

NWPCG Clay Camp Info and more!

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

To: Maria Jam <mariajambrown@yahoo.com>

Volume 28 | Issue 05 | May 2021

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Get ready for Clay Fun!

Coming up: NWPCG Clay Camp 2021

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com | May 14-16



As mentioned in previous newsletters, our Clay Camp this year will again be a virtual event. We had more warning this time around, but decided to keep it a low

key event with no fees. Anyone, member or non-member, is welcome, so please spread the news. Here are the suggested times for our online camp, but we can make the Zoom rooms available with additional times by request. Scroll down to the end of this announcement and you will find the link for the volunteer form to demo something clay related (technique, product, etc.). We will send out more updated Clay Camp schedule to everyone closer to the date.

Friday May 14th

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.: Social hour

6:00 - 7: 00 p.m.: Clay demos (to be announced)

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.: Clay Social (Breakout rooms available)

Saturday May 15th

10:00 - 12:00 p.m.: Clay Social

12:00 - 2:00 p.m.: Break (Breakout rooms available, main room turns into clay social)

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.: Clay Demos (to be announced)

3:00 -4:00 p.m.: Tool Time. Bring your favorite tool and be prepared to share why you love it/how to use it for 5-10 minutes

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.: Break (go eat dinner)

6:00 -7:00 p.m.: Clay Demos (to be announced)

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.: Clay Social

Sunday May 16th

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.: Social Hour

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.: Clay Demos (to be announced)

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.: Clay Social (Breakout rooms available)

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.: Break

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.: Brown Bag Exchange / Guild Giveaways

What happens during our events?

Social Hour

Talk! Some of us haven't seen each other for a year.

Clay Demos

Volunteers will share products or techniques. These demos will range in time from

15-60 minutes. If 15 minutes, there would be four demos during this hour period, for example. This will depend on sign-ups.

Clay Social

This is what we normally do in our Zoom Clay Days. Bring a project (polymer clay or otherwise) to work on. Whine when stuff doesn't work out, celebrate when it does. Feel free to show off things you've been working on.

Breakout Rooms

This will depend on our Virtual Clay Camp turnout. If we have 10 people, we'll probably just turn the main room into a Clay Social. If we have 50 people, we will have breakout rooms so people can meet in smaller groups and socialize a bit easier.

Tool time

This topic has been requested by several members for quite a long time, we just never quite manage to do it, so taking this as an opportunity. Bring at least one favorite tool, and be ready to talk about it briefly. I'm guessing 5-10 minutes each. If there's a tool you're super passionate about and want to talk about longer, and possibly demo it and the results, consider signing up for one of our demo slots.

Brown Bag Exchange

We did this quite successfully in the December Seasonal Festivities Party! So here's a copy and paste of the explanation.

If you want to participate, bring something. For in person events, it goes in a brown bag and is placed on a table. For this I won't require a bag. Then we'll take turns, picking between two options: opening a new bag, or stealing an already opened bag. Once a bag is stolen, it is no longer available to steal.

What goes in your brown bag? It is not a white elephant! It must be something others would want. Typically there are clay supplies, chocolate, handmade clay items, or a mixture of those. While there is no value minimum or maximum, somewhere between \$15 and \$25 is a good ballpark estimate.

From among the people participating, we will write their names down twice, and put them in two hats for drawing. One hat is the order of people going in the exchange, the second hat is the "table" with the unmarked bags. From the first hat we draw a name, that person is first. We draw a name from the second hat, and that person shows what they brought for the brown bag exchange. Next person is drawn from the first hat. They have the option to steal any unstolen item (one steal and it's permanent/unavailable for future steals), or get a new bag from the table (name drawn from second hat). We'll ask everyone that has had their bag "opened" and not stolen to raise their hand and show their item when asked. We continue until everyone has gone, then first place gets one last chance to steal an item, and they would give their current item in exchange.

