



January Recap

By Kim Day

Clay Social

Perhaps it was the weather, or more likely because it was the day after New Years, but we had a small but cozy turn out for the meeting. We hung out, gabbed and even got a little clay done. Thanks everyone who came!

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Jerri Richardson making skinner blends



Kim Day making butterfly veneers for keychains



Kim Day making dragon veneers for keychains

Clay Day

We had a large turn out for our Third Place Clay Day. I spent all day making a cane and thanked my lucky stars when the cut showed I had a winner. There were visits to the Chocolate Man

Polymer Clay

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NWPCG Program:

Round Robin

Feb 6 | 6:30 p.m.

| [Artworks](#)

Meredith will demonstrate mosaic patterns in super simple ways

NWPCG Free Beginner's Class

Feb 23 | 1:00-4:00 p.m.

| [Artworks](#)

Free beginner's class. Spread the word!

NWPCG Program:

Nevenka Sabo's bowl

March 6 | 6:30 p.m.

| [Artworks](#)

The Guild will purchase Nevenka Sabo's bowl tutorial for each participant and we will follow along.

Amazon Smile

Shopping on Amazon? Choose the Northwest Polymer Clay Guild as recipient of [Amazon Smile](#) and with every eligible purchase, Amazon will donate 0.5% to our Guild.

Social Media

Help us spread the word, share our [FB](#), [Instagram](#) and [Pinterest](#) accounts in your social media.

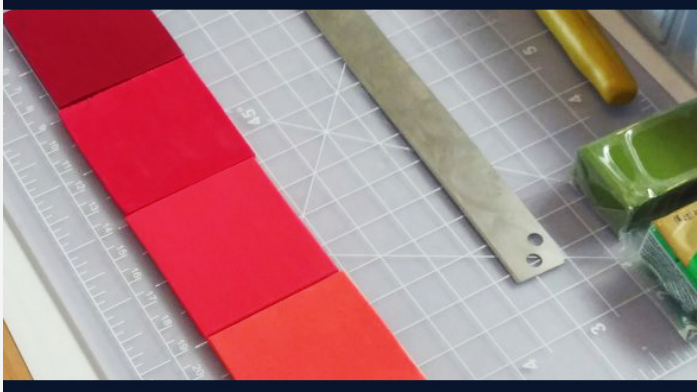
Show your works

Showcase your works,

downstairs for truffles, much clay, and even more friendship. If you haven't made it to one of our Clay Days, check it out! It's a great time to ask questions (specific techniques, etc), watch, or get something done.

finished or in progress in our [Instagram account](#). [Email photos with caption to Ria.](#)

Photos by Kim Day



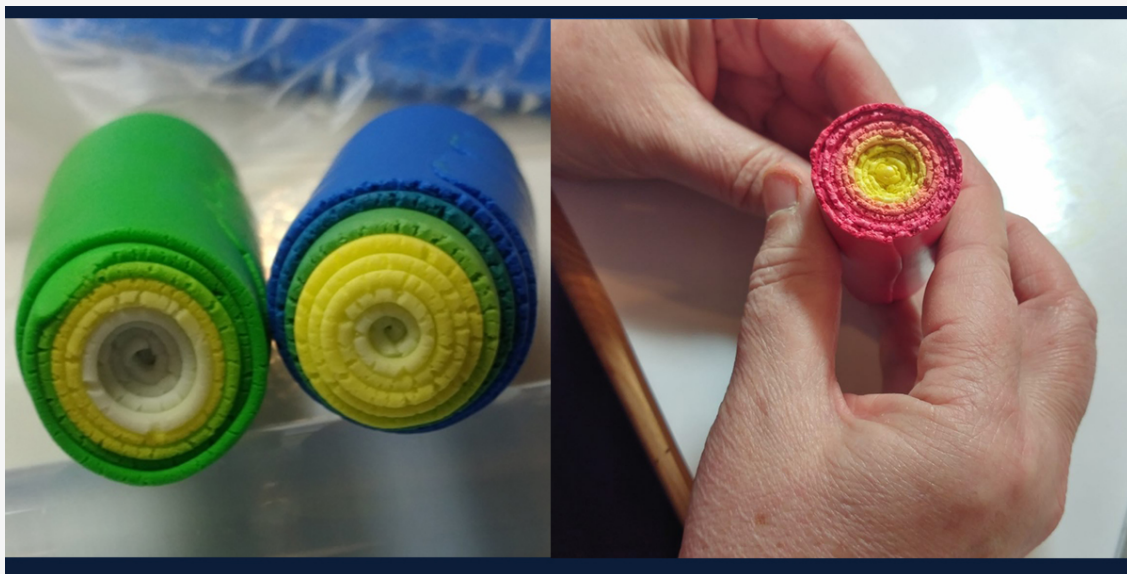
Patti Steele-Smith's work in progress



Left: Cathy Gilbert and her beads | Right: Maria Brown's work in progress



Kim Day



Katie Weibel



Pat Weibel

Show & Tell



Charlie Nagel's work



Jerri Richardson's work



Cathy Gilbert's work



Awesome photobook of Charlie Nagel's exhibit

Programs

NWPCG Monthly Meeting | First Wednesday of the month

February Program: Round Robin

By Meredith Arnold | February 6, 2019 | 6:30 p.m. | [Artworks](#)

