



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

Volume: Sept 2020  
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*Fired Up!*

Next meeting:

When: Sept. 8  
2020

Time: 6:30 - 8:30

Where: Zoom



[Website](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Instagram](#)

## Message from the President

By Amy Bell

Hi, everyone! September is here! The Guild executive had a meeting to put together some plans for the fall. Here what we have in mind, plus a short questionnaire to help us make some decisions.

### Guild Meetings

Guild meetings will move to the **2nd Tuesday of the month**. We will be looking to offer engaging programming every month. **The first meeting this fall will be Tuesday, September 8th, over zoom, 630-830pm. The zoom coordinates will be sent out on Sept 8, before noon.**

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on October 13th, 630-9pm. Details and an agenda to follow.

A warm, grateful welcome to new Executive Members! Michele MacDonald has stepped forward to become our Treasurer. Sue-Ann Blakley is the Sale Committee Chairperson. Kim Lulashnyk and Ayesh Kanani are our communications co-chairs. These generous people have stepped forward and have interim positions until the Annual General meeting in October.

The Exhibition will take place online, so I hope many of you will find inspiration to make something great this fall.

We are looking at options for the sales and Great Bowls of Fire given the extraordinary context we are living through.

It was wonderful to have a large number of members join in for the workshop with Deb Schwartzkopf and for Wade Vienneau's talk about ceramics and his life in Mozambique.

Please take a minute and complete this short survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TX656BY>

Thank you!  
Amy

## Exhibition

By Isobel Salole, Elizabeth Davies and Carol Lim

### **Our Very Own Online Digital Exhibition Coming up in December 2020!**

To all those members who may not have seen our recent Forum posting, here it is again with a few more details:

Open to all Guild members. We shall be having an online juried exhibition in the month of December 2020. Any thematic and stylistic presentation is accepted for entry. Works can be functional or sculptural and made within the previous two years, not previously exhibited and available for sale. Our juror, **Marney McDiarmid**, will be selecting Exhibition pieces from high quality digital photos (specifications to be provided). We shall need three different views, as well as size and medium details. The fee will be \$30 total for up to three submissions. Further details will be posted on the website as well as through the Guild Forum when finalised.

**The deadline for your entry is Wednesday, November 25. Provisional dates for the exhibition to open are Saturday December 5, and closing on December 19.** A good stretch of time to showcase the successful entries.

**Awards** from our sponsors will be given to the successful participants. These include: **Best in Show, Juror's Choice, Best Design, Best Decorated, Best for Use and Best Expression and Honourable Mention.**

In this time of COVID-19 we are aware that sales and exhibitions are either limited or not happening, so we encourage all our members to consider this opportunity to show, share and be recognized for their ceramic talents. Some potters may not be able to access their usual making space or may simply need somewhere to fire their piece(s). Do reach out and ask for help. Let's get back to making, showing and selling!

Exhibition Committee, 1 September 2020

Isobel Salole, Elizabeth Davies and Carol Lim



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

# Virtual Annual Exhibition

## Dec. 5-19, 2020

Juror: Marney McDiarmid

<https://www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca/annual-juried-exhibition/>

Submission deadline is Wednesday, November 25, 2020



Marney McDiarmid

## Communications

By Kim Lulashnyk

### Communications Committee: Your Voice in Images

Ayesh Kanani and Kim Lulashnyk are happy to be working together to promote the Guild through social media. In this way, we are promoting you! We are open to suggestions and opinions and can be contacted through email. Please reach out!

1. <mailto:ayesh.kanani@gmail.com>
2. <mailto:klula035@uottawa.ca>

Our goals are to increase our social media presence and update features to meet with the ever-changing platforms and strategies in our digital world as they relate to our specific organization. We will be promoting and featuring our sales, exhibitions, and community. We are looking at the Website, Facebook and Instagram, specifically.

What you can do to prepare for your own presence as an Ottawa Guild of Potters' member is to believe that your work is valued, significant, and deserves to be promoted and shared. As such, we will be asking for quality photographs, some artist statements, and perhaps even video clips to celebrate your work – at whatever level you are at this time. In this digital age, the image is central to the promotion and celebration of our work in clay. Look online to find amazing YouTube videos on how to take easy, low-cost professional photos for your work. Try these links out to start!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldB0mAn6Agw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eb3sSJTF5Og>

Look forward to working with each of you and stay safe.

