

See you on Feb 7 Clay Buddies!

From: Northwest Polymer Clay Guild Newsletter <newsletter@nwpcg.org>

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Northwest Polymer Clay Guild
Clay Play



Guild Highlights

Clay Social Recap

Text and photos by Ria Mendoza Hoyt

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January Clay Social

We had a good turnout at our January meeting. Members brought their own projects and settled in for a night of free flowing conversation and polymer clay fun. Not only that, we had a special visitor too – long time member Shannon Hyland brightened up our Clay Social.



- Clay Camp Teachers
Deadline Extended
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Bargello
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NWPCG Program

Feb 7 | 6:30 p.m. | [Artworks](#)
Kim will teach us a new technique called Bargello, borrowed from the needlepoint world. Scroll down to see the full list of materials if you want to follow along.

NWPCG Round Robin

March 7 | 6:30 p.m.
| [Artworks](#)
Prepare to be dazzled with metal foil technique.

Connect on Pinterest

Look for our [Pinterest](#) account and share ideas and inspirations with us. Check our boards for [project inspirations](#).

Spread the word

Help the people in our communities get to know our [Guild](#). Help us spread the word, share our social media accounts ([FB](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#)) in your own social media accounts.



Notice those letters in the middle of the table? Those are Cathy Gilbert's work and I am so looking forward to the finished pieces! She is so fast! While we were chatting on FB, I was telling her what a cool sign it would make for our events if we can cover our initials with canes and the next time I saw her, she showed me the first letter she covered! I am not a caner so I'm very pleased to see this come to life. It will not only make a great sign when we hold demos during our outreach events but it also makes a great showcase of the different techniques for polymer clay. So cool!

Anybody up for a collaboration on an animal sculpture covered in canes? Perhaps the raven which is our logo? So many great things come out of just talking out loud and throwing around ideas but enough of my random thoughts.

Be sure to check out our President's Message where Kim outlined the contents of our January 27th Board meeting and the exciting activities we'll be working on this year. And there you have it, last month's recap, short and sweet. See you on February 7th!

Amazon Smile

We are on [Amazon Smile](#). Simply choose the [Northwest Polymer Clay Guild](#) as the recipient and [with every eligible purchase](#), [Amazon](#) will donate 0.5% to our Guild.

Show your works

We would love to showcase your works, finished or in progress in our [Instagram account](#). [Email photos with caption \(just give a brief description for the photo\) to Ria](#).

Contact our Board Members

If you need to contact any of our Board Members, the full list of emails is [here](#). The Board will be doing an annual planning soon. If you want to contribute your ideas for programs, projects and other activities, please email any Board member.

Clay Camp Teachers Deadline Extended



We have a couple awesome teachers lined up for the NWPCG Clay Camp 2018 but we'd like some more local options! If there's a technique/project you want to teach, there's still time to send your proposal.

We are extending the deadline for completed Clay Camp teaching proposals to February 7, 2018, which is our next meeting. Submit your proposal to [Meredith Arnold](#) (thanks Meredith!). You can [download the proposal form here](#) or get it from our Yahoo Group Files under Clay Camp Files.

Programs

February 2018

Let's Bargello!

By Kim Day | February 7 | 6:30 p.m. | [Artworks](#)



February's program (the very next meeting coming up!) will be about bargello. Bargello is a type of needlepoint embroidery consisting of upright flat stitches laid in a mathematical pattern to create motifs. But since we polymer clay artists love to steal techniques from other media, we will be doing this in clay! For this program, we will be making a bargello shaded cane in a teacher-led project. Then you will be shown examples of other polymer clay approaches to bargello, including scrap clay bargello, and using striped sheets with stepping (or vertical offset) to produced curved motifs.



If you wish to follow along with the bargello cane, please bring the following:

- Pasta machine
- Clay blade
- 1 package white clay
- ½ package each of two different colors
- Work surface.

Have a program idea? [Contact Cathy](#), click the button below.

