

Welcome to the monthly *National Polymer Clay News* from the **National Polymer Clay Guild**

A newsletter dedicated to spreading the word on all things polymer.

We need **YOU!** Please send us information on any polymer-related event, announcement, or message you'd like shared with the members. To send us your news, contact anyone on the board or e-mail me, Tammy, at execdir@npcg.org.

We will do all we can to post all of the messages we receive but do reserve the right not to list them all.

National Guild Updates

ELECTION NEWS

The nominees are in and have been updated:

President

- Suzanne Ivester
- Jenny Murray

VP Education/Outreach

- Kerrie Venner

Recording Secretary

- Kaaren Poole
- C.A. Therien (*withdrawn*)

Guild Liaison

- Beth Ackley (*withdrawn*)
- Lenora Kandiner
- Wendy White (*withdrawn*)

International Guild Liaison

- Kylee Milner
- Toni Ransfield

Treasurer

- Karen Woods

Each nominee will submit a completed 'Questionnaire' by October 1, 2008. Results will be posted to the NPCG site so you can get to know the nominees before voting begins on November 1.

On-line voting will run from November 1 through 14.

Election results will be posted on the NPCG website on November 21.

GUILD NAME CHANGE

The National Polymer Clay Guild has grown and expanded to include many international members and it has been brought to our attention that many international polymer artists feel the "National" prohibits them from joining. To be sure we continue to welcome anyone interested in joining as well as to better serve all the members, the Guild will soon be changing its name to include an international moniker. For more, read the full article "[Change is in the Air](#)" as well as keep an eye on the NPCG website for updates.

2009 RETREAT

Save the dates – The 'Retreat' will take place 7/11-7/15 2009 at Indian Lakes Resort, outside of Chicago, Illinois. The Art Clay USA, 'Metal Clay World Conference' will follow these dates at the same location. Details will be available on the NPCG website soon.

Approaching Deadlines

National Polymer Clay News – please submit any news, polymer tips or information you'd like to be considered for use in the next NPCN e-mail by October 22, 2008. Submit all information to: execdir@npcg.org.

Polymer Clay Productions is hosting classes and they're looking for teachers who are willing to "cast" from their own homes. For teaching, attending classes and the general scoop, visit Craftedonline.com.

Award/Call for Entries

Awards

Fire Mountain Gems and Beads® announced the [winners of the 2008 Beading Contest](#).

Here are a few highlights:

Susan Bailey won the People's Choice Award or her [Hokey Pokey](#) design which incorporated polymer beads within a woven seed-bead necklace

In the Kato Polyclay™ category:

- Gold Medal - Susan Bailey
- Silver Medal – Member Kaaren Poole
- Bronze Medal - Members Julie Anstaett and Eugena Topina tied

NPCG member Gwen Bernecker won for one of her metal clay designs.

[Bead Dreams contest winners announced](#) during the Bead & Button show and are now posted for your viewing pleasure on the Bead & Button show website.

The POLYMER CLAY winners are:

1st Place – Carol Simmons; Korean Embroidery Series

2nd Place – Member Julie Picarello; Cityscape

3rd Place – Member Louise Fischer-Cozzi; Symmetry Demise Necklace

2008 Saul Bell award winners announced during the JCK show in May – for a complete listing of winners, visit [Saul Bell Award](#) for a slide show of the 2008 winners.

Rings & Things 2009 contest will accept entries from February 1 through February 28, 2009. In addition to the 2008 winners previously noted, Lorrene Davis won an honorable mention for one of her [metal clay designs](#).

Call for Entries

STAEDTLER announces the 2009 Bottles of Hope Designer Challenge. Clay artists of all skill levels are encouraged to submit one or more entries for the challenge which will award charitable contributions to the cancer charity of the winner's choice plus a cash prize to winners in three categories. Product prizes will also be awarded to the top three runner-ups. Finalists will receive guest badges to the CHA 2009 show in January (Anaheim, California) where the award ceremony will take place. For rules and entry forms visit: http://staedtlер-usa.com/bottles_of_hope_2009_us.Staedtler or contact Lisa Pavelka at 702-243-6564 or lisapavelka@cox.net

[2009 Saul Bell Emerging Artist competition](#) is now open – deadline is December 12, 2008.

