

POTTERS PAGES

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K12 Potters Council Award Winners

BY LORI LEARY, Potters Council Advisory Board and Awards Committee Chair

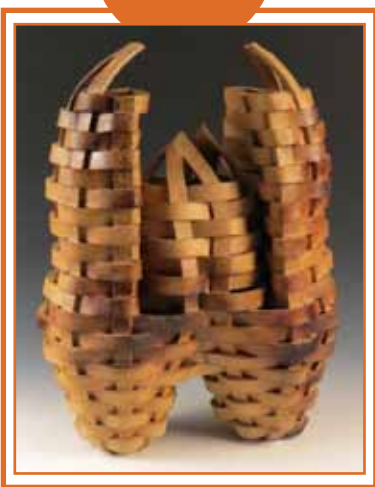
One of the highlights of my NCECA experience each year is visiting the National K-12 Ceramic Exhibition. Every year, I am always thrilled to see the creativity and craftsmanship displayed in this exhibition. I am hoping I will be able to see these student's work as they mature for many years to come.

Along with three other members of the Potters Council Board, I had the happy (and difficult!) task to pick four pieces to receive an annual award sponsored by the Potters Council. Awards are given to the top elementary,

middle, and high school students, as well as an award to the best overall entry. Students receive a Potters Council Student membership, a Potters Council t-Shirt, and their choice of a CeramicArtsDaily Bookstore book or DVD. Their teachers receive a Potters Council membership and a one-year subscription to Ceramics Monthly and Pottery Making Illustrated.

There was so much wonderful work, it took some time to make our decisions. In the end, we narrowed it down to four. Congratulations to our winners!

TOP
WINNER



TOP WINNER: Grade 12
Angelica Delillo
"Woven"
Pinellas County Center for
the Arts at Gibbs HS
St. Petersburg, Florida
Instructor: Marty Loftus



HIGH SCHOOL: Grade 11
Francesca Ortisi
"Two Twisted Feet"
Lanse Creuse High School
Harrison Township, Michigan
Instructor: Maribeth Sonsara



MIDDLE SCHOOL: Grade 8
Maya Fornaro
"Adventure in Mother Nature"
Hanover, Pennsylvania
Instructor: Jacqueline Iannuzzi

Award: Teacher

- Potters Council Membership
- Ceramics Monthly one-year subscription
- Pottery Making Illustrated one-year subscription



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Grade 3
Haidyn DiPaolo
"Tea & Dessert Service"
Pennsylvania Clay Arts & Sciences/
Black Sheep Pottery
Skippack, Pennsylvania
Instructor: Nicole Dubrow

Letter from the Chair:

KEVIN CROWE, Potters Council Board Chair

At our annual meeting at NCECA, I was next in succession behind Steve Branfman as council chair. Steven is a hero of mine on so many levels, and it is a daunting honor to succeed him. Steven set the bar high for exercising smart and creative leadership with good humor. Over the years, when the *Potters' Pages* arrived in the mail, I suspect that like many of you, I would skim over the list of officers, board members, and staff. They were anonymous background. This past year, as chair elect, I became one of those names, and worked with board members who impressed me with the intelligence and care they bring to the task of serving all of us.

John Baymore, Lyndsay Meiklem, and Diana Pancioli left the board and will be missed. Preston Price and Evelyne Schoenmann joined the board along with Vicky Hansen as the chair elect. Preston brings his experience as an educator to the board, which includes teaching at both the high school and the college levels. Evelyne resides in Basel, Switzerland, and brings an international perspective to the Council. Vicky is the first potter I knew. She worked as an independent studio potter before taking a position as head of the ceramic program at Colorado State.

As chair I want to bring attention to the challenges faced by early career artists; a descriptor coined by John Baymore to define artists of any age, transitioning to the studio from the classroom or from a former career. Taking

a close look at formal apprenticeships, informal mentoring, residencies, and the complex requirements of setting up a studio could be part of developing strategies to support this demographic in deciding what their next step will look like.

