



Fired Up!

Next Meeting: April 14, 2026
Time: 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Location: Hintonburg Community Centre
 1064 Wellington Str W, Ottawa

President's Message

April showers bring May flowers. The showers are still washing away the snow in my backyard.

Welcome new members. We have hit a new milestone!

April is Membership renewal month, with early-bird pricing in effect for the month. Just a reminder, if you are a Spring Sale Participant or Annual Juried Exhibition participant, you must be a member in good standing, meaning your current membership is paid in full.

I can hear all the frantic creativity as we head into the Spring Sale and Annual Juried Exhibition. I know I'll be blown away by the caliber of your amazing work.

April's general meeting will be a mini workshop on making with templates. All materials will be provided. If you have favourite tools, bring them along. Let's get muddy together after the business part of the meeting. Doors open at 6:00 pm, meeting starts promptly at 6:30 on Tuesday, April 14th at Hintonburg Community Centre.

Bring any Spring Sale questions to the meeting. See you on Tuesday.

Liz Fournier



Membership Committee Report

We now have 202 members! We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Denise Taylor	Yey Eun Hwang	Greg Bell	Ariella Linovski	Christopher Speelman
Jane Lee	Melanie Cuellar	Sandra Schwartz	Tanys Uhmman	Janice Bellington

Renewals so far total 89. Remember that the early bird fee of \$55.00 is only good until April 30th.

**** For those members who are registered for the Spring Sale, you MUST renew your membership before the sale. ****

by Carol Holmes-Kerr

SALE COMMITTEE

Spring Pottery Sale

May 1-3, 2026

Horticulture Building, Lansdowne Park, Ottawa

Friday, May 1st, 3 pm-9 pm

Saturday, May 2nd, 10 am-6 pm

Sunday, May 3rd, 10 am-5 pm

We are at maximum capacity. 48 table spaces. 52 potters. 5 potters are sharing tables.

All new Sale participants have met with Jocelyn Jenkins for an in-person meeting with her and her Standards and Education Committee.

All Sale participants must read the Sale Handbook and the Shift and Job Description. Please ensure you are familiar with all aspects of your Shift duties before your shift. You will be responsible for a minimum of 3 three-hour shifts. You will be responsible for covering your shifts or making arrangements to switch with another participant. Make sure to let the Sales committee know of any changes.

The Sales Committee is working on the Floor Plan and the Shift Schedule. It will be emailed to you.

Your Sale shift responsibilities take priority over Clay Festival volunteering.

Members, please consider volunteering at the Holiday Sale. We are always grateful for the help, and it is a wonderful way to meet the public and your fellow potters.

Reminder, you must renew your OGP membership for 2026-2027. Early-bird membership fees apply until April 30, 2026.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.



Activities & Programs

UPCOMING MEETING ACTIVITIES

Tuesday, April 14: The power of templates! Hands-on activity to hand-build a vessel and members will be encouraged to bring a friend and raise awareness among members that monthly meeting activities are open to everyone. Liz Fournier will lead the activity with support from Nicole Bijkerk.

Tuesday, May 12: Playtime with Amaco Ceramic Inks. This is a chance to test out a new product Amaco put on the market last year: Ceramic Inks. We will supply several colours, sponges and stencils as well as bisqued tiles so you can try them out. If you want, bring a piece of leather hard greenware or bisqueware to decorate! You can bring home what you make.

Tuesday, June 9: Garage Sale! This is our last meeting before the summer break. We'll organize a garage sale so you can clear out the tools you don't use and get some new stuff at bargain prices. This is also our Annual General Meeting and we'll be holding our traditional potluck dinner that evening. It's a great opportunity to network, play and eat well. See you there!

WORKSHOPS

CANCELLED: June 6 & 7 Raku Workshop

Unfortunately, we've had to cancel the June workshop however, we're looking to hold it later this year, likely in the fall or early winter.

Stay tuned to this newsletter (and the Guildforum) for information on the next round of exciting workshops, artist talks, demonstrations, and activities.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Five people have been selected to participate in a mentorship with the accomplished ceramist Leta Cormier. The mentorship will start in May and end early in 2027. We will invite the artists to give talks at a monthly meeting in the spring of 2027 to share their work and experience.

The participants are:

Amy Arts Stephanie Bailey Amy Bell Clement Hoeck Sarah Marsh

OTTAWA CLAY FESTIVAL

We're looking for volunteers to help with the throwdown, do some demonstrations, and run "Adult Play Time" on the wheel. If you're interested in helping out with any (or all!) of these, please send an email to activity@ottawaguilddofpotters.ca.



by Carmen Gervais



April is all about Clay Festival & Spring Sale promotion

And it's a lot of work! Our team of four has divided up the work to get it all done.

Most participants have submitted photos (we currently have about 120 photos to choose from!), most remembering to include their name in the photo filename– thank you. If you haven't yet sent us your photos, email them to us at communications@ottawaguildofpotters.ca, and we'll try to fit you in.