["The Perfect Fit: Shoes Tell Stories"](#) – on-line applications only, deadline October 3, 2008. Traveling exhibition which will premier at the Fuller Craft Museum June 6, 2009 through January 3, 2010. Any craft medium can be used to create shoes that tell a story.

For an expanded listing of Call for Entries, visit [Art Calendar](#) magazine

Events and Happenings

Events

[SOFA – Chicago](#) – November 7-9, Chicago, IL

[Clay Carnival – Vegas](#) – November 13-16, Las Vegas, NV
[Registration](#) is open!

[Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show](#) – November 13-16, Philadelphia, PA

2009 Smithsonian Craft Show – April 23-26, 2009, Washington, D.C. National Building Museum

For other art events going on across the world – visit the American Craft magazines [calendar](#);

Happenings

[The Creative Place](#) – hosting many clay and clay-related classes – ongoing

[Houston Polymer Clay Guild](#) – October 4-5, Houston, Texas
Laura Tabakman is teaching a [2-day texture plate workshop “Making Your Mark”](#)

[Art & Soul Retreat](#) – October 1-6, Portland, Oregon

[Pittsburgh Guild Retreat](#) – October 17-19, Prospect, PA

Kentucky Guild Retreat – October 17-19, Mammoth Cave, KY
Marla Frankenburg will be teaching a “Marlafiori” workshop. For more information contact [Marla Frankenburg](#)

[Philadelphia Area Polymer Clay Guild](#) – October 11-12, Philadelphia, PA
Robert Dancik will be teaching a Master Class on Cold Connections

[Philadelphia Area Polymer Clay Guild](#) – October 18, Philadelphia, PA
Barbara McGuire will be teaching a Master Class on Face Canes.

Dayton (Ohio) Area Polymer Clay Guild – October 11-12, Loveland, Ohio
Lynne Anne Schwarzenberg workshop, “8 from 1: Intensive Flower Caning” technique. Contact [Jan VanDonkelaar](#) for more details.

[Mile High Polymer Clay Guild](#) – October 18-19
Tory Hughes is teaching a [2-day “Hinged Pendants” workshop](#)

Maureen Carlson’s Center for Creative Arts – October 24-26, Jordan, Minnesota
Maureen is hosting Tory Hughes who will be teaching a workshop on Personal Shamanic Objects and Figures in Imitative Techniques and Mixed Media. Contact [Maureen Carlson](#) for details and to register.

St. Theresa Textile Trove – November 16, Cincinnati, Ohio
Amy Wallace is teaching her Stacker Bead technique, register at [Ovenfriedbeads.com](#).

Buckeye Clay Bash – February 19-22, 2009, Fairborn, Ohio (near Dayton). More information will be available after Labor Day.

Dan Cormier will be teaching a 2-day workshop on Building Better Beads – March 7-8. Tampa, Florida. Contact [Karen Woods](#) for a flyer or to register.

[Orlando Clay Fandango](#) – March 12-16, 2009, St. Augustine Beach, Florida – space is limited

Does your local guild have an upcoming workshop or class – or are you hosting a workshop or class? Log into the [NPCG website](#) to post your information and to be included in the [events calendar](#).

Not sure if there is a local guild near you? Visit the NPCG website to find a [local guild](#) – and to see the [events and classes](#) posted.

Charitable Efforts

You can help to make a difference! Check out the organizations/efforts listed below and consider sharing some of your talent, time and creativity.

[Arrowmont](#) needs your help – they have lost their lease! The Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts has played a vital role in the growth of the NPCG. Many a polymer workshop and retreat has been held on the Arrowmont grounds. Arrowmont also provides high quality art and craft instruction and outreach to Sevier County schools and is key partner in Gatlinburg's craft community. Further, the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts is a key participant in a brand new Tennessee Department of Tourism initiative, undertaken as a partnership with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the National Geographic Society, the University of Tennessee, and the Center for Historic Preservation at MTSU. This effort, to establish “sustainable heritage tourism” in Gatlinburg, is designed to work as an economic engine attracting high quality tourism and increased tourist revenue to the gateway cities of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the surrounding region.

How can you help save Arrowmont?

