



THE OTTAWA GUILD OF POTTERS

LA GUILDE DES POTIERS D'OTTAWA

Fired UP!

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President's Message by Barb Minish

With holiday sales gearing up I'm sure many of us are very busy in the studio. Despite the busy days, I hope most of you were able to take in our first annual exhibition held separately from the spring sale. What an inspiring collection of works. We have some extremely talented members in our guild and we are also very fortunate to have generous and articulate artists like Cynthia O'Brien, in our community to share their expertise and insights with us as the juror. Congratulations to everyone in the exhibition. A big thank you to the Exhibition Committee and thank you as well to everyone who submitted work for consideration.

The weekend of December 8-10 will find many of us at the Guild Holiday Sale in the Horticulture building at Lansdowne Park. For those of you not taking part in the sale, I encourage you to volunteer a few hours sometime over the course of the weekend to help us make the sale a truly "Guild" event. We will be looking for people to help vendors unload and set up on the Thursday night as well as volunteers to demonstrate wheel throwing or handbuilding throughout the weekend.

Our December "meeting" will follow closely on the heels of the holiday sale – Monday, December 11. As is our tradition, we will forego the business part of the meeting and go straight into the socializing and potluck. Stay tuned for more

information as details are ironed out. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Next Meeting



[Website](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Instagram](#)

JOLLY HOLIDAY

PRESENT EXCHANGE

Hintonburg Community Centre
December 11 Potluck Party
6:30 meeting | 7:30 friendship

*Bring a wrapped surprise for \$30
Bring an appetizer
Both optional*



Last Meeting Review by Suzanne Denney

We had the pleasure of welcoming Amy Bell and Jocelyn Jenkins as speakers for the programming part of the Ottawa Guild of Potters meeting on Monday November 13. Emily Dore was also scheduled to speak but unfortunately due to a family emergency, she was called away.



Amy and Jocelyn were participants in Fusion's mentorship program from September 2016 to August 2017. This program runs every two years. The application comes out in spring and is due in June. To apply you need to send in 10 images of your work and a letter of intention. The cost of participating was \$565.00 in that year. Their mentor was Michelle Mendlowitz and they met in Peterborough each month. The mentor works with a group of potters from various parts of Ontario. Both the mentor and the fellow potters participated in the critique process.

Amy has no formal arts training and had a career in Aboriginal health. Her Aunt was her inspiration and through courses, self directed learning and advanced workshops she developed

her skill. Despite all of this she felt she was lacking someone to be a critical eye for her work so the mentorship program appealed to her.

She learned many lessons throughout the year. Keep making, take detailed notes and refer to them often, not all critique is “relevant” (she explained that relevant critique was the expression of something tangible that she could do better) and keep a sense of humour and perspective through the process.



Will that be one chili pepper or five? This was the participants’ rating system for the toughness of the critique; one being very mild and 5 being hot, hot, hot!! They were able to choose.

Amy said that the challenges were quite significant and that the whole process was “humbling”.

Jocelyn said that Michelle, their mentor, is a highly regarded potter who has won many awards, teaches and exhibits at highly esteemed places such as the Gardiner Museum. Jocelyn said that one of Michelle’s strengths is the layering of slips and glazes to produce various effects.

Goals were set to be realized by the subsequent session. Sometimes they were set by the participants, sometimes there was a collaboration with Michelle and sometimes Michelle set the goals for them. Jocelyn said that she was definitely asked to leave the comfort of what she knew and Michelle was adamant about things that were important.



Jocelyn said “sometimes people see things in your work that you don’t see”. She was thankful not only for the input of her mentor but also of the other potters. The group format made it comforting to see that the other potters were going through the same growth process as she was.

Confidence was one of the things that Jocelyn took from the experience. She also said that she gained a new avenue to explore, she established relationships with the other potters, she started a body of work to build on and that she learned lots of knowledge on many useful topics.

The culmination of the year was an exhibition at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa. Both ladies agreed that the experience was enriching. They encouraged others interested in stepping outside of their comfort zone and wishing to have an opportunity to grow should apply.

Holiday Pottery Sale by Amy Bell

Plans are well underway for this year’s holiday sale. Happy potting to those who are in the sale. May your kilns all fire well!

Support our social media postings by liking, commenting and sharing them. Keep sending photos to Kim for posting, and use #ottawaguildofpotters and #guildsale in your own social media postings.

If you are not in the sale, please join in the meet the artisans event on Friday, December 8. You can also be part of the demonstrations, enjoy the Setting the Table display, come to the café, be part of this fun event!



