

Welcome to the December 2007 *National Polymer Clay News* from the **National Polymer Clay Guild**

This listing of information is geared to help spread the word on all things polymer. (*To connect to any of the hyperlinks listed below, you may need to press Control and click your mouse to be directed to the referenced website.*)

Each letter highlights updates of the NPCG, all of which can also be found on the [National Guild's website](#). We'll then hit the ground running with hot deadlines, info. on things we think you'll be interested in hearing about in the arts community as well as member news.

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! Please 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 and be sure to let us know if you have a polymer-related event, announcement, or message you'd like shared with the members.

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.

To reach us, you can 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

SYNERGY

The NPCG 2008 conference is a new kind of conference for the polymer clay, metal clay, mixed media, and sculpting communities. Rather than hands-on classes aimed at teaching specific creative techniques, this conference is full of 90-minute seminars, lectures and panel discussions aimed at promoting sharing and communication between presenters and attendees alike.

Seminars are filling and some have SOLD OUT! If you haven't done so already, be sure to register NOW for the seminars you want to attend. Haven't seen what's being offered during Synergy – check out the catalog for all the info you need: [Synergy Catalog](#).

List of classes that are near capacity:

- Designed to Sell
- Creative Sparks
- Establishing Your Polymer Clay Business
- Silver Bezels for Polymer
- The Mystery of Pricing
- Unconventional Polymer

There is more to Synergy than just the seminars...

"The theme for the [2008 Synergy 1 Conference](#) is "Moving Forward/Looking Back". On Thursday, February 21st, conference attendees are in for a rare treat as guest speaker Kathleen Dustin takes the podium and looks back on the development of polymer clay as a fine-art material. Kathleen was there when it all started, and she will recount her tales during the opening lecture of the Synergy Conference." – Julie Picarello – Editor, POLYinforMER

Teacher Fair

Looking for a class to offer at your next Guild Meeting? Want to offer your members something different? Be sure to attend the Teacher Fair to see what classes might be available to you – **Thursday, February 21, 2008: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Vendor Fair

A select group of merchants and their wares will be set up conveniently for you all day – **Friday, February 22, 2008: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

Synergy Gallery

The Synergy Gallery is a wonderful opportunity for conference attendees to show their work and earn some money – *we have a hunch this will also be a great place to SHOP!* **Everyone** attending the Synergy Conference is invited to put work in the Gallery.

A special exhibit of Hollie Mion's collection of polymer art will also be on display.

A percentage of all sales will go to the National Guild to help cover costs. The percentage will be 20% or 30% depending on when your inventory form is submitted. If you submit your form electronically, at least 2 weeks prior to the conference, and you use the price tags provided by the NPCG, you will take home 80% of your sales.

More information about the electronic submittal guidelines will be sent to all participants in January.

Synergy Discussion Group

Looking to connect with someone attending Synergy; want to find a ride or carpool from the airport, or can you offer one? Make these connections and more by joining the [Synergy Discussion Group](#) on yahoo.

ELECTIONS

Voting has been extended until December 2, 2007 – be sure to cast your ballot and make your vote count for the open Board positions. For members who have e-mail addresses on file, electronic ballots were sent via e-mail; mail-in ballots were sent to all members who have **only** a physical address on file.

Please contact the [Election Chair](#) , Julie Picarello, with any questions.

ACRES of Opportunity

The applications are in, the jurying is done, and the **final three artists for the NPCG booth at the ACRE show in Las Vegas have been selected.** The artists who will be attending ACRE, representing the possibilities of polymer clay, and taking orders for their work are: [Meisha Barbee](#), [Julia Sober](#) and [Sandra McCaw](#).

MEMBERSHIP

The [Membership Roster](#) has been updated and is maintained on-line for your convenience.
Log in to download it now!

There is a lot of other information posted on the NPCG site – be sure to tune in regularly to keep up with all that is happening!

Need a way to let your significant other know you'd like your registration for Synergy as your holiday gift this year? Try this:

HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Dear _____

All I need this year as my holiday gift is registration to the Synergy conference and banquet.

Please visit:
<http://www.npcg.org/conference/>
for the registration form and sign me up!

These are the conferences I'd like you to select for me:

Thank you!
Love,

Approaching Deadlines

This area will focus on deadlines for anything polymer related (contests, call for entries, show proposals, etc.) so at a glance you will know what you need to work on right away.