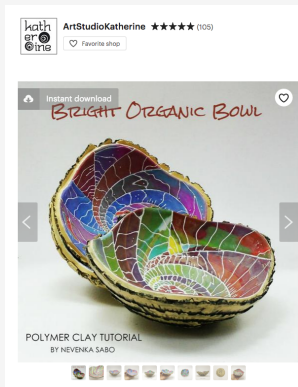


What to do with scrap clay: Meredith will demonstrate how to create surprising mosaic patterns with a super simple process and also show a second technique using scrap by combining a Stroppele cane with mokume gane.



March Program: **Something New**

By Kim Day | March 6, 2019 | 6:30 p.m. | [Artworks](#)



We're trying something new! Since we wanted to expand the variety offered in terms of teachers, we will follow along an Etsy-bought tutorial for our next program. The class will be led by Kim Day and we will make Bright Organic Bowls as taught by Nevenka Sabo. The Guild will purchase and email a copy of the Etsy tutorial for each person that participates in this program.

Nevenka Sabo's Bright Organic Bowls are simple in execution but beautiful in their final form. Plus, as with all great tutorials, they make the wheels in your mind start turn and give you ideas to make it your own.



What you need to bring:

- 1 block of clay for outside of bowl – ecru or white recommended (it will be antiqued)

- 1/2 block white clay
- 1/2 block total of various colors that will be marbled/mixed
- exacto knife (optional)
- tissue blade
- pasta machine
- needle tool
- work surface

Provided:

- lightbulbs
- burnt umber paint
- white paint
- liquid clay
- rubbing alcohol
- paper towels
- oven for baking

If this goes well, we'll do more in the future. If you have ideas of things you'd like to have someone lead the tutorial in, let us know!

Have a program idea? Contact Cathy, click the button below.

[Email Cathy!](#)

Announcements

by Meredith Arnold & Kim Day

Congratulations to Krithika Parthan!

Krithika has recently made it to the 2019 Sculpey Design Squad! Check out the announcement on [IG](#).



Clay Camp Teachers Wanted!

Another year, another clay camp (yahoo!!!). If you're interested in teaching, this is the time of the year to make a plan and submit a teaching proposal! Classes are typically half day (three hours) or full day (six hours with a lunch break between the halves). Submit your proposal to [Meredith Arnold](#) (thanks Meredith!). You can download the proposal form [here](#) or get it from our [website](#).

Feature | By Charlie Nagel

Embossing Powders and Polymer Clay

What crafters refer to as “embossing powder” is a heat-sensitive polymer that has been used for many years by the commercial printing industry in a process called “thermography” to create raised printing on items like wedding invitations, business cards, and documents for the blind printed in Braille. At a workshop presented by Kathy Amt in 1997, she demonstrated various uses of that thermoplastic resin with polymer clay. She used it both as an inclusion kneaded into the clay and as a surface treatment.

The powders were widely used and played with at the time, but their popularity



with polymer clay artists seems to have waned and you hardly ever hear about it now. While taking a hopelessly optimistic stab at tidying up my studio (the original inspiration for the Augean Stables myth, I'm sure) I came across a stash of the powders and thought it might be interesting to do some experimenting with it again. I used it successfully as a souteache of color on already-cured pieces, first lightly coating the area with Elmer's glue and then adding the powder. The glue must be completely dry before fusing the powder with a heat gun.

Applying it to the raw clay before baking works too, but some of the darker colors tend to wash out a bit during the process. The powders also tend to run, if applied to curved surfaces. The latter characteristic can be used to advantage: Amt loved the "liquid silver" appearance of baked-on silver embossing powder. Clear powder may be used as an easy alternative to UV-cured "resin" for a faux enameled effect.

The Ranger brand sells a super-fine clear clear powder, as do a number of other manufacturers. A wide range of colors is available, but so far I've been able to resist acquiring Judkin's "Cherry Twinkle" concoction and the "Snowflake Tinsel" formula created by Ranger. Like pigments that come out of a tube, embossing powders can be mixed to achieve the hue you need.

Tip: do your work on a sheet of typing paper. When you're finished, the paper can be used to funnel the excess powder back into its container.

Note: all of my sculptural pieces pictured in the "Show & Tell" include embossing powder elements.