A paid social media ad for the Clay Festival went live on April 1st, running for the month leading up to the event.

Watch for our little ad in the Glebe Report April issue, with a link to our website on their digital edition. We're hoping to leverage the reach of some local Insta event accounts who have been sent event details to share, as well as listing in the Glebe BIA bi-weekly email event newsletter.

Our Mail Chimp message will be sent mid-April to our email subscribers, and we have our fingers crossed for a spot on the CTV Ottawa Morning show.

How can YOU help promote the Festival and Sale?

We'll have some 8.5 x 11 Clay Festival posters at the April 14 meeting, for you to take and put up in your neighborhood coffee shop, library, grocery store, or wherever.

Participating potters are encouraged to use their own social media feed, or email to your contacts, we'll distribute some images via Guild Forum. And chat up the Clay Festival, Spring Sale and Annual Exhibition with your friends and family!

And if you're on Insta, on your next post, try Collaborating with us! 'How to' below.

Promotion for Exhibitions

Congratulations to Emily Lim and Joanna Richardson for their beautiful promos for the Vessels of Spring show! It's wonderful to have extended Comms help focusing on Exhibitions.

New OGP Event Signage

Watch for our new event signage at upcoming events! You'll see graphics featuring our logo and clear simple titles, to welcome visitors and promote our brand.

Communications

Interested in Communications?

A couple of people have reached out with interest in joining the Comms team, and we'll be chatting soon with them about possibilities. If you are interested in project management and coordination, we're needing someone who can help us in that capacity going forward. It's a great way to get involved.

If you are interested or merely curious about a day in the life of a Comms Chair, please reach out to one of us to learn more.

You won't be alone! We are currently a team of four people, we take turns promoting events, we support each other, and we learn from each other. And we have a team chat group! It's a good team. And I will be available to train and consult.

Social Media Collaborations - HOW TO:

We love collaborating with our members on Instagram to share what you're up to. If you have work in progress, behind-the-scenes moments, or an interesting post, let's collaborate.

It's easy! When you create a post or reel, tap **Tag people**, select **Invite collaborator** and search for ottawapotters. Once we accept, your post will appear on both your own and the guild's Instagram profiles, helping your work reach a wider audience.

We also encourage you to share your Facebook and Instagram posts with ottawapotters. When you create a post or reel, tap the **Share Post** icon, and search for and select ottawapotters in the list. Your post will show up as a 24-hour story on the guild profile.



Nancy Riggs, Lisa Butter, Dawn McLeod, and Kyla Tyson

Exhibitions Committee



2025 Award Winners

Lauréats 2025



ANNUAL EXHIBITION EXPOSITION ANNUELLE

Juried by Mat Karas

Friday May 1, 3pm - 9pm,
opening ceremonies at 5pm
Saturday May 2, 10am - 6pm
Sunday May 3, 10am - 5pm

Horticultural Building, Lansdowne Park

Exposition à jury - Mat Karas

Le vendredi 1 mai, de 15 h à 21 h,
cérémonies d'ouverture à 17 h
Le samedi 2 mai, de 10 h à 18 h
Le dimanche 3 mai, de 10 h à 17 h

Edifice de l'horticulture, Parc Lansdowne

Exhibitions Committee

Annual Juried Exhibition

Applications are now open for the Annual Juried Exhibition! Submit your pieces to win awards for Best Design, Best Sculpture, Best Decorated, Best for Use, and more! To apply, make sure you're logged in to the Guild website and go to this link:

<https://ottawaguildofpotters.ca/annual-juried-exhibition-application-2026/>

The Exhibition will be held from May 1-3 as part of the Clay Festival at the Horticulture Building at Lansdowne. We are so pleased to have Mat Karas, an associate professor at Concordia, as our juror this year. You can learn more about Mat Karas here: [Meet Our Juror!](#)

Applications will be open until 11:59 pm on Tuesday, April 21st. Please review the [Annual Exhibition Guidelines](#) for more information, or email us at:

exhibitions@ottawaguildofpotters.ca

The Exhibitions Committee will also be offering “Office Hours” via zoom on Sunday April 19th from 1-3 pm if anyone would like assistance with their application or artist statement.

Celebrating Clay: Vessels for Spring

The Vessels for Spring exhibition at Scrim’s was a huge success! 10 vases sold as a result of the exhibition! Thank you to all the artists for participating and to many other guild members for supporting this initiative. As we packed up the exhibition, one of the Scrim’s designers said, “So, same time next year?” A very good sign indeed!





Creative Conservatory

featured this month **Christina Stapper**

@cmspottery

**CLINE
HOUSE
GALLERY**

Apr 23 - May 23, 2026



Submitted by Christina Stapper

Work by Arthur Petch

I made this clay tile, carved the 3D version of the image coloured and adjusted on my computer, carved with my CNC router and then covered with the decal I made to fit.



Submitted by Arthur Petch