I also want to focus on ways to green our studio practices, softening our collective carbon footprint. Scrutiny of material use, firing methods, packaging and marketing systems with an eye toward sustainability will be essential in becoming more carbon responsible.

I look forward to your input on these and any issues of concern to you.

In the late 1960s, Francis Moore Lappé wrote *Diet for a Small Planet*, a cookbook based on hunger as a political issue. In an interview, she was asked how she stayed sane given her investment in an issue that had little, if any, popular traction. She said that she had three friends who shared her passion and commitment, and that was what kept her from feeling isolated and irrelevant. The Potters Council puts each of us in touch with those three, or 30 or 300 friends, keeping us sane and aware that what we do—and how we do it—matters. That alone is worth the price of admission.

Peace,

Kevin Crowe, *Chair*

in the studio

Birdie Boone, Potters Council Member

Ceramic artist and educator currently living in northern New Mexico. One of my abiding philosophies is that the surface is just as important as the form. That being said, I tend to keep my forms minimal to avoid a visual contest with the glaze surface.



Belly bottomed bowls, up to 4½ in. (12 cm) in diameter, mid-range red clay, bisque slip, glaze, fired to cone 6.

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1



2



3



4

process



1. Use paper templates and cookie cutters to cut out shapes from fresh clay slabs.
2. Bevel the seam edges and thin out the lip edges with a pony roller.
3. Pat the belly bottom pieces into curved forms over a plaster or bisque hump mold. Set aside to firm up.
4. Curve the walls of the cup to form a cylinder, apply magic water, and join the seams.
5. Compress the seam with the pony roller. Use a form or a curved paddle to support the back side of the seam.
6. Fold the peaks at the top seam out to create an additional design detail.
7. Flip the cylinder over and fold the rolled seam edges in. Score cylinder and belly bottom seam edges really well.
8. Use a wooden paddle to compress the seam. Since the bottom is dryer than the walls, seal the attachment well.
9. Use your fingers to stretch the wall from the inside to add volume and further define the form.
10. To make a handle with a faux seam, join two coils and roll each side with a pony roller to the desired thickness.
11. Run your fingers along each edge to reinforce the faux seam. Plump the ends between your fingers and the table.
12. Hold handle up to cup to determine if size is right, adjust if necessary, then score cup and handle well and attach.
13. Once the pot is bisque fired, apply wax resist to belly bottom, allow it to dry thoroughly.
14. Dip the piece in bisque slip and allow to dry thoroughly before glazing by dipping.
15. Glazed pots sitting in 'slump crutches', ready to be loaded into kiln for glaze firing.

