



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

Volume: November 2020  
Issue: 23

*Fired Up!*

Next meeting:

**When: November 10 2020**

**Time: 6:30 to 8:30 pm**

**Where: Zoom**



[Website](#)



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## Message from the President

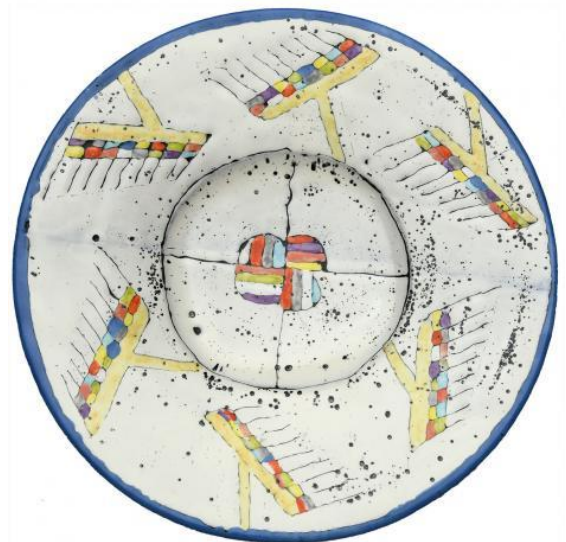
By Amy Bell

As I write this, Ottawa remains in Stage 2 closures due to the Covid pandemic. We will not be hosting our Holiday Sale this year. The US election is coming up. Halloween is not going to happen. Thank heavens for pottery and its ability to absorb our attention, restore a little calm, and make the rest all seem easier to manage.

We had a good AGM, and the new executive is in place, working hard to make sure we have a good Guild year. I think we all enjoyed the video presentation that Barb curated for the meeting - thanks to Barb and all who participated.

Elizabeth and our former member, Puck Janes, hosted a Writing an Artist statement workshop in October. Our Juried Exhibition is coming up, with submissions open from November 8th to 19th. There is still time to get your next excellent pot made and entered! Contact Elizabeth Davies if you have any questions.

Join in the November 10th meeting for a special treat, a presentation about Walter Ostrom's work and influence. This show was on the agenda for the cancelled 2020 NCECA, and I am proud they will be presenting to us. Walter is a professor Emeritus of NSCAD and an honorary ceramics professor in Jingdezhen, China.



**2020-21 Executive:**

I am delighted to be working with the following Executive members this year:

Vice President	Natalie Gosselin
Past President	Barbara Minish
Treasurer	Michele MacDonald
Secretary	Deborah Lemkow
Membership	Carol Badenoch
Communications	Ayesh Kanani & Kim Lulashnyk (Webmaster: Dave Drapeau, non member volunteer)
Exhibitions	Elizabeth Davies
Sales	Sue-ann Blakley
Standards & Education	Jocelyn Jenkins
Programming	Natalie & Barb
Great Bowls of Fire	<i>vacant</i>

## Program

By Amy Bell

**November 10th Program** 630-830 by Zoom. Zoom details will be sent to the Guildforum closer to the date of the meeting.

The Co-curators of "*Good Earth: the Pots and Passion of Walter Ostrom*" will be presenting at our November meeting! I am delighted that Shannon Parker and Dr. Julie Hollenbach accepted our invitation. Walter Ostrom is indeed a national treasure, a champion of fine craft, and one of the very finest artists and professors I have come across. I had the very good fortune to participate in a two week workshop with Walter and Katrina Chaytor in 2019 and am still working through what I learned. Walter's students include many well-known potters like Katrina, Julia Galloway, Greg Payce and Ursula Hargens. I hope you can join in for this meeting.

He is a recipient of the Sadie Bronfman award, the Order of Canada and many other accolades. His expertise runs broad and deep, as reflected in this statement from the Sadie Bronfman award panel: *Walter Ostrom's almost 40-year career in ceramics is reflected in a vast body of work that ranges from some highly conceptual pieces of the 70's to a recent series of dessert plates. Widely recognized as a seminal teacher for generations of ceramic artists and for the revival of low-fired maiolica, Walter Ostrom has been instrumental in reviving the tenets of craft, such as utility, decoration, and function, and he continues to champion the role of fine craft within the visual arts.*

<https://www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca/exhibitions/walterostromgoodearth>

## Sale Committee Report

By Sue Ann Blakley

Guild participants, are you feeling down without our Lansdowne sale? If you are looking for a venue for your work, the Guild Exhibition Committee has just the answer for you!

This Virtual Exhibition will display your selected pieces, and viewers who will be able to click to your social media, the OGP Gallery and more, to see what else may interest them.

Get ready. Turn this Virtual Exhibition into your sales opportunity!

More information at <https://www.ottawaguildofpotters.ca/annual-juried-exhibition-members-info/>

Online submissions will be open at 9:00 am November 8.

The contact information you enter on your form can be used by prospective buyers to start an important sales dialogue. You will be responsible for arranging payment and delivery details with your clients.

Imagine meeting one of your pottery followers. This is a rare opportunity you should not forego. You pay no commission to the guild!

This is your opportunity to showcase your work, build contacts and be in the "Virtual Sale"



**MISSING YOUR  
HOLIDAY SALE?**

**Submit to the Virtual Exhibition!**  
**Update your social media.**  
**Increase your online sales!**

Juror: Marney McDiarmid  
Call for artists open November 8 - 19, 2020

## Artist Statement workshop, Organizers report

By Elizabeth Davies

29 October 2020

Puck Janes and myself,

Anya Knechtel (Gladstone) – documentation

Ayesh Kanani – technical support

Running a ZOOM workshop for the first time, in a tutorial-type setting, was much harder than I had imagined. In my mind, I kept remembering how well the earlier sessions had gone (before Covid times), when Puck and I had offered this same training at the Guild and at Gladstone. As long as your materials are well prepared, you'll be fine, I thought. But interacting with the 'students,' sharing documents, having them work through exercises and comment on them, and then be interviewed in breakout groups, was quite a challenge.

I was so very glad to have willing volunteers at our Test Run on Monday. That was when I realized that my scheduling for the session had to be far more detailed. Puck and I could easily alternate in taking the floor, but I needed to indicate in my planning which page of which document Anya needed to share at any point in time; and Ayesh needed to know the exact sequencing of events. Thanks to that Test Run, and everyone's patience and good spirits, we had everything pretty well down pat by 4 o'clock, Thursday 29 October!

There weren't many of you there – but I think I can speak for all who were, and say that we had ironed out the wrinkles by then. And we truly enjoyed the process, especially the interviews, which helped us understand the different ways in which we all love clay.

The hour and a half was over before we knew it. So instead of asking the 'students' to write right then, each of us (Puck, Anya and myself) said we would stay in touch for a few days with those we had interviewed. Each 'student' would write that artist statement, get any help needed, and then post it to the OGP Gallery/Portfolio. They would also be ready to post it in the Virtual Exhibition application form, as soon as the submission period opens, on November 8.

## Who is who in the Guild:

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Vice President	Natalie Gosselin
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Newsletter Editor	Sarah Hand non executive member