1. Join Friends of Arrowmont or the Signature Circle. “Friends of Arrowmont” is a program of on-going support and annual donor recognition for the school. The Signature Circle is an active patron’s group of supporters who donate \$1,000 or more annually and receive invitations to exhibitions and special programs. Contributions can be made through the Arrowmont website.
2. Sign up for a workshop and bring a friend!
3. Follow all the various discussion groups on the Internet and let your others know you support Arrowmont.
4. Keep checking the Arrowmont website for the latest news and developments.
5. Volunteer your time, expertise, or other valuable assets to keep Arrowmont growing and thriving in the community.
6. Consider including Arrowmont in your long-term financial plans.

[Bead of Courage](#) and [how to help](#)

[“Heats for Heroes”](#) and [how to help](#)

CERF’s (Craft Emergency Relief) 11th Collection of Miniatures, titled ‘Tip of the Hat,’ was unveiled – take a [peek](#). Raffle tickets will soon be on sale with the drawing taking place during the ‘Sofa’ show in Chicago. Visit the [CERF](#) website for more information on the raffle.

[Kassie Morris](#) was published in both *Miniature Collector* and *Dollhouse Miniatures* and is seeking donations for a 1/12 dollhouse she is building. The dollhouse will be donated to benefit a local women’s shelter that helped saved her life! In the future she plans to establish a foundation and donate other houses to benefit different causes including: Hospice, local nursing homes, children’s hospitals and veterans. IF anyone has any items they wish to donate to her cause – please contact Kassie directly.

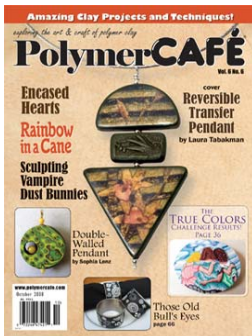
IN THE WORLD OF CLAY



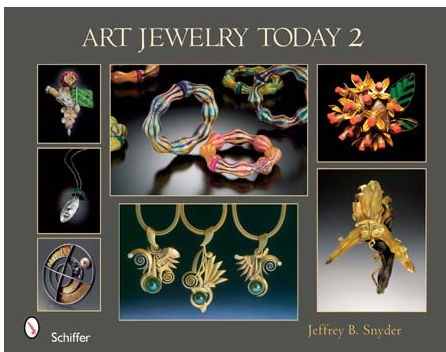
Lauren Abrams is the featured artist on the “[Art Bead Scene](#)”



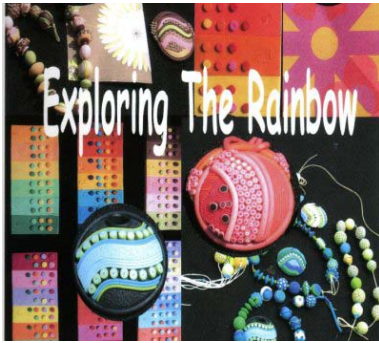
A few Guild members are featured in the current issue of *Belle Armoire*



Many guild members are featured in the current issue of *Polymer Café* including Lara Tabakman and Christi Friesen.



Elise Winters is featured on the cover of the newly released “Art Jewelry Today 2” by Jeffrey B. Snyder. The book features over 550 color photos of wearable artwork produced by today’s top art jewelers. The work includes work in gold, silver, mixed metals, glass, enamel, found objects and more.



Exploring the Rainbow is a Hot-Off-The-Press booklet by Tina Holdman available through the Mile-High Polymer Clay Guild. The booklet contains over 100 recipes, including color-mixing background information. Contact [Karen Sexton](#) for more information or to order your copy.

This is the space for you! Be sure to drop us a note for consideration in the next NPCN letter; deadline October 22, 2008.

Local Guild News

A new Guild is forming in central Vermont. Anyone interested in joining the group can contact [Christine Damm](#) for more information.

A new guild is forming in Massachusetts in the Pioneer Valley. Contact [Peg Gerard](#) for more information.

[Additional Local Guild News](#) updates are available at the NPCG website.

Ongoing Multi-Media Happenings and Blogs

[Project Polymer](#) message board

[Bead Nerd Blog](#) – Lori Greenberg's blog

[Daily Art Muse](#) – Susan Lomuto's blog

[Polymer Art Archive](#) – Elise Winters' blog

[Polymer Clay Craft Gossip](#) – Wendy White is the CraftGossip Polymer Clay Editor.