



Hi Maria Jam! Here's what we'e been up to:



Guild Highlights: Ear Savers

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

The lovely and talented Dawn Gray shared with us and taught us how to make ear savers from polymer clay – things that hold the elastic off your ears to make mask-wearing more comfortable. She showed a tried and tested (by her pharmacist daughter) template, and made a detailed [PDF of her steps](#). Joy of [ojoycreations](#) also made a [cutter available for purchase based on Dawn's template](#), how cool is that?

And hooray for Zoom! We've been wanting to have Dawn teach a program for years, but it never quite worked out because of the distance and now it did!

Show & Tell



By Maria Brown



By Kim Day



By Dawn Gray

Aug Program: Simple Texture Rolls

By Kim Day | Zoom | August 5th | 6:30 p.m.



Kim Day will be teaching how to make simple texture rollers out of clay. Part of it will be hands-on, and the other part will be demonstration only. If you'd like to participate in the hands-on part, come prepared with:

- Clay
- Clay blade
- Pasta machine or acrylic roller
- String
- Small extruded polymer clay threads
- Skewer

Online Meetings: Zoom with Us!

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



Our Zoom meetings continue to be awesome! This online platform has not only made it possible to keep up with friends but it also made it possible for Dawn Gray to finally be able to teach us a class! A big yey!

Remember, everyone is welcome. You can share our Zoom links with non-member friends through personal messages or emails. Just a little warning: **do not** post our Zoom password and meeting ID on social media because we don't want trolls coming in and ruining the experience.

Our two regular meets are Wednesdays from 6:30-9:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.-noon. If you want to try and get impromptu clay days, more frequent ones, or if those days don't work, I do have an opt-in e-mail list where people can arrange clay dates or hangouts for other times as well. Send me a message if you want in on it: polymerclay@gmail.com.

See you for our monthly meeting on August 5th from 6:30 p.m. We use the same Zoom link for every meeting:

[Zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 988 553 9980

Password: clayisfun

Zoom with Us

Announcement

Art Oasis Retreats on Zoom

By Meredith Arnold | www.mereditharnold.com

ArtWorks will be offering a series of online art retreats starting in September. Interested in teaching polymer clay classes on Zoom? Here are the details:

Each Art Oasis Retreat will offer a variety of classes over a span of four to six weeks. Each class session is two hours. I'm asking each instructor to teach at least two



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sessions (two hours each) during each retreat but teachers can offer up to six sessions. Each class session can be a complete standalone class or could be one program that builds through multiple two-hour sessions. Instructors will be able to pick their dates/times.

Teachers will be paid \$18.75 per student registration. The sessions will

cost \$25 to students. Participants will be able to exhibit resulting work on the ArtWorks website for a specific period of time and participate in a private forum (on the ArtWorks website) to be able to interact with other students and teacher. We have some details to figure out for the private forum still.

The timeline is as follows:

First retreat: [Sept. 28 - Nov. 6](#). Class proposals are [due August 31](#).

Second retreat: [Feb. 1 - March 12](#). Class proposals are [due November 20](#).

Third retreat: [April 5 - May 14](#). Class proposals are [due February 19](#).

Teachers can pick their days and times. To submit a class proposal use this [link](#) or the button below.

[Submit a proposal](#)

President's Message

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



Grow, don't just exist

Hello Dear Clayers,

It's the magical summer weeks when we often wonder why we don't own air conditioning for the other 50 weeks of the year. My squash plants are loving it though!

It's over halfway through the year and many months into social distancing... time for some hard questions: are you happy? If you're not, what are you doing to change that? We probably all have a list of things we may or may not have started. Why not go back to it and see if there's an item you want to tick off?

As I always advise, try and look at and celebrate the things you did manage to do. While my clay room is a disaster, I reached out and found some friends who will Zoom with me for a few one-hour sessions per week while I attempt to organize and clean. I finished my 100 days of beads (my show and tell picture is all 100 days), and I find myself at loose ends trying to decide what to clay. It's both freeing and too free – too many choices! But I have choices again, this can be a good thing.

The twice a week clay hangouts (Wednesday 6:30-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m.-noon) have kept me claying, while being low pressure to actually pump out items. We have a great supportive and encouraging group on Zoom. If you haven't tried it yet, come join us! We also have our All Day Clay Day (replacing our Third Place Books scheduled events) coming up on August 8th from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Drop in for a bit or stay the whole time. Actual claying is optional.

It's both harder to carve out time for art and creating with the chaos in the world, in the US in particular, but that makes it even more necessary. Investing in our mental health gives us the chance to grow instead of merely existing.

As always, if you have program ideas, suggestions or requests, please let me know. We're also happy to share in our newsletter any good clay Youtube tutorials or videos you find.

Clay on!

Kim Day

Update your Info

New members need to sign-up to our newsletter, the sign-up form is included in your NWPCG Welcome email from Membership.

Changing your email? You can [update your personal](#) information to ensure that you receive our newsletter. You can also add your website or social media links to your profile. This link is also available in every newsletter at the footer area.

If you haven't yet, please add "newsletter@nwpcg.org" to your address book so our newsletters do not go to spam.

Update

 Forward

[NWPCG website](#)



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