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# Opal Highlights, Gingerbread House Party and More!

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

To: Maria Jam <mariajambrown@yahoo.com>

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## Recap: Opal Highlights

By Maria Brown | [mariajambrown@yahoo.com](mailto:mariajambrown@yahoo.com)

I demonstrated a few of my techniques for creating faux opals. If you missed it or want a reviewer, I compiled the technique in a PDF program that you can download [here](#).

[Download Opal Highlights](#)

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## 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.



Natasha bead by Cathy Gilbert



Dawn Gray's Claytember Ornaments



Flower cane by Esther Schmidt



Jewelry by Esther Schmidt



Jewelry set by Esther Schmidt



Veneer by Esther Schmidt



Veneer by Esther Schmidt



Tray Of Clay by Lily, Cathy's granddaughter



Finished Necklace by Maria Brown



Pendants by Maria Brown



## Guild Elections: **Vote Now**

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



This is a simple ballot this time around. Please click this Google Forms link and vote, results will be posted in the next newsletter

[Click here or on the Vote icon.](#)

## October: **Program**

By Dawn Gray | Oct 6th | Zoom | 6:30 p.m.

### **Animal Pins with Dawn Gray**



Please join me for an Animal Pin Tutorial/Demonstration at the next Guild meeting on October 6th. I will be showing how to go from a scribbled drawing to a finished pin during the session so it will not be a work along class. I will also provide a pdf with all the steps, so you will not need to take notes. I will try to send out the pdf before the class so that you will have time to look it over and I can answer any questions you might have during the demo.

# Announcements: **Workshops**

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com) | [Oct 9th, 10:00 am. - 5:00 p.m.](#) | [Zoom](#)

## **Event by Cheryl Flynn Dixon and the Olympic Peninsula Polymer Clay Retreat**

Cheryl Flynn Dixon made the decision to cancel the in-person retreat she had planned for this year due to Covid. In it's place, during our normal all day Clay Day on October 9th, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., she's arranged to have some wonderful artists demo for us on our normal Zoom channel. Here's the info:



**Syndee Holt** is going to do a demo on what to do with all those leftover scraps of clay from doing surface treatments. Silk screens, transfers, etc, we all have them and she has brilliant uses for them.

**Kasi Althaus** will do a demo on how to paint eyes on polymer clay. She gives a great Power Point demo that will have you wanting to do eyes on everything!

This Zoom demo is during the Northwest Polymer Clay Guild Saturday Clay Day. It's an opportunity to learn new techniques and meet a wonderful group of talented clayers. Feel free to hang out after the demos to finish up your projects, meet new people or reconnect with past acquaintances.

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### [Atlantic City Clay Escape](#)

In person event with world renowned polymer clay teachers. Takes place October 5-9, 2021 in Atlantic City, NJ. Cost: \$575 (\$560 without Paypal)



### [PDMAG Online Convention](#)

PDMAG Online Convention takes place from October 15-24, 2021. Features demos, classes, studio tours and more. Cost: \$10. [Ria Mendoza Hoyt](#) has one complimentary VIP ticket to give away. Please email [Ria](#) if you're interested.



Learn how to braid cords in the traditional Japanese artform, Kumihimo. With these techniques you will be able to make necklaces and bracelets that are unique and beautiful! Free while streaming live on CuriousMondo.com from Dec. 13-15, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. EDT.

*If you know of any upcoming workshops, send [Kim](#) an email and we'll include it in the announcements.*

## **5th Annual Gingerbread House-Making Party**

By Kim Day | [polymerclay@gmail.com](mailto:polymerclay@gmail.com) | November 13th | Zoom-Only Event



As a reminder, this activity will be a **Zoom only** event this year. You may use your own candies that you make. Since part of the fun is sharing the clay candies with others, and using what they make as well, I'm attempting to provide an option, and here's the best I could come up with.

**Main Event Details:**

**What:** Gingerbread House Making Zoom-Only Party

**When:** Saturday, November 13th

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Here's what you need to do before the Main Event:**

**Candy Swap** - This takes place before the Gingerbread House-Making Party. Make approximately 1:4 scale candies for a gingerbread house, prebaked.