THE OTTAWA GUILD OF POTTERS
LA GUILDE DES POTIERS D'OTTAWA

*Find Unique Gifts
for the Holidays*

Holiday Pottery Sale

Lansdowne Park
Horticulture Building
December 8 -10, 2017
Friday 12pm - 9pm
Saturday 10am - 6pm
Sunday 10am - 5pm
*Meet the Artisans
Friday 5pm-9pm*
Free Admission

Great Selection of
Locally Handcrafted Pottery

Find us on
 

www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca

POPULACE 

THE OTTAWA GUILD OF POTTERS
LA GUILDE DES POTIERS D'OTTAWA

trouvez le cadeau idéal
pour les fêtes

Vente de
Poterie du
Temps des fêtes

Parc Lansdowne
Édifice de l'horticulture
8 au 10 décembre, 2017
vendredi midi à 21h00
samedi 10h00 à 18h00
dimanche 10h00 à 17h00
Venez rencontrer les artisans
vendredi 17h00 à 21h00
entrée gratuite

Suivez nous sur

grand choix de
poterie artisanale d'ici

POPULACE

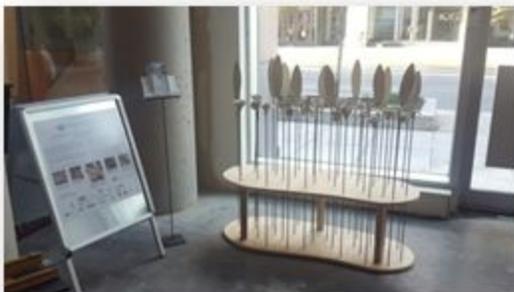
www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca

Review: Clay Culture: Populace, by Kim Lulashnyk: *Ceramics Monthly*, November 2017.

Ceramics Monthly is said to be *'the world's most widely-read ceramics magazine'*. No wonder the Ottawa Guild of Potters is delighted to see member Kim Lulashnyk's 750-word article on *Populace* given prominence in the November 2017 issue. In this article, Kim (*Populace's* Events and Public Outreach Coordinator) describes how this Guild-organized, large-scale, outdoor exhibition of *'individually crafted ceramic sculptures'* came to be. Community participation involving the organization of over 50 *'Making Workshops'* was at the heart of the project. *'Over 2000 area potters, school students, community program participants, arts organizations, and the general public made at least one sculpture (out of 9500 total) for Populace'*. She also emphasizes its size and purpose, as part of Canada's sesquicentennial: *'The scale of the installation, its monochromatic colour scheme and repetition of flowers and feathers invited viewers to reflect on the significance of Canada's history as a nation.'*

Two sidebars set out comprehensive statistics on funding, sponsors, resources and donations, neatly setting out the complexity of developing a project of this size: long-term, detailed planning was essential to ensure completion of 9000 fired sculptures in time for the official opening. The spirit of *Populace* really resided in the community and the efforts of the Ottawa Guild of Potters, all of whom have to be proud of their profound accomplishment.

After the closing of Populace at the Canadian Museum of Nature in September, we took a bit of a breather for a couple of weeks and to have some time to regroup for the October-November-December life of the project. Then, on October 20th, "Populace at Home" was installed at the Dust Evans Gallery, Shenkman Arts Centre. The exhibit is comprised of beautifully made vases by members of our Guild, all of which are stunning as a group tour de force and all of which support the design aesthetic of Populace as it might be displayed in the home. A vernissage was held October 22 to share the new installation with visitors to the Shenkman Centre. The Special Edition gold-tipped sculptures, each made by Populace Designer Hilde Lambrechts, are showcased in this white-on-white-on-white ceramic essay of which we can all as a Guild be very proud. Populace at Home will be in place until December 13, 2017. The Special Edition gold sets and the vases are being sold at the gallery. We hope that all Guild members will think about purchasing a set to commemorate this historic project!



On October 26th, a Special Edition set was donated to Arts Ottawa East (AOE) for their annual fundraising benefit soiree, "ARTini". AOE is one of the funding partners of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Investment Program run by Ottawa 2017 and a donation in support of their mission was one way we could give back. The Special Edition set was one of the Silent Auction pieces and brought in \$150 for Arts Ottawa East.