The 2018 Program schedules are still being finalized. We will resume announcing the program schedule for the next two months in the upcoming newsletter issue.

Thank you for your patience.

[Email Cathy!](#)

Library Changes

By Kim Day



In an effort to see our wonderful Guild library used more frequently, we are enacting a few changes as voted on in our latest Board meeting. We will no longer require signed checks as security from members before letting them check out materials and any checks that we do have for that purpose will be shredded.

We will also be moving to self-checkout. We need volunteers to sign up. Your only responsibility is to move the library, which is on a platform cart dolly, out from where it is stored in Artworks so it is available during our meeting and back in after we're all done. Hopefully, we can spread this task out by having several volunteers since there is no reason it has to be the same person doing it each month. If there are new books or other publications coming out that you think the Guild would be interested in, feel free to shoot me an [email](#) at any time. The Guild's library is a treasure trove full of awesome pictures and projects.

Tuxes & Tails

By Ria Mendoza Hoyt



Every year, Seattle Humane Society (SHS) holds an auction event called *Tuxes & Tails* to support our furry friends. The funds help pets considered unadoptable to get veterinary and behavior care. SHS is now actively seeking donations for the auction.

This year, the Board would like to support this event and donate our polymer clay creations. We need your help: donate your polymer clay works to the Guild –

jewelry set, home decor, sculpture, artwork or other items you've created and we will submit them as donations from the Northwest Polymer Clay Guild. Donations are featured in a catalog with the name of the donor and we are hoping our donations will be included to get our Guild some publicity. Great right? We not only help our furry friends get the proper treatment they deserve but we also help the Guild get exposure. Please contact any board member if you want to add your creation(s) as a Guild donation. We'll get deadline details but last year's was the end of February.

Every member is also free to donate personally and contact SHS on their own. [For more information please visit Seattle Humane's website.](#)



President's Message | president@nwpcg.org

Onwards to 2018

We have a lot of things to look forward to this year! In the Board's usual brainstorming efforts to grow our membership (have ideas? Let a board member know!), we came up with a few ideas in our latest meeting.

We will be hosting several free beginner polymer workshops in both the spring and fall, with the materials supplied by the Guild. We're very excited about this! Ria Mendoza Hoyt has been gathering a list from the website of people interested in NWPCG activities and we will also promote the fall ones during our Fair demos. If you have additional thoughts on how to advertise our classes and get people to attend, let us know.

Speaking of the Fairs, we've had members submit their items in the past and win ribbons and prizes, so I encourage everyone to think about making something. It would be a great project to work on at Clay Camp too! The Monroe Fair (Evergreen State Fair), with advice from Liz White, will be adding polymer clay categories as well. Cathy Gilbert has graciously offered to bring your entries to submit to the Fair if you hand it over to her during our regular meetings. The Evergreen State Fair deadline is probably in August and we will definitely announce that a few months before. Let that be an extra incentive to make something! Terri Standley has previously offered this same service

for the Washington State Fair in Puyallup as well and she's willing to take your entries again this year.

As seen in the Library article, we changed the library check out rules, and we also extended the Camp proposal deadline for teachers. Some other less exciting things we discussed at the Board meeting are finding a new insurance carrier, getting a Guild credit card to accrue miles, giving Maria the title of Secretary (a Secretary is required by WA non-profit laws and we still have no volunteer for that position) but none of the duties, transferring magazine subscription duties to me (since we no longer have a librarian), budgeting and scheduling programs for 2018, getting signed up for receiving non-junk mail notices from the PO Box upon renewal, adding Facebook ads for Clay Camp, and donating to Seattle Humane Tux and Tails auction to increase awareness of the Guild.

One big thing we discussed was having the Guild bring in a well known teacher with reduced rates for members once a year, probably starting in summer 2019.

Member feedback is always welcome. Cathy has some awesome program and round robin ideas, but feel free to let her know if there's something you're particularly interested in learning or teaching.

Much love to my clay buddies,

Kim Day

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[NWPCG website](#)



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