Welcome New Potters Council Members

FOR MARCH AND APRIL 2015

- ARKANSAS**
TOM MEYER, LINDA SANDHU ROUPENIAN, JEFF SZARZI, NOELLE UMBARGER
- ALABAMA**
ANNA FLEMING, CINDY KEY, BRENDA LYRENE
- ARIZONA**
JEANNE COLLINS, LAURA MCDONNELL, MICHELE NELSON, JENNIFER VIGIL
- ARKANSAS**
ROBERT LAWARRE, SHERI MCCULLAH
- CALIFORNIA**
AMITA AGGARWAL, NADINE BAROUDI, HILARY BIRMINGHAM, MORGAN BRITT, ROSA DORANTES, SHIRLEY DRAKE, YVETTE FRANKLIN, KATHLEEN K GRUZDAS, ALAN HAIGHT, SABINA HORVAT, BERNITA JAMES, KATHLEEN KEYS, ROBERTA KLEIN, MIRIAM LOORY KROMBACH, KANIKI MARSHALL, STEVE MARTIN, RON MAY, STEVE MCGREW, BEVERLY MORRISON, SHAWNA PIERCE, JOHN QUATTRIN, JOSHUA READ, PATRICIA RENDON, CARRIE SHIRREFFS, HALIMA TAYLOR, CHER TOWNSEND, MONIKA UHLYARIK
- COLORADO**
REBECCA BROWN, NICOLE COPEL, GAIL HEILMANN, MARY BETH KREIZEL, JULIE NASTER, JARED THOMPSON
- CONNECTICUT**
JOHN CLAYTON, HARLAN TAIT
- FLORIDA**
SAMANTHA DECKER-HOPPEN, VAUGHAN GREENE, MARILYN JEFFCOAT, SUSAN KENNEDY, SANDI LAZAR, GARY MILLER, LINDA PUGLIESE, CATHY ROBBY, DIANE ZORN
- GEORGIA**
BRIDGET BEERS, BILL BUCKNER, SHERYL HOLSTEIN
- HAWAII**
ALYSIA SAMARU
- ILLINOIS**
BENJAMIN BUCHENOT, CAROLYN FLEMING, SARAH GABEL, MICHAEL HANNAH, ELLEN HEINTZ, JACQUELINE WORDEN, XIN ZHAO
- INDIANA**
JOLEE CHARTRAND, THERESA EVANS, CHARLIE GREGG, JOHN F SHIREMAN
- IOWA**
KATHLEEN CLEMMONS, JULIE ULRICH, MARK WILKINS
- KENTUCKY**
LORETTA WEBER, MARY CARROLL, JOAN MCDONALD
- MARYLAND**
JENNIFER HAMILTON, NICOLE MILES, DEBRA VARDON
- MASSACHUSETTS**
JESSICA MITCHELL
- MICHIGAN**
CAROL MCKAY, DENISE PHILLIPS, NANCY SEAVITT
- MINNESOTA**
ALAN COUNTRYMAN, BONNIE FERCHO, JESSY JOHANNECK
- MISSISSIPPI**
REBECCA HENDRIX
- MISSOURI**
LEROY GRUBBS, CYNTHIA SHEDD
- NEW HAMPSHIRE**
MAUREEN MILLS, K SULLIVAN
- NEW JERSEY**
DIANE CALTAGIRONE, LIN FERRAND, JOYCE HAYTER, BETH KRUVANT, ANDREW LUBOW, MICHAEL PORFIDO, LISA WESTHEIMER
- NEW MEXICO**
JUDY NELSON-MOORE
- NEW YORK**
TRICIA DAVIS ZEITLER, ELLEN DAY, MERYL FREEMAN, CATHERINE GILLESPIE, ALAIN GULANT, AMY LOGSDON, NANCY MERRELL, KIRSTEN MORROW, DEBORAH ROSENBLUM, PUNKIN CLAY STEPHENS, THOMAS WALTER, TRICIA ZEITLER
- NEVADA**
LINDA RITTER
- NORTH CAROLINA**
SUSAN ARMSTRONG, TERRY CHAVIS, WILLIAM FARRAR, LEAH LEITSON, TRISTAN MARDALL, RENEE MATTHEWS, RENEE J. MOORE, MARGIE O'SHEA, SUSAN OSBORNE, FRANK STORTZ, SHEILAH THOMAS, MICHAEL WATSON, MARGARET WELLS
- OHIO**
GREG BARNHART, CHLOE BETTS, EVELYN BURKHOLDER, JAMES HARP, THELMA MATTHEWS, DEAN OLSON
- OKLAHOMA**
STACEY FOSBURG, TANYA MCELFRISH
- OREGON**
CAROL LAZRINE, JANET WARREN
- PENNSYLVANIA**
CAROLANNE CURRIER, ANTHONY DEROSA, BROOKYE KEENEY, CAROL MAGNER, SUZANNE MCCOLLOCH, JANE MCGOVERN, JOYCE NAGATA, MEG PERINE, SUZANNE WOLFE
- SOUTH CAROLINA**
STACY BATTLE
- TENNESSEE**
JULIE BELANGER, TOM GALLOWAY, JANET HARPER, KELLY KESSLER, KATHY PLOURDE, DEBORAH WHELAN
- TEXAS**
WENDY ADAIR, BECKY BALLEW, KRISTY BELL, DEBORAH BLOXOM, SHARON BRYANT, SHAWN DEMPSEY, DARLENE FENNEL J, STEPHEN HAWKS, BONNY KIRBY, MINDEE KUHNS, MAUREEN LONGANACRE, SUZANNE SHIELD-POLK, PEMECHAY SINOUVONG, FRANCES WARD
- VIRGINIA**
JIM COBREN, BRIAN D GROW, RIITTA JACKSON, JO ELLEN WALKER
- VERMONT**
ANDY SNYDER
- WASHINGTON**
JANET DENISON, SUSAN EVANS, PEG LAYCOCK, CINDIE MCKENNA, MEG MURCH, KAREN WARD, CARL WILKERSON
- WISCONSIN**
MARIANA HEWSON
- INTERNATIONAL**
- AUSTRALIA**
LOUISE JACKEL, RON ROBERTS
- CANADA**
KATHLEEN BLOHM, MEGHAN MCCRONE
- PERU**
LUIA GUBBINS
- PUERTO RICO**
DHARA RIVERA
- SAUDI ARABIA**
JALEELAH KH
- SOUTH AFRICA**
CATE O'RORKE, JENNY WILSON
- UNITED KINGDOM**
MARIE CLAUDE BLANCHONG, PAVLINA BORUVKOVA, LIZ HARRIS