Board Minutes

We had our first (and only in person) board meeting of the year in January. Here's everything we talked about, in lengthy format! As always, if you have questions or concerns feel free to contact any of your volunteer board members.

NWPCG

1/23/19 board meeting

Attendees: Kim Day, Kathy Gilbert, Grace Seto, Maria Brown, Susan Locsin

P.O. Box keys - must do it over again- Kim todo

Insurance - have 1 quote, need additional - Susan will do

Integrated Year schedule at a glance

Jan 2 - social

Jan 12 - 3rd place

Feb 6 - round robin (Meredith)

Feb 23 - beginner class

March 6 - program (Kim rustic bowl tutorial)

April 3 - social

April 13 - 3rd place

May 1 - round robin

May 11 - 3rd place

May 17-20 clay camp

June 5 - social

July 3 - program (Susan color resist)

July 13 - 3rd place

Aug 7 - round robin

Sept 4 - program

Sept 14 - 3rd place

Oct 2 - social

Nov 6 - round robin (Maria labradorite)

Nov 9 - 3rd place

Nov 16 - gingerbread @ artworks

Dec 4 - program, party

Pay round robin teachers \$25/ 50 plus expenses

Nov 16 - gingerbread @ artworks

\$180 rent + \$40 clay

Additional beginner class TBA

Becu account

Maria to find out who is on account

Setup signers

Meeting minutes, printed, signed

Incl Terri Standley is no longer treasurer due to passing away

Current board for 2019 is...

President- Kim Day

Treasurer - Cathy Gilbert

Vp programs - Cathy Gilbert

Vp membership - Grace Seto

Secretary - Susan Locsin

Last year budget see external document - profit and loss

Check advertising budget for last year

PayPal - update ownership

Non raffle raffle from clay camp and donated proceeds given to Terri's son

Maria - we couldn't use the new wordpress site because it was not setup as a free non-profit account

There was a virus that the account acquired through the developer, so that account access had to be blocked.

Balance sheet - see attached

Maria will work with Meredith on tech for website

Need to have 30 at clay camp

Syndee holt will advertise

Targeted Facebook ads

Post on meetup

Susan - find guest teacher for 2020 not at clay camp

Check with Katie and krithika

Beginner class

Advertise

Send reminder 1 week prior

We voted to pass that board has discretion on 1 yr min for scholarships

Budget

Board members have \$100 discretionary to spend

Meetup cost us \$120 for year

Monthly honoraria \$650

Library \$100

Marketing / Keychain supplies \$50

Storage unit \$1764

Artworks meeting rent \$360

P.O. Box \$

Website \$20

Beginner classes (per class) \$160 + clay \$400

Buy clamps for class machines \$8 per machine \$200, also miscellaneous expenses

Clay camp

More table coverings \$50

New first aid kit \$50

Advertising on Facebook \$200

Insurance \$1000+

Quick books \$180

Third place books \$40 per occurrence (donation)

Marketing - handouts

Advertising- fees paid to others



President's Message | president@nwpcg.org

Forward, march!

The first month of the new year is over. Did you get done what you wanted to do? If yes, huge gratz!!!! I see Cathy and Dawn doing the one a week challenge on Facebook, so awesome. If no, don't give yourself a hard time. Figure out why, and see if they are changeable. For me, I need a dedicated work area for my clay, and some kind of (gasp) organization so I can find things. That's what I'll be trying to fix in the coming months. If the things aren't fixable, you need to either forgive yourself (being sick for three weeks sucked!) or possibly make yourself a more reachable goal.

Back to the fun stuff: we have a free beginner's class in February, it will be our second in the Guild. We already have a good number of signups through our website and Meetup. We have a swap theme of blue for the coming clay camp if you're looking for a project (I'll be doing blue pendants with a cane made at the last Third Place Clay Day).

The best part of this group is always the people though – take a moment to email someone to say hi, maybe arrange a hang out (my son made me stop calling them play dates when he was still in elementary school).

Looking forward to another year, hopefully with even more clay!

Kim Day

polymerclay@gmail.com

Upcoming Activities

Free Beginner's Class

Invite relatives, friends... invite the whole neighborhood!



We're going to try and do this twice a year. Our last one was a great success with 19 students, several of whom became members after the class. We scheduled another one for February 23rd, Saturday, from 1pm-4pm.

Have someone that wants to learn? Spread the news! We'll have some flyers in the January meeting if people have places they want to post them, and also looking for other ideas of where they might go. Everything is free, all materials provided, and they learn how to make buttons, beads and some simple canes.

Editor's Note:

This ring was captioned "Nan Robkin's ring" in our December issue. While



it is owned by Nan, the ring was made by Meredith Arnold.

NWPCG website



Newsletter Editor & Designer: Ria Mendoza Hoyt | newsletter@nwpcg.org

Photos taken during NWPCG events may be used for promotional materials

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