's the limit when one tries and is focused.

Sensei L. Winter

See you next month!