[Saul Bell 2008 Emerging Artist Contest](#) rendering or photograph submission deadline December 14, 2007

[Bottles of Hope Designer Challenge](#) entry application deadline December 7, 2007 for entry kit; entry submission deadline January 5, 2008

[Polymer Clay Mask Book call for entries](#) – entries due January 15, 2008

National Polymer Clay News – please submit any news or information you'd like to be considered for use in the next NPCN e-mail by December 23, 2007. Submit all information to: execdir@npcg.org

Award/Contest Announcements

[2007 Couture Jewelry Awards](#) – Winner to be announced December 8, 2007

2008 Niche Award Professional Finalists Announced –Winners to be announced February 17, 2008

- [2008 Niche Award Professional Finalists: Beads](#)
- [2008 Niche Award Professional Finalists: Polymer Clay](#)
- **Student Finalists** to be announced in December – Winners to be announced February 17, 2008 during the Buyer's Market of American Craft Show, Philadelphia, PA

Be sure 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, February 11, 2008 – Amaco Booth

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

Events and Happenings

Events

[Catalog in Motion](#) – February 8-11, 2008 – hosted by Rio Grande during the Tucson shows in February

[Buyer's Market of American Craft](#) – February 15-18, 2008

[American Craft Council Baltimore](#) – February 22-24, 2008

[Bead Expo - Portland](#) – March 27-30, 2008 – class registration is happening NOW!

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

Happenings

[2008 BUCKEYE CLAY BASH](#) – February 14-17, 2008; held at the Hope Hotel in Fairborn, Ohio.

[Cabin Fever Clay Festival 2008](#) – February 17-20, 2008; held in Laurel, Maryland

[Orlando Clay Fandango retreat](#) – March 13-17, 2008; held at Lake Yale Baptist Center, Lake Yale in Leesburg, Florida

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](#) – The next B.O.H. Designer’s Challenge is officially open. The challenge is open to everyone and it’s a great way to have your work seen by industry media and most importantly to raise awareness for cancer treatment and cures. This year’s CHA-Anaheim 2008 “Bottles of Hope” designer challenge is called “Hope-on-a-Rope” honoring Susan Clement, an artist who has made and gifted hundreds of bottles for others. As Clement says, “I am a warrior [having fought recurrent cancer]. The creating and sharing of ‘Bottles of Hope’ has extended my life.”
- About [Bead of Courage](#) and [how to help](#)
- About [“Heats for Heroes”](#) and [how to help](#)

Publishing

Help bring awareness to great polymer art – contribute a project or article to a magazine – today!

A sampling of magazines with online submission guidelines



Magazines with great and pertinent content regarding arts and business

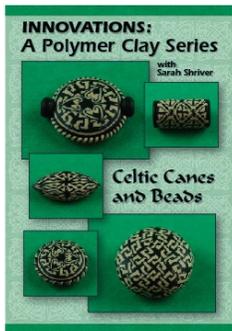


In the world of Polymer

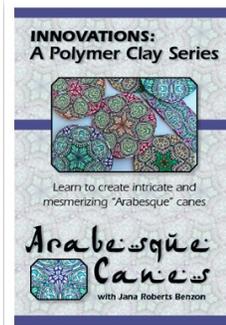
This is the space for you! Be sure to drop us a note for consideration in the next NPCN letter; deadline December 22, 2007.

Member News

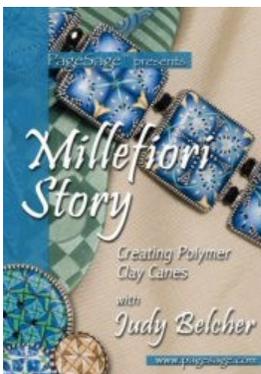
DVD Releases



Innovations: A polymer Clay Series with Sara Shriver, Celtic Canes and Beads



Innovations: A polymer Clay Series with Jana Roberts Benzon; Arabesque Canes

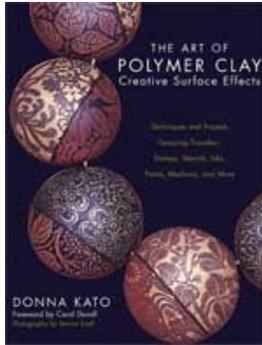


Judy Belcher's, Millefiori Story



Maureen Carlson's, Learn how to sculpt realistic faces step by step

Book Releases



Donna Kato's, *The Art of Polymer Clay Creative Surface Effects*

Guild News

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

[Polymer Clay Daily](#)

[Art Calendar](#)

[Beading Daily](#)

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

[Imagine Uncommon Things](#)

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.