

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

There are a few wonderful Board members whose terms are ending, which means positions are opening up. There is also a new position being added - International Guild Liaison. We need you and your talent to fill these executive positions!

Please review the article on the NPCG website for complete details. [NPCG 2008 ELECTIONS](#)

If you are interested in learning more about the possibilities of volunteering, a comprehensive summary of job descriptions and expectations, including travel and meeting requirements, can be found for each board position under the [FAQ](#) section of this website.

Voting Timeline

- Aug 29 - Deadline for nominees to submit their candidacy to the [Elections Chair](#)
- Sep 1 - Complete list of applicants will be posted on the website and each will receive the Nominee Questionnaire by email
- Oct 1 – Nominee Questionnaires completed and returned by applicants
- Oct 7 – Excerpts from Nominee Questionnaires posted on the website
- Nov 1-14th – On-line Voting
- Nov 21 – Election results posted on website

2009 RETREAT

YOU have spoken and the retreat is a GO!

Save the Dates: 7/11-7/15, 2009

Check out the location: [Indian Lakes Resort](#)

More information will follow very soon...stay tuned!

ACREs of Opportunity 2009

The Guild is proud to announce it will continue the ACREs of Opportunity program for 2009, with three winners sharing in a booth space provided by ACRE!

The site for posting your application will open on 8/11 and will close on 9/10.

An official announcement will be posted to the NPCG website with all the details – keep your eye out if you are thinking about pursuing, or expanding your business to include wholesale!

The jurors are in place and are as follows:

- Joyce Fritz – polymer clay artist with 200 wholesale accounts
- Dottie Lownsbury-Dolan – owner of Apostrophe Arts and Design, Washington MO
- David Willard – Executive Director of Arrowmont

PROGRESS & POSSIBILITIES 2008

An International Exhibit

To All Progress & Possibility 2008 Participants

I would like to share with you some commonly asked questions regarding image submission and multiple category entries. My hope is that these will help to clarify the submission process for you, but please do not hesitate to [contact](#) me if not. If you are a current [NPCG](#) member and plan to participate, go ahead and [create your free profile on CaFE](#) and you will see the page go live on August 1st! The entire process from entry submission, the \$25 jury fee and the judging will all take place on-line. No paper, CD's or snail mail this year, so everything should be easier for entrants and jurors alike.

Thank you,

Barb Fajardo

Chair - Progress and Possibilities '08

Q: I'm excited about submitting my work to P&P2008. I've never participated before, and I have some questions on photo submissions. Specifically, how many photos can I submit for each entry? Am I going to pay a fee for each photo? Can I make a photo composite to showcase the details?

Thank you, Cindy

A: How wonderful that you will be entering P&P, Cindy! To answer your questions, you may submit up to three entries for your \$25 jury fee. You are allowed one image per entry, and it can be a composite or collage if desired. You will not need to submit detail images as the judges will have the ability to "zoom in" on each image. For this reason, it is critical that your image is formatted correctly for the CaFE system. [Please read the image requirements here](#). If needed, we can help you with that as well, just [email](#) us!

Q: I have three entries I'd like to submit this year. Rather than submitting them all to one category, I'd like to submit one in the Functional Objects Category and two in the Sculptural Objects Category. Do I need to do anything different in CaFE?

Thank you,

Jane

A: Great question, Jane! Yes, this is a special situation. Due to the CaFE system restrictions, you are only allowed to submit images to one category at a time. So to start the process of entering work in different categories, you will begin by uploading your image(s) for one of the categories and completing the submission process. You will then need to email npcgpp08@gmail.com for further instructions on how to submit images to the second category. This process is in place to ensure that you are not charged an additional jury fee, and we'll be happy to help you step through it.

A formal announcement, as well as clear submission guidelines are posted to www.npcg.org.

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 August 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/Contest Announcements

Awards

[Bead Dreams contest winners announced](#) during the Bead & Button show.

The **POLYMER** clay winners are, drum roll please...:

1st Place – Carol Simmons; Korean Embroidery Series

2nd Place – Julie Picarello; Cityscape

3rd Place – 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.

