

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!** In order for us to cover things you want to know about as well as ensure we help your message be heard – we need your support! Let us know if you have a 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.

Please also let us know what kind of information you think would be helpful to you, as polymer artists, so we can consider adding the category to the next issue.

National Guild Updates

SYNERGY

Thank you to everyone who participated in Synergy – it was an amazing time, for all.

And a big thank you to everyone from Judy Belcher, NPCG President (as well as remarks from her closing speech she didn't quite get to deliver in person), is now posted on the NPCG website. "[Synergy in Closing](#)"

Thank you also for your participation in the Synergy survey (sent to all registered attendees). Survey responses are being tabulated and responses will be used to help build future Guild events – like **Synergy 2010!**

ACREs of Opportunity

This is the moment Meisha, Sandra and Lindly have been waiting for and working very hard toward – the chance to share their talent and work with the many galleries and store owners who will be walking the show floor in Las Vegas, during the [wholesalecraft.com](#) show – [ACRE](#) – American Craft Retailers Expo.

GOOD LUCK LADIES!

There are many other [polymer artists](#) exhibiting at the show, including “ACREs of Opportunity” mentor and polymer artist in her own right, Judy Dunn.

The Guild is proud to announce it will continue the ACREs of Opportunity program for 2009. Check the NPCG website and future NPCN for more information.

PROGRESS & POSSIBILITIES 2008

An International Exhibit

Announcing Progress & Possibilities 2008, a polymer clay design competition.

Below is a brief synopsis of P&P; a formal announcement, as well as clear submission guidelines will be posted to www.npcg.org soon!

Categories

- Art Jewelry
- Sculptural Objects
- Functional Objects

2 different jurors for each category ~ 1 polymer and 1 non-polymer

Timeline

- 08/01/08 - Submission process begins
- 09/01/08 - **Submission deadline**
- 10/15/08 - Jury Deadline
- 11/15/08 - **Finalists and Winners Announced**

Each artist may submit up to 3 different entries. Entry fee is \$25 ~ **for any current member of the NPCG**. Work must be at least 1/2 Polymer Clay and made between 09/01/07 and 09/01/08.

Top 10 finalists in each category will be included in the *Progress and Possibilities '08* catalog.

Best of Show, 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be selected from the chosen finalists.

Approaching Deadlines

Call for Entries:

Nassau County Museum of Art Show – Exhibitor application deadline, April 8, 2008. Applications accepted after the deadline will be reviewed until the show is filled. www.craftsatlincoln.org
12th annual “Craft as Art Festival” at the Nassau County Museum of Art, Roslyn Harbor, New York
Contact: Raya Farina, Director of Operations c/o ACAC, PO Box 650, Montclair, NJ 07042
e-mail: acacinfo@gmail.com.

Call for Submissions:

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 April 22, 2008. Submit all information to: execdir@npcg.org.

Step by Step Beads is interested in publishing your work! Contact [Leslie Rogalski](#), Editor, for submission guidelines.

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.

Art Clay Society publishes a quarterly newsletter and hosts a contest for “cover artist.” Contact [Katie Baum](#), Director, for more information.

Metal Clay Connections publishes a quarterly newsletter dedicated to PMC related information. Deadline for the July newsletter is June 1, 2008. Contact [Linda Bernstein](#) for submission guidelines and information.

Award/Contest Announcements

Awards

[2008 Niche Award Winners](#) – Congratulations to all, but especially Meisha Barbee and Loretta Lam for their winning designs.

Be sure to check out each *NPCN* for info on 2009 Niche Award guidelines; applications will be available Spring 2008

Bottles of Hope Designer Challenge winners announced at CHA Anaheim 2008

Contest announcements

[Bead Dreams 2008](#) - sponsored by *Bead & Button* magazine – deadline April 4, 2008 – winners announced during the Bead & Button show, June 1-8, 2008

[Fire Mountain Gems & Beads](#) – Beading Contest – deadline April 15, 2008

Events and Happenings

Events

[Bead Fest Wire – Philadelphia](#) – April 4-6 – vendors and classes dedicated to wire art. Class registration accepted until the class starts.