At the end, each person should know who won their item (I will also keep track, but

backup is handy), and can contact them to find if they want their item mailed, or porch drop off or pick up. Since we don't want monetary reasons to keep someone from participating, the guild will cover shipping costs for the people that are in need. (E-mail me privately for this reimbursement, picture of receipt would make my treasurer happy.)

As always, I encourage stealing. It ensures items will go to homes that want and appreciate them. So here's your warning if you want to make something special! I usually try to make something new for it.

Guild Giveaways

In place of our usual raffle, we will be drawing names from among the people present. The winners will choose between assorted Amazon clay-related prizes which we will have Amazon ship directly to their house (you will need to provide me your address if you win). There will be four winners. We will list the choices available in our Clay Camp Schedule/update closer to the event. Since it is through Amazon, each of the four winners can pick the same item if they want.

Clay Camp Demo Volunteers needed!

I have a couple people, and have someone in particular in mind for a few others. So I'm not completely unprepared, just mostly. :) I'd like to get more people that are willing to teach/demonstrate something clay related for either 15 minutes, 30 minutes, or 60 minutes. These can be technique based, project based, or product based. These are pure demos, we will not expect people to clay along. You may choose to create a handout or not. You also have the option to give me permission to record your demo to distribute to those that ask for a copy. If we have more available demo-ers than time slots, I am happy to add additional Clay Demo times to our schedule.

Here are the time slots we are looking to fill:

- May 14th, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., Friday
- May 15th, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., Saturday
- May 15th, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., Saturday
- May 16th, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., Sunday

If you are willing, please click the [green button below to sign up](#). It will lead you to the [volunteer form](#) and I will be in contact with you.

I want to demo at Clay Camp

Show & Tell

Send your Show & Tell items (pieces you finished, work in progress, new books, tools or resources you enjoy) to [Kim](#) or [Ria](#). Please send a caption identifying the piece or technique featured in the photo with your full name. As much as possible, do not crop the image. Each submission earns you a ticket to the year-ender party's raffle non-raffle.



Canes by Cathy Gilbert (made after a Meg Newberg Instagram post)



Canes by Cathy Gilbert



Blade savers by Esther Schmidt



Blade savers (back side) with magnet by Esther Schmidt



Earring components by Katie Weibel



Earring components by Katie Weibel



Earring components by Katie Weibel



Earring components by Katie Weibel



Earring components by Katie Weibel



Veneer by Kim Day



Veneer by Kim Day



Toes (work in progress) by Ria Mendoza Hoyt



Lizard by Lilly (Cathy's nine-year old granddaughter)



Miniature garden by Patti-Steele Smith



Narwhal by Patti-Steele Smith



Steampunk seahorse by Patti-Steele Smith

May: **Round Robin**

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com | May 5th, 2021 | 6:30 p.m.

Oyster Watercolor with Kim Day



One of my favorite polymer clay YouTubers is Jessama Tutorials. In our May monthly meeting, we will do her Oyster Watercolor technique together, with guidance from myself.

If you'd like to clay along, here are the supplies you should have ready:

- Black Clay ($\frac{1}{4}$ of a block unless you'd like a lot)
- White Clay ($\frac{1}{4}$ of a block)
- Pearl Clay (optional)
- Translucent Clay (I'll be using premo white translucent. Pardo and cernit translucent are even better, but any translucent will work; $\frac{1}{8}$ of a block estimate)
- Either alcohol inks or chalk pastels (I'll be using chalk pastels)
- Graduated circle cutters, going down to itty bitty
- Pasta Machine
- Acrylic roller or coffee tamper
- Clay Blade
- Work Surface

This is a super easy technique, but with gorgeous results. Also open to lots and lots of possibilities for variations.