**Quantity** - I will evenly divide the candies I receive into piles. Each person who brought some will get some back (including a portion of the candies they donated).

**When do I need to get the candies I made to you?** - Mail or drop off the the candies to me by Friday November 5th at the latest. [Email](#) me for my address or phone number.

**When do I get the candies others made?** - Pick up the candies from my place (or pay for shipping) somewhere between November 6th (Saturday) and our Gingerbread House-Making Party, on November 13th (Saturday).

I can't guarantee anything since this is a post office issue, but this was the best compromise I could find between giving people enough time to make candies, and the amount of time it takes a priority mail package to be received within the US.

I will also provide pre-baked gingerbread house pieces (finished house size: two x three inches). For those that wish to make their own, the recipe I like is two parts Premo gold to one part Premo burnt umber.

**Don't want to do the swap? No worries!**

You do not have to participate in the candy swap to come and join us online at the Zoom Party!

## Special Feature: **The Importance of Displays**

By Charlie Nagel

I think when it comes to art, it's "location, location, location." It helps that Vashon has come to be somewhat of a Destination to buy art; the Gather Gallery, right in the heart of the village, has sold more of my work in two months than the one in Kenmore sold in two years. Here are some images of the way my work is being displayed. In addition to the "wall," my triptychs are on small easels or in cases all over the gallery.





The outcome of my carotid stent placement was very positive, but complete recovery of my energy level is taking a bit longer than we expected.

Hugs to all of my clay friends!

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## Special Feature: **Ria Hoyt's In The Doll World Interview**

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

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## Ria Mendoza Hoyt

~ artist

~ owner

[OrangeJar.com](http://OrangeJar.com)



 **IN THE  
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Hello fellow Clayers! I just wanted to share with you about the [Professional Doll Makers Art Guild's art doll convention or the PDMAG Convention](#). We have lots of great artists exhibiting and when you avail of the \$10 VIP ticket, you will get free classes and tutorials from every stage of the doll making process in different mediums from polymer clay, fiber to air dry clay (full list on the website), even mold making. I am also offering a short class on "How To Set Up a Budget Home Photo Studio" which comes free with the VIP ticket. In this class, I talk about simple materials we can find at home or buy for cheap, to set-up your own home photo studio.

One of the Convention's Sponsors is our very own Marie Segal of [ClayFactory.net](http://ClayFactory.net), and her Cernit blocks are one of the main prizes to be given away (thank you Marie!!!) There are many other [giveaways](#) from dolls, doll parts, classes, clay and more.

Another sponsor is [In The Doll World](#), and I am honored to share that I am one of this year's interviewees. I hope you'll attend the convention, and check out my sales gallery and class, and listen in to my interview with In The Doll World! Thank you!

- [Attend the PDMAG Convention](#)
- Watch In The Doll World's [Youtube Channel](#) or [Facebook Page](#), or listen to the [podcast](#).

## Online Meetings: Zoom with Us!

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

### [Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 988 553 9980

Password: clayisfun

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## President's Message: Do things badly

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



I read a quote this month that really resonated with me and I wanted to share with you,

***"Anything worth doing is worth doing badly,"***

- G. K. Chesterton.

It seems to contradict so many things I was raised on. Perfect practice makes perfect. Anything worth doing is worth doing well. Those statements, while intended to be motivational, instead only create entry barriers. Don't have the time to do the most amazing piece of artwork ever? Better wait until I have more time. My mind is so good at giving excuses, so much that those excuses have almost become my default.

That's why I really like the quote to do things badly. I read it in an article that used the example of brushing your teeth. Yes, it is better to floss and brush for two minutes, etc etc. But if perfection is your only acceptable outcome, then your choices become doing the routine perfectly, or skipping it. Isn't it better to brush badly, than to skip brushing your teeth? Of course!

So yes, now I'm comparing doing polymer clay to brushing your teeth. Why not? Syndee Holt jumped in on our Zoom conversation to a discussion of using a dremel for Alpaca dental hygiene.

Do clay! Do it for five minutes. Make a mess. Do something badly. You're allowed to keep your goals badly too. Didn't do your clay time this week? Try again next week. I hope someone else finds the hope and joy in doing things poorly as well.

Love you all,

*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

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 NWPCG website



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

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