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# We're bringing the excitement online!

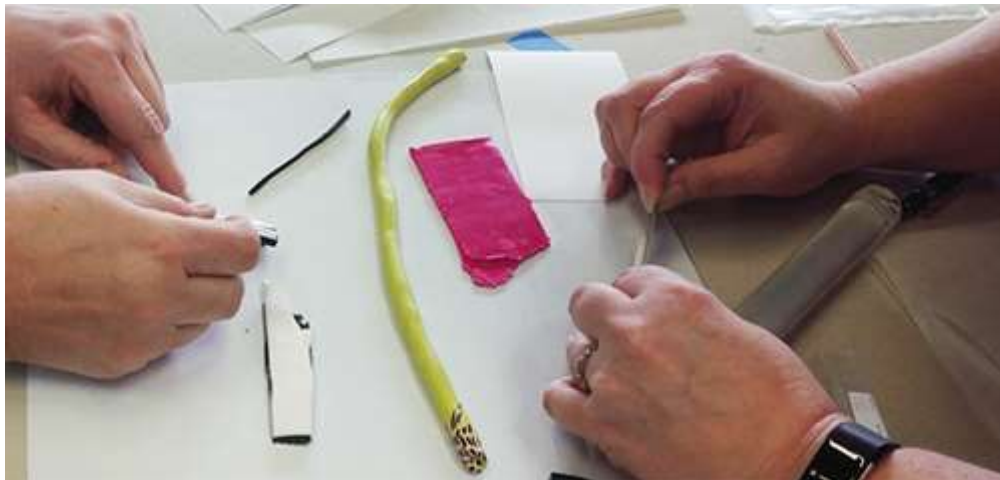
From: Northwest Polymer Clay Guild Newsletter <newsletter@nwpcg.org>

To: Maria Jam <mariajambrown@yahoo.com>

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## Guild Highlights

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com)

Our last Clay Social was a small but friendly gathering (some of our at risk members and members who worked with at risk community chose to stay home).

As always, we brought our clay, and talked, and

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### **Show & Tell**

For future issues,

bonded. Love you guys!

## Beginner's Class Recap

We had more than 20 people signed up but as the day approached we received a few cancellations. We prepared by bringing a bottle of hand sanitizer. As the start time approached with no one there, our four teachers (Kim Day, Cathy Gilbert, Maria Brown and Katie Weibel) may have been a tad worried. We ended up with seven students, which meant they got a lot more of our attention than they probably wanted.

However, a small and cozy class turned out to be really, really fun, and kind of makes me want to limit the class size in the future. We had people taking the instruction and just running with it, making it their own.

please email photos to [Kim](#) or [Ria](#)

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### **AmazonSmile**

Choose NWPCG when shopping with [Amazon Smile](#) and every qualified purchase donates to the Guild.

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### **Meetings Cancelled**

All Guild meetings are cancelled until further notice

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Photos by Kim Day & Cathy Gilbert







## Show & Tell



Left: Maria Brown  
Right: Cathy Gilbert





Left: Gil Ledesma  
Right: Kim Day



Work by Karen Swiech

## Special Announcement: **May Show & Tell**

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com)

For our May issue, please send your Show & Tell photos to my email address.

Thanks!

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## Guild Events: **Cancelled/Postponed**

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com)



As a combination of ArtWorks' closures and being socially responsible people and helping flatten the curve, we are canceling Guild Clay Days and monthly meetings until otherwise posted.

For the previously scheduled Programs, we will postpone them until the next time we meet. This includes my highly anticipated (by me) program on the new flexible Cosclay.

In the meantime, we will try to come up with more recommendations for you like online tutorials so I hope to have some great YouTube links to share with you for the next newsletter!

Have an online program idea?

Email Kim

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## Announcements

### Editor's Note: **FB Conversations**

By Ria M. Hoyt | [riamhoyt@gmail.com](mailto:riamhoyt@gmail.com)



We've always been on [Facebook](#), but now more than ever, it's important to continue the conversation online in place of our usual meetings or Clay Days. We will post prompts there for discussion such as techniques we're learning, supporting each other's social media, projects we're making and more. We will also start some new albums to show off member and Beginner's Class works.