ADVISORY BOARD OFFICERS

2014-2015 CHAIR ELECT

Vicky Hansen
Penrose, Colorado
vicky.hansen@csupueblo.edu

2014-2015 CHAIR

Kevin Crowe
Amherst, VA
tyeriverpottery@aol.com

2014-2015 PAST CHAIR

Steven Branfman
Needham, MA
sbranfpots@aol.com

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Kaitlin Eramo
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keramoceramics@gmail.com

Lori Leary
Decatur, GA
lorialeary@gmail.com

Marcia Selsor
Brownsville, TX
marciaselsor@icloud.com

E. Preston Rice
Tyrone, Pennsylvania

Evelyne Shoenmann
Basel, Switzerland

2015 Events/Exhibitions

Seagrove, North Carolina, MAY 30–31, 2015

“Cousins in Clay,” a pottery sale of contemporary ceramic art, is a kinship based on a shared appreciation for the pursuit of excellence within the diverse language of clay. Featuring William Brouillard, Adam Field, Doug Peltzman, Michael Kline, Henry Crissman, Samantha Henneke, and Bruce Gholsen. All ceramic artists will be present. Bulldog Pottery Studios, 3306 US Hwy 220 Alt, Seagrove, NC 27341; bulldog@bulldogpottery.com; www.cousinsinclay.com.

Call for Entries—Art In Clay: ORIGINS National Juried Ceramic Sculpture Show, JUNE 1–31, 2015

Origins invites you to risk stepping outside of what is expected of works in clay. It evokes visions that are traditional, experimental, and everything in between. Exhibition to be held at Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition (BWAC), 499 Van Brunt Street, Brooklyn, New York 11231; Artinclay@bwac.org; bwac.org. Juror: Judith Schwartz. Submissions online, June 1–30 at: <https://client.smarterentry.com/bwac>.

Denver, CO, July 25–26, 2015

Jackalope Arts Summer Arts & Crafts Fair. Jackalope Arts is a semi-annual handmade arts & craft fair. The three founders of Jackalope Arts, Melissa Shipley, Laura Fisher and Sara Vausbinder, shared the passion to create a “community meets artisan” event focused on the experience of meeting the maker and bringing the local community together in this. This coming event in Denver is still open for artists to apply. Contact Melissa Shipley at melissa@jackalopeartfair.com; www.jackalopeartfair.com.

