

Ottawa Guild of Potters
General Meeting in person: Hintonburg Community Centre
Record of Decision
DATE : April 14, 2026, 6 :30pm

MINUTES

Executive Member Attendance / Présence des membres

President	Liz Fournier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Standards	Jocelyn Jenkins	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice-President	Stephanie Bailey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Membership	Carol Holmes-Kerr	<input type="checkbox"/>
Past President	Natalie Gosselin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Secretary	Nicole Bijkerk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Communications	Nancy Riggs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exhibition	Joanna Richardson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communications	Lisa Butler	<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance	Christine Chesser	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programming (Workshops and Presentations)	Carmen Gervais	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Item #	Agenda Items	Member accountable	Decision/ Discussion
	Welcome, Introduction of new members	Liz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting called to order at 6:38pm by Liz , meeting chair Introduction of 5 executive made. 18 members present. <p>Introduction and welcoming of 10 new members for month of March. Denise Taylor, Yey Eun Hwang, Greg Bell, Ariella Linovski , Christopher Speelman, Jane Lee, Melanie Cuellar, Sandra Schwartz, Tanys Uhmman & Janice Bellington. Warm welcome to OGP !</p>
	<i>Approval of todays agenda, last months minutes</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _Barb M. _motioned to accept agenda, Eliane O._ 2nd, all in favor, carried. _Tara H. _motioned to approve March 10, 2026 minutes, _Alexandra T. _2nd, all in favor, carried.
	Financial	Christine	<p>Christine sends her regrets. Liz delivered report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheque will be issued for Food Bank for GBF event. We are currently on budget with no anomalies. Working monthly with Jenn to keep books balanced. If anyone has any specific questions related to the finances, they are welcome to contact Christine directly. chesserchristine@gmail.com
	Exhibition	Joanna	<p>Joanna sends her regrets. Liz delivered report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 16-29, 2026, was <i>Celebrating Clay</i>: Vessels for Spring, at Scrim's Florist! Was a huge success.

			<p>This exhibition featured the work of 12 artists. 10 Vases sold ! We have been invited back for future events.</p> <p>Annual Juried Exhibition. The exhibition will be held during the Spring Clay Festival, May 1st-3rd. Applications are open now, until April 21st.</p> <p>Our juror this year is Mat Karas, a ceramic artist and Assistant Professor from Concordia University.</p> <p>3 entries max per member, \$30 for first entry and \$5/each afterwards. 9 Awards to be presented. Room for 35 pieces. Can be functional or sculptural.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have specific questions, please contact Joanna at exhibitions@ottawaguilddofpotters.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.
	Standards and Education	Jocelyn	<p>Jocelyn J. sends her regrets. Liz delivered her report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two members of the Standards and Education Committee welcomed a group of 5 of new- to-sale potters to a mentoring meeting held March 29th. The quality of the work presented was uniformly high, with several of the potters having had experience at other sales. A second meeting was held in April for the one potter who could not attend the first meeting. The sales committee was informed that all new-to-sale potters had succeeded in their applications. <p>As was the case at one of the meetings prior to the holiday sale last year, the issue of what makes a matte or semi -matte glaze durable enough to use as a liner glaze came up. This is one of 3 issues that comes up with some frequency that Standards is discussing guidelines for. The other two issues are, the use of decals and the issue of originality.</p> <p>As the Standards team is gearing up for the upcoming sale we are reviewing how we will approach the issue of non-durable matte glazes on functional surfaces. See you at the sale!!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If anyone has questions about the process, don't hesitate, please contact Jocelyn Jenkins at jocelynjenkins1@gmail.com
	Communication	Nancy/ Lisa	<p>Nancy and Lisa delivered report together:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clay Festival & Spring Sale promotion .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@ottawaguilddofpotters.ca. • A paid social media ad for the Clay Festival went live on April 1st, running for the month leading up to the event. An ad is in the Glebe Report April issue, with a link to our website on their digital edition. Also a listing in the Glebe BIA bi-weekly email event newsletter has been done. Our Mail Chimp message will be sent mid-April to our email

			<p>subscribers, and we have our fingers crossed for a spot on the CTV Ottawa Morning show.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clay Festival posters are available to members to take tonight to 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. • 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. • Any questions or input please contact the communications team via email. • 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.
	Membership	Carol	<p>Carol H-K sends her regrets. Stephanie delivered her report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 203 paid members! 89 have renewed so far. • Membership renewals. The early bird fee of \$55, available only April 1st to April 30th. After April 30th the membership fee will be \$65. • Please note also that you must have renewed your membership to be eligible to participate in the upcoming Spring Sale.
	Sales	Liz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 47 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. • 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. • Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Liz at : lizfournier@rogers.com
	Programming	Carman	<p>Carmen sends her regrets. Nicole delivered report</p> <p><u>UPCOMING MEETING ACTIVITIES</u></p>

		<p>TODAY - the power of templates! Hands-on activity to hand-build a vessel. Nathalie Gosselin will lead the activity.</p> <p>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. Participants can also bring a piece of leather hard greenware or bisqueware to decorate! Participants bring home what they make and are encouraged to bring a friend.</p> <p>Tuesday, June 9: Garage Sale. This is our last meeting before the summer break. Members are invited to donate items to the sale. The organizers will group items in 3-4 price categories. This is an opportunity to clear out the tools you don't use and get some new stuff at bargain prices.</p> <p>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!</p> <p><u>WORKSHOPS</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Stay tuned to the newsletter and the Guildforum for information on the next round of exciting workshops, artist talks, demonstrations and activities starting up again in September.</p> <p><u>MENTORSHIP PROGRAM</u></p> <p>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. The artists will be invited 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</p> <p><u>OTTAWA CLAY FESTIVAL</u></p> <p>We still have a few openings for volunteers to help with the throwdown (wheel only), do some demonstrations (handbuilding and throwing) and run "Adult Play Time" (wheel only). If you're interested in helping out with any (or all!) of these please send an email to Carmen at activity@ottawaguildofpotters.ca.</p>
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			Members are encouraged to contact Carmen to provide input for future workshops and educational activities. activity@ottawaguilddofpotters.ca
	Great Bowls of Fire	Jackie Lyons	Jackie delivered report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications were great this year for GBF. Ease of website, notifications fabulous. 300 tickets were sold in 18 hours ! 25 more tickets were added and gone in hours. 17 featured potters, the restaurants, extra bowl sales all resulted in \$19,536 raised for the Ottawa Food Bank. Jackie to present this cheque and get photos for comms teams.
	<i>Newsletter</i>	Bernadette	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you would like anything in the newsletter, all submissions to be into Bernadette first Friday of every month. b.lapierre@bell.net
	Ceramics Network	Natalie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natalie has a new discount code for renewing members. Instructions coming soon on guild forum.
	National Capital Artisans Demonstration	Stephanie & Christine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephanie and Christine will represent OGP with team of clay demonstrators for full day of handbuilding and throwing demonstrations. Annual Spring Artisan Show, on Sat. April 11, 2026, at the Sir Wilfrid Secondary School,
	Other business noted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hangema noted the Kanata Community Center ceramics show Note: Christine Strapper is featured this month at Cline House Gallery
	<i>Adjourn :</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _at 7:32 pm. _Natalie G motioned to adjourn meeting, . _Nancy R, 2nd, all in favor. Carried.
	Program	Natalie	Natalie G guided us through a handbuilding experience. How to make a vessel using a template. 20 people participated. So much fun was had. Group activities make everyone happy !