Feel free to post photos, comments or questions you may have. Just remember to be kind and constructive in your comments.

See you there!

## Keep Busy: Tutorials & More

By Meredith Arnold | [meredith@mereditharnold.com](mailto:meredith@mereditharnold.com)

I know people are casting about for what to do in these chaotic times. It's good to remember that the sun is still rising each day, the birds wake up, look for food, sing, and fly. I see my neighbors and their children out walking more now. I'm sure they're just trying to get in some activity now that their lives are less active (unless you count standing in line at a Costco as an activity).

Some of us don't have to be at work, have shopped and stocked up till we dropped, now what? I've heard that it's hard to get inspired to do anything creative but think about it: what better time to lose yourself in a creative endeavor than now? Getting creative is soul soothing. Getting creative is giving yourself a break from reality.

Check out all the free stuff you can learn and do!

- [Blue Bottle Tree's free and paid tutorials](#) as well as lots of info for beginners,
- [Sonya Girodon offers a free tutorial on her Hakuna Matata](#) technique,
- [Craft Cast](#) has some free videos. Look for all of the annual "I Love Tools" videos for wonderful ideas in organization and innovative new tools,

- [Polymerclay Central](#) has a lot of free tutorials going back decades,
- [Clay Play Liz's Blog](#) has lots of free tutorials, there's something for everyone!
- [ArtWorks blog](#) is also offering a semi-daily series titled "Creative Ideas for Life at Home" as a community service in light of the social distancing mandate we are all facing. This series offers ideas, free resources, free stuff to do or try, even quick recipes to try!

Don't forget to show and share what you create on the [NWPCG FaceBook page](#). We can meet there any time so get busy and stay creative!

## Keep Busy: Free Classes

By Ria Mendoza Hoyt | [riamhoyt@gmail.com](mailto:riamhoyt@gmail.com)

Here are some more free resources. Check them out, one, two or maybe all of them may resonate with you and help you with your art:

- [Creative Live](#) opened up it's health and wellness classes for free, when you click the link there are several courses you can choose from,
- [Make Art That Sells](#) - I've been wanting to take this for some time. They are offering their self-paced MBA course usually worth \$208 for free,
- [The Inspiration Place](#) - this is a podcast series and their art discussion covers topics from inspirations, marketing, to artist growth. Easy listen while you're crafting!

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## President's Message

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com)



### Busy hands are happy hands

As you all saw with the announcement, we had to make a tough decision and cancel Clay Camp this year (refunds have been requested, and should be on their way). With the subsequent days, at least we knew we had made the correct decision.

We are in an uncertain world. People we know may die. We are trapped in our homes and may be lonely, or forced by finances/circumstances to continue



venturing out and being exposed to further risk. I'm sure you've heard this from everyone from your cable provider to your bank, but... be safe.

As we face our fears and anxiety, I just wanted to send out some words of encouragement. We as a community are blessed with the best possible coping mechanism in a changing world: the ability to create. We have minds that seek to grow and see possibilities in the ordinary. So please, while you're allowed to worry, consider limiting your media exposure, and set aside time for making, for creating, and for expressing yourself. Taking care of our minds along with our bodies will make the difference between letting the situation control us, versus taking control of our situation.

Jon and I are choosing to follow an online bodyweight fitness program. You can find free classes on YouTube from guitar playing, yoga, rubix cube solving to painting. You can learn a new skill, or hone an existing one (I've been doubling down on my computer programming study).

I also want to remind everyone that we have the [Guild Facebook page](#), please share your creations there with us or tell us what you're doing to occupy your mind. If you find some amazing clay YouTube videos, send them my way, I'm always looking for more program ideas, or I can share them in the next newsletter for other members to enjoy.

As a trial run, I've created a [subreddit](#) for our Guild. This is a public forum, where you can post links, questions, comments, pictures, etc. It does require a Reddit account. If you have one you wish to keep private, just do what I did and make a new account on a browser you don't usually use. I'd love to hear your ideas on how we can all stay connected as well.

Best wishes,

*Kim Day*

 Forward

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**NWPCG website**



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