Grass Valley, CA, JUNE 29–JULY 3, 2015

“Glaze Basics for Developing Color & Surface” with Chic Lotz. Mix and fire simple line blends, learn the function of each ingredient and how varying their ratios will affect stability, color, glaze fit, glaze surface, and firing temperature. Discover how fluxing oxides affect color. Analyze, alter, and create your own glaze recipes. \$300/5 days. Event held at 12569 McCourtney Rd., Grass Valley, CA 95949. Contact Chic@PotteryPoet.com; 530-274-8185; ChicLotzPottery.com.

Buchanan, MI, AUGUST 22, 2015

On-Wheel Alterations Approaches, presented by Dick Lehman. An all-day pottery demonstration workshop by Dick Lehman. Space is limited. Buchanan Art Center is located in downtown Buchanan, MI, up the hill west on Front St., past the Oak St. traffic light, on the left. Parking is on the street. Buchanan Art Center, 117 W. Front St., Buchanan, Michigan 49107; 269-697-4005; buchananartcenter@att.net; www.buchananartcenter.org.

Denver, CO, JUNE 5–AUGUST 25, 2015

“The Slip Cast Object Revisited 2015,” at Plinth Gallery. A juried exhibition of slip-cast ceramic objects on the 10th Anniversary of the original “Slip Cast Object” exhibition produced by Ceramic Design Group and Jonathan Kaplan. Juror: Heather Mae Erickson. Visit www.plinthgallery.com or Plinth Gallery’s Facebook page for submission information, call for entries, and other updates.

Skopelos, Greece, AUGUST 22–28 and AUGUST 28–SEPTEMBER 12, 2015

Art/travel Prelude and “Mia Muse” Figurative Ceramic workshop. Start with an optional art/travel week on Crete and Athens (museums, beaches, pottery villages, hikes) then travel to Skopelos to create colorfully expressive figurative ceramics under the mentorship of ceramic sculptor and painter Suzy Birstein. Skopart provides a beautiful studio overlooking the Aegean Sea and the allure of Greek culture. Skopelos Foundation for the Arts. Contact Suzy Birstein: suzy@suzybirstein.com; www.suzybirstein.com.

Brownsville, TX, MAY 31–OCTOBER 11, 2015

“Poetry of Earth: Works by Sally Bradley and Stephen Hawks” Poetry of Earth highlights the work of two artists. Sally Bradley paints landscape views of the Chattahoochee Valley, and Stephen Hawks produces ceramic works using Georgia clay. Yarbrough Gallery, The Columbus Museum, 1251 Wynnton Road, Columbus, GA 31906. Call 706-748-2562, ext. 320; email kzohn@columbusmuseum.com or hawksstephen@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

ONLINE RESOURCES

WWW.POTTERSCOUNCIL.ORG

- Members only yearly calendars
- Members only annual juried show
- Mentoring Program
- Online gallery promoting members’ work to the public
- Online Artist Portfolios
- Online Member Directory
- *Potters’ Pages*, a membership newsletter
- One free ad in *Potters’ Pages* newsletter (restrictions apply)

MEMBERSHIP SAVINGS

- Discount on all Potters Council regional workshops
- 20% discount on one-year subscription to *Ceramics Monthly*
- One free online classified advertisement per year on *Ceramics Monthly* website plus 20% off any subsequent print and online classified advertisements
- 20% discount on one-year subscription to *Pottery Making Illustrated*
- 20% discount on Ceramic Art Books and DVDs

HEALTH INSURANCE

WWW.POTTERSCOUNCILHEALTHPLANS.COM

- Individual health insurance, Traditional PPO Health plan, PPO “LIGHT” Health plan and Health Savings Account Insurance plans (US members only)

GROUP DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

- Discount shipping program, credit card processing and car rentals (US members only)
- Group vision care, hearing, dental, and prescription drug programs (US members only)