A mini installation has been set-up at Galerie Côté Créations as part of the Guild Annual Exhibition. Once the Guild installation is taken down, Galerie Côté Créations will continue with sales of Populace sculptures. Our final celebration of the year will be a "Populace Pavilion" at the Guild Sale. We will be selling the sculptures and Special Edition pieces - a meaningful and major wrap-up of this incredible year. We will also have Populace Gift Cards to purchase along with the sculptures! One of the Populace volunteers is a gifted visual artist with whom we are partnering to bring this new dimension to the project. We think the note cards will make a beautiful gift together with sculptures this Holiday season. Be sure to get yours at the Holiday Sale!

AVAILABLE AT THE OTTAWA GUILD OF
POTTERS' HOLIDAY SALE

limited editions

ONE SCULPTURE: \$20
THREE SCULPTURES: \$50



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

ONTARIO
15010

canadian museum of nature
nature
musée canadien de la nature



Who's Who by Suzanne Denney



Lisa Binkowski is our featured member this month! Lisa has been potting for 10 years. As a child she loved making mud pies and building sand castles so this was a precursor to her later passion for clay. She first experienced wheel throwing in her last year of high school and loved the experience. She was hooked!

Lisa has taken many classes over the decades with amazingly talented instructors including Anne Chambers, Liz Hoffman, Susan Gold, Doug Moir, Allison Usher, and Victoria Jenkins just to name a few. Vicky Salinas was her first pottery teacher and she lit a fire in Lisa that drives her to try everything in ceramics. Her teachers have had a great influence on her and she enjoys trying everything she sees. She is not sure if she has found "her" style but is enjoying the ride to discovering it.

Lisa lives in the west end of Ottawa and makes her work at NVAC, at Anne Chambers' summer retreats and at a small studio in her home. She uses Tucker's 650 clay and Tucker's speckled

clay this way she can enjoy both the crisp quality of the glazes on the white clay and the earthiness of the speckled clay. Both clays are fired in an electric kiln to cone 6. Her current favourite glazes are black matte on the white pottery and Lord Jim for the speckled clay. But, she admits that favourite glazes vary frequently.



She feels that any item can somehow be used as tool for clay and her words of wisdom for us are to not rush any stage of a project. She has many books on pottery and loves the ability to instantly find pictures and videos using Google.

The Ottawa Guild of Potters sales and Stonewall Wilde's at 370 Bank Street is where she sells her pottery.

Annual Exhibition 2017 by Isobel Salole

A very successful first Annual Exhibition at Galerie Côté Créations opened 1 November with quite a crowd in attendance! This is the first time the Exhibition has been held apart from the Spring OGP Sale. This provides a month long exposure ensuring our Guild members' pieces get the attention they deserve. Thank you to Géraldine Petit-Gras, at Galerie Côté Créations, our juror Cynthia O'Brien, our Exhibition Committee: Elizabeth Davies, Puck Janes and Amy Bell (who moved over to chair the Sales Committee) having done a grand job of forging a new process for our future annual exhibitions. Photos with Cynthia's comments on the award-winning pieces can be seen on the Guild website at <http://www.ottawaguilddofpotters.ca/gallery/guild-exhibitions/> You can also see all the accepted pieces to the Exhibition on the Guild Facebook page. Thank you to Johanna and Kirstin.

We are keeping up our presence and momentum by continuing our Celebrating Clay monthly starting again in December 2017 and look forward to your ongoing submissions!

Classifieds

Did you know that LOAM is moving? We are working hard to get our new studio ready inside and out! Our present studio will close its doors at sundown on December 24th. Our new bigger location will open its doors the morning of January 5th to resume business as usual. Come check us out at 131 Loretta Avenue North Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 2J7 or visit our website at <http://www.loamclaystudio.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@ottawaguilddofpotters.ca

Calendar of Events

<p><u>Populace on Display</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> December 7th 6-9 pm, Artists' Talk 7:30, Galerie Côté Créations 98 Richmond Rd, Ottawa, ON K1Z 6V9</p> <p><u>OGP Annual Christmas Sale</u> December 8, 9 & 10, 2017 Horticulture Building, Lansdowne Park</p>	
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Please send submissions and suggestions to Trina @ newsletter@ottawaguilddofpotters.ca

Contact the Newsletter Team by Trina Conboy



JANUARY EDITION: Please note the extended deadline for the January edition of *Fired Up!* is December 20th. If you want to submit something please send it to Trina at newsletter@ottawaguilddofpotters.ca by that date. No exceptions.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the newsletter editorial team.

Learning is its own exceeding great reward.
- William Hazlitt

See you next month!