Announcements: **What's New**

By Meredith Arnold | meredith@mereditharnold.com

Fun Maker's Resource

Looking for something different to do for entertainment? Check out [Uri Tuchman on](#)



[YouTube](#). He is an Israeli living in Berlin, very entertaining and inspiring. He makes some crazy things and engraves metal in fast forward so it sounds like a woodpecker. His videos vary from

around 20 minutes to 45 minutes so it's easy to find something to fit your time frame. Guaranteed: you will laugh!

ArtWorks Art Spa is Back!



[ArtWorks](#) quietly re-opened April 1st. We are following all CDC and state COVID safety guidelines to keep everyone safe. Even though

we're allowed 50% capacity in the building we're limiting gatherings to 12 people max (25% capacity) in the building at a time. Masks and safe distancing are required to be in the building.

Most Fridays are Art Spa Open Studio days from noon to 4:00 p.m. for just \$5. ArtWorks has ovens, baking pans, hot pads and oven thermometers. Bring your clay and tools and work safely while getting some in-person fun time in!

Pardo available at Blueberry Beads

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



Since we like to both help out local businesses, and highlight neat clay supply opportunities, I wanted to mention that BlueberryBeads.com is expanding their clay selection from Cernit and Sculpey Souffle to also include Pardo (which is

hard to find in the US). Their website will be updated to include it, but they also have an actual storefront where you can shop as well.

Online Meetings: Zoom with Us!

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

We have our monthly meeting over Zoom the first Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.



We also have small informal clay days every Wednesday 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. and every Saturday 10:00 a.m. - noon. All of these use the same Zoom link.

You are welcome to invite other people you know to these, there is no membership requirement for our informal get togethers. They can also craft with other mediums than clay.

If you'd like to be on an email list for people who want to schedule Zoom things outside these Wednesday and Saturday times, please let me know with very specific words "Add me to the Zoom email list" at polymerclay@gmail.com

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 988 553 9980

Password: clayisfun

President's Message: Clay Camp is On!

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



It's Clay Camp time!!! Hype!

Yes, still not the amazing Camp Huston gourmet experience, where you can also wander around clay tables for hours gathering inspiration and drooling over people's workspaces. But... it's still the same great group of people, and we have tentative plans to start in person meetings again in the next few months (currently watching Snohomish/King county covid numbers and wanting them to drop a bit). Even when we begin in person monthly meetings again, we will have a Zoom computer at the

meeting so those that we have become so close to that are distance-challenged can keep attending. We also plan to continue our Wednesday 6:30-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m.-noon Clay Socials that have become highly anticipated events for some of us.

On a positive note, Cheryl Dixon will again be organizing another cozy in-person Olympic Peninsula Retreat this September in Sequim. Several of us went two years ago (no event last year), and she did a phenomenal job organizing everything, and arranging rooms for rent at the hotel we clayed in. I'll keep everyone updated with dates and prices as they become available.

We had a not-so-brief glimpse into summer weather. I had a neighbor that decided this meant power tools at 8:00 a.m., but that's okay, I still enjoyed it. I'm going to be learning about drip irrigation very soon – our garden has outgrown my willingness to hand water it. My clay has been taking a back seat to some health stuff, but I still eagerly await and have been planning my 100 days of clay topic (even though I missed the official 100 days that happened in January). What future project has you excited? I'm going to make some clay garden stakes inspired by some Shannon Hyland brought in for show and tell many years ago.

One last reminder: each month, the newsletter is full only of what people send in. If people send in show and tell pictures, there are show and tell pictures. In the past we've had clay book reviews, new product finds/announcements, lists of clay classes (online or local), class reviews from said clay classes, event announcements (such as Clayathon), tips and tricks, links to neat Youtube videos. If you stumble across something you think others would be interested in, please send it in and help our newsletter be an even better resource for the Guild.

Clay on my lovely friends,

Kim



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



Newsletter Editor & Designer: Ria Mendoza Hoyt | orangejar@gmail.com Photos taken during NWPCG events may be used for promotional materials

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Northwest Polymer Clay Guild (NWPCG)

P.O. Box 904

Lynnwood, WA 98046

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