[Bead Fest Miami](#) – April 11-13 – vendors and classes. Class registration accepted until the class starts.

[WOW 2008](#); May 13-19, 2008 – a show for cloth and polymer doll artists

[Bead & Button Show](#) – June 1-8, 2008

- Many [CLAY classes](#) are being offered and some still have seats available.
- New class just added: **Robert Dancik** will be teaching his faux bone class – [sign up today!](#)

Happenings

[Artfest 2008](#), art retreat – April 2-6, 2008, Port Townsend, WA

[Art & Soul](#), art retreats – April 13-17, Asilomar, CA; May 1-5; Hampton VA; ongoing

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

[Handweaver's Guild of America's Convergence International Fiber Arts Conference](#) – June 22-28, 2008, Tampa, Florida

[Art Unraveled](#), art retreat – August 3-10, 2008, Phoenix, Arizona

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](#).

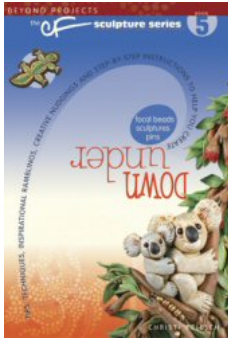
Not sure if there is a local guild near you? Visit the NPCG website to find a [local guild](#) – and to see the [events and classes](#) posted.

Charitable Efforts

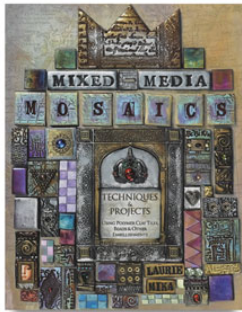
You can help to make a difference! Check out the organizations/efforts listed below and consider sharing some of your talent and creativity.

- [Bottles of Hope](#)
- About [Bead of Courage](#) and [how to help](#)
- About ["Heats for Heroes"](#) and [how to help](#)

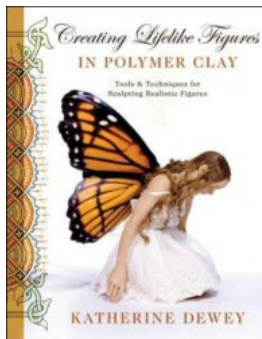
In the world of Polymer



[Christi Friesen's](#) new book debuts April 11, 2008



[Laurie Mika](#) has a new book out – *Mixed Media Mosaics*



[Katherine Dewey's](#) book – *Creating Lifelike Figures*, will be rereleased by Watson-Guptill, soon!



[Polymer CAFE](#) – April 2008 features many polymer artists, including Kathleen Dustin; Jack Johnston and Kim Otterbein

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

Guild News

The **Israeli Guild** is featured in [an article](#) on the NPCG website, written by Julie Picarello, editor of the POLYinforMER. The article highlights the accomplishments of the guild and its members, as well as 'raises a glass' in celebration of the Guild's two-year anniversary. Congratulations to all of you for all you have accomplished and given back to your community – thank you for sharing your guild news with all of us!

In the future we'd like this section to be sorted into regions so you can see, at a glance, what's going on in your neighborhood. Please send us information so we can share what you're doing with the entire membership! Submit your notes by the 22nd of each month to be included in the upcoming NPCN.

Ongoing Multi-Media Happenings

[Craft Cast](#) – podcasts hosted by Alison Lee – download artist interviews for use on your iPod
[Polymer Clay TV.com](#)

FIVE Online Places of Interest

[Kim Rae Nugent's Blog](#)

[Kathi Gose – Dragonsglass.com](#)

[Polymerartarchive](#)

[Polymeri Online](#)

[Artrepreneur, the Collision of Art and Business](#)

Galleries to visit

We'd love to feature a few galleries that host any of our members, please send us information on where to find your work across the country and beyond!

Please note: The *NPCN* will be distributed to all active NPCG members. If you wish to be removed from the list for this distribution, please let us know by e-mailing: execdir@npcg.org.

Please note: Some of the sections are listing only a sampling of opportunities out there. Be sure to check each issue to see who is being featured and let us hear from you on who you want to see listed next time. Also check our web site at <http://www.npcg.org> for the latest news, event announcements, and artist profiles.