Chris Campbell



Marian Baker



Lin Xu



Jennifer McCurdy



Tanya Rudenjak



JoAnn Axford



Suzanne Stumpf



Brian Jensen



Brad Bachmeier



Sarah Gregory



Jessica Putnam-Phillips



Irene Lawson



CJ Niehaus



Scott Dooley



Evelyne Schoenmann



Gay Smith



Nathalie Samson



Lee Middleman



Rebecca Grant

Juror: Holly Goring
Editor, *Pottery Making Illustrated*
potterscouncil.org

Potters Council 2015 Election Results:

STEVEN BRANFMAN, Past Chair, 2015 Nominating Committee

The in-person Potters Council Advisory Board meeting which was held in conjunction with the annual NCECA conference in Providence, Rhode Island is now over, and the new Advisory Board is officially seated. Information about the election results was already released to the members who were in attendance at the annual Member's Reception, and posted on the Potters Council CeramicArtsDaily Forum Section, and now I am pleased to be able to complete my last official duty on the Board by sharing this news with you here in the *Potters' Pages*.



Vicky Hansen, Chair Elect



E. Preston Rice, Board Member



Evelyne Schoenmann, Board Member

The Potters Council is very pleased to announce that Vicky Hansen is the new Chair Elect. The two new Board members are E. Preston Rice and Evelyne Schoenmann, our first international member of the Advisory Board.

Steven Branfman now moves to a one year term as the Immediate Past Chair, and Kevin Crowe is the new Chair for the coming year. Retiring from terms on the Board are Diana Pancioli, Lyndsay Meiklam, and myself.

Sincere thanks go to Diana and Lyndsay for their service to the membership.

<http://ceramicartsdaily.org/potters-council/potters-council-board-members/>

Thanks also go to all of the other 2015 election candidates who offered their time and expertise to potentially give back to the membership of the Potters Council.

Writing this piece is my last official act (trailing my Board 'retirement' by a bit) as the outgoing Immediate Past Chair and the Chair of the 2015 Nominating Committee. Serving for the past four years on the Board has been an honor. Thanks to all.

Recap Potters Pages:

STEVEN BRANFMAN

Hi All, As I write this we're nearing three weeks post NCECA and I'm still in recovery mode. Decompressing from the conference and all the activities surrounding it takes a while for me, as I'm sure it does for those of you who were there. For me personally, NCECA was a whirlwind; I curated two exhibitions, hosted John Baymore in my studio or a pre-NCECA workshop, was a co-presenter of ClayStories with Owen Dearing, introduced my surgeon brother Gary for his presentation, introduced John for his presentation, did two student critique sessions, carried out my board responsibilities for the K-12 Ceramics Exhibition Foundation and the Potters Council, and hosted Karen Mahoney in my studio for a post-NCECA workshop. In between all of this I even got to attend some wonderful panels, lectures, and exhibitions. I love NCECA!!!!

From the perspective of the Potters Council, NCECA was another wonderful and successful conference. We installed our new board members, began discussion on holding a series strategic planning meetings, announced a new Potters Council award to recognize a person or organization making

a difference in the clay community, selected our K-12 Exhibition award recipients, and hosted our annual Potters Council Juried Exhibition. My time spent in our booth is always rewarding talking to current and potential Potters Council members. Of course the highlight of the conference for the Potters Council is our annual Members Reception and not only was the room jam packed, but the activity, conversation, interaction, networking, socializing, and over the over-top-food spread (including make your own sundaes!) was awesome.

As we look ahead, the Potters Council is in a very strong position to continue and expand the services and benefits that we provide for you, our members. With Evelyne Schoenmann from Switzerland and our first international board member, on our board, our international outreach will also expand. Remember, the Potters Council is your organization. We on the Advisory Board are here to serve you so please, share your ideas, suggestions, kudos, and criticisms. We're all ears!

All my best for continued joy in clay.