## A Letter from Rosemary Swan Gloucester Pottery School

Hello Guild Members,

There have been some changes at the Gloucester Pottery School. Wendy Snyder, the administrator, has resigned after ten years of service and myself, the director, will be stepping down October 31, after founding the school thirty years ago next year. The good news is that Kaitlyn Brennan has taken over the position of Executive Director and has already commenced her duties. Kaitlyn has a good background in ceramics and has innovative ideas of where to take the school in the future. You will remember Kaitlyn started the New Clay Conference in Ottawa last year.

As many of you know the GPS has had a good relationship with the guild over the years and I sincerely hope this will continue to the mutual benefit of all.

The guild, since its beginning in 1974 has been a wonderful catalyst of ideas and encouragement to the novice potter as I was back then. We the members were provided with so many wonderful workshops that were given by renowned international potters. The guild also provided us with the opportunity of the twice-yearly pottery sale and exhibition in the Glebe community centre and other wonderful venues over the years and that continues to this day.

We are so fortunate to have this great organization run by volunteers in our community.

May I thank you for your kind thoughts and condolences sent on the death of my husband. They were a great comfort.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Swan

## Socially-Distancing Summer Camp in Real Time with Chandler Swain

By Kim Lulashnyk

Today, opportunities are limited for real-time clay experiences. Learning and sharing are carefully regulated and face numerous challenges. Rightfully so. We must be safe in our practices and our practices must be safe. Online learning programs and workshops are becoming more popular and yet it is hard to beat in-person, real-time clay experiences. This summer, I was lucky enough to find Chandler Swain's Summer Pottery Camp in Blakeney, Ontario on the banks of the Mississippi River. For one week in early August, I participated in an in-person, hand-building pottery retreat with one of Ontario's most accomplished potters. The setting was sublime. It was an example of how socially distanced, outdoor clay experiences can work effectively.



plates, and the scraffito technique.

Limited to 8 participants from beginner to experienced, we met under a large open tent on the lawn of Chandler's home. We each had our own worktable, clay, and some tools. Some equipment was shared but each of us had our own hand-rinse bucket and hand-sanitizer. It was a wonderful experience to be working outside and we experienced it all: rain, wind, heat and humidity. Every morning, Chandler gave an hour's lesson on hand-building construction techniques and then, for the rest of the day, we were able to work on our own vessels at our own pace. Chandler circulated and supported each participant as we worked through compositions and concepts of our own choosing. We were given lessons on design, style, concept, construction, and function (although some participants worked on their own sculptural creations). Lessons included making a mug, a pinch pot, pouring vessels, teapots, sets,

The pieces we completed at the camp were fired and then participants were invited back for a glazing lesson and full-day glazing opportunity (at a secondary cost). Chandler fired these pieces and then we returned at a scheduled time to pick up our works and celebrate in our accomplishments and learn from our mishaps. We must continue to grow, learn, communicate, and connect with one another in the clay community while paying close attention to safety during this world-wide pandemic; Chandler's Pottery summer camp provided the best of both worlds. I was privileged to participate.

The Summer Camp ran for three weeks in July and August. For more information for next year, please check out <http://www.chandlerswain.ca>. You can find Chandler's works at The General

in Almonte <http://www.generalfinecraft.com> and follow her @260fingers for the incredible yearly show in Ottawa.



## Education ideas and link of interest

By Carol Holmes Kerr

This article from the Ceramic Arts Network might be of interest to some of you. In the article they describe how to use grout to enhance a clay piece.

<https://ceramicartsnetwork.org> <https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/daily/pottery-making-techniques/making-ceramic-tile/using-ceramic-tile-grout-decorative-element/>

## Who is who in the Guild:

President: Amy Bell

Vice-President Natalie Gosselin

Treasurer: Michele MacDonald

Secretary: Suzanne Denny

Membership Secretary and Sales Registrar: Carol Badenoch

Standards and Education Chairs: Jocelyn Jenkins and  
Kathrin von Dehn

Exhibition Chair: Isobel Salole

Communications Chair: Kim Lulashnyk and Ayesha Kanani

Workshops and Monthly Program: Natalie Gosselin

Sales Committee chair: Sue-Ann Blakley

Past President: Barb Minish

Newsletter Editor: Sarah Hand