2009 Niche award application is now available –

- For [professional entries](#) - deadline is August 30, 2008
- For [student entries](#) – deadline is September 30, 2008

[2009 Saul Bell contest application](#) is now available – deadline is September 19, 2008.

Events and Happenings

Events

The Jacksonville Center for the Arts in Floyd, Virginia invites members of the National Polymer Clay Guild to discover our hands-on arts experiences. We are delighted to you a 25% discount on your first class. We offer over sixty summer courses in an array of mediums, including polymer clay and jewelry classes such as...

--The Well Rounded Jeweler with Martha and Ed Biggar

--Polymer Bead Making with Teri Walters

-- Intermediate Millefiori Canework with Teri Walters

--Wire-Wrapped Cabachons with Tammy Parks

--Wirewrapping Weekends with Cy Olson

--Jewelry 101 with Linda Osborne and Cy Olson

For complete details and contact information, please read the complete article on the NPCG website: [Jacksonville Center for the Arts](#)

Happenings

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

[Euro Clay Carnival](#) – August 1-3, Ilkeston Town FC

Donna Kato, Judy Belcher, Leslie Blackford, Sue Kelsey, Carol Blackburn, Alison Gallant, Natalia Garcia de Leaniz, and Cathy Johnston will each be teaching workshops

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

No Hollow Promises – A Survey of Holloware Possibilities, August 17-20, Jeff Dever at [Maureen Carlson's Center for Creative Arts](#)

[Fall Foliage Clay Festival](#) -- September 2-5, Wausau, Wisconsin

POLYinforMER editor Julie Picarello, among many other talented polymer artists will be holding workshops during the festival

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

[Houston Polymer Clay Guild](#) – October 4-5

Laura Tabakman is teaching a [2-day texture plate workshop “Making Your Mark”](#)

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.

[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 – more details to come. Contact [Marla](#) with any questions you might have.

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

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.

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

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

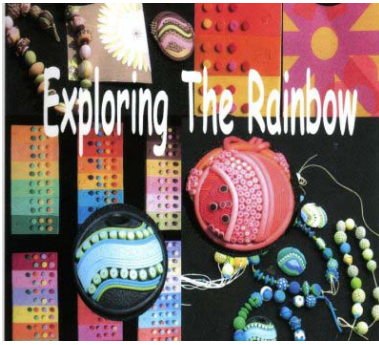
‘Bottles of Hope’ has spread!

Art teacher Laura Brosi, from the Albemarle Road Elementary School, Charlotte, NC, brought the concept of [‘Bottles of Hope’](#) to her classroom. In one day, she and the other teachers decorated 76 bottles, which also included notes written by students from the school. The bottles will be donated to children at the Levine Children’s Hospital. For more on the story visit the [school’s website](#).

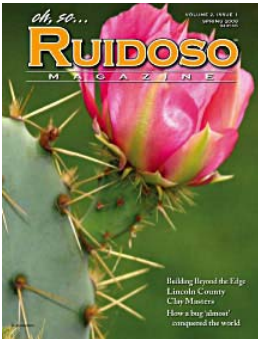
In the world of Clay



Guild Member Heather Powers has an article in the current issue of Simply Beads, “The New Face of Polymer Clay.”



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.



Guild member Misha Malpica was featured in her local magazine which showcased her 30-year long sculpting career as well as highlighted some of her work. Contact [Misha](#) for more details.

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

Guild News

Congratulations to the new guild created in Cyprus – Cyprus Polymer Clay Association. They are very interested in connecting with other European Guilds – as well as would love to hear from anyone else who would like to reach out to them. Their website – www.cypca.org will be launched this month. For more information, please contact [Maria Alexandrou](#), the newly elected president.

Congratulations to the new Wisconsin Guild! The [Metro Milwaukee Polymer Clay Guild](#) has been meeting for only a few months with members who are sculptors, caners, beaders and beginners. Please join them if you're in the area.

Congratulations to the new Central Florida Polymer Art Guild! They are having an [organizational meeting on August 18](#).

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

Ongoing Multi-Media Happenings and Blogs

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

[Polymer Clay TV.com](#)

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

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

[Polymer Clay Craft Gossip](#) – Heather Power's blog