
Fab Show & Tell and Camp Updates

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

To: Maria Jam <mariajambrown@yahoo.com>

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Recap: Clay Social

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

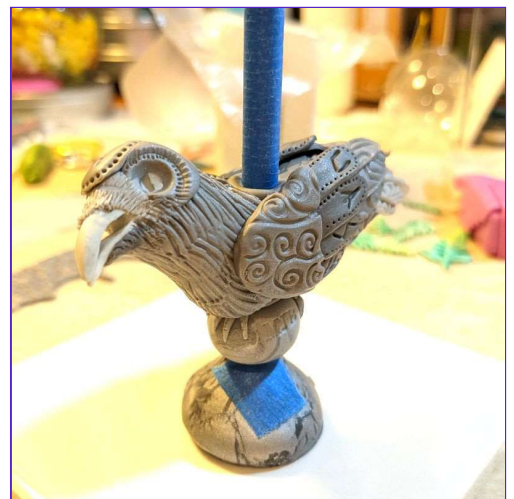
Our February meeting was a clay social. We hung out, talked and made stuff out of clay – the usual awesomeness. We also had members who participated in both Clayathon and the Polymer Clay Symposium later in the month, so for some this was quite a busy time.

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.



Work by Maria Brown



Sculpted bird by Maria Brown for the Clay Camp Totem Swap

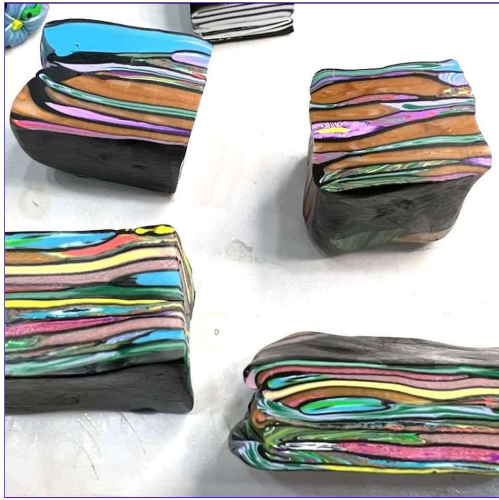


Work by by Cathy Gilbert including extruder experiments and winter bowls for her niece

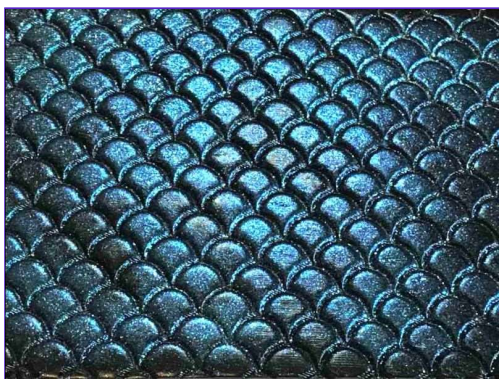


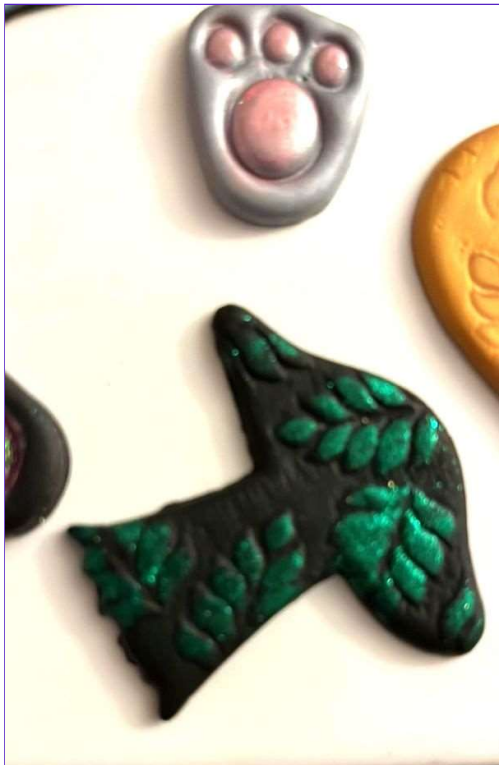
Cane by Jerri Richardson





Canes by Cheryl Dixon







Work by Joy Coleman



Beads by Kim Day



Totems for the Clay Camp Swap by Kim Day

March Program: Picture Cane

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



I'll be demonstrating how to make a picture cane. I'll include some general tips and tricks for caning and reducing, but the primary focus will be on how to break apart a picture into pieces that can be assembled into a cane. Here are some previous cane examples I've made and will reference, but during the program the goal will be to construct a cane live from start to finish. Feel free to bring a project to work on while you watch.

Special: Clay Camp Haiku

By Maria Brown | treasurer@nwpcg.org



What to bring to Camp?
Will I use twelve extruders?
Better pack them all...

Tables spread with tools
Inspiration is all around
... When is breakfast served?

Best part of Clay Camp
Is greeting old and new friends
And Kim Day's toffee

Announcements: Classes, Benefits & More

Fixing Broken Pan Pastels

By Meredith Arnold | meredith@mereditharnold.com



We all know Pan Pastels create wonderful options of surface techniques on polymer clay. They are an investment and if you drop one it turns into broken bits and powder. What do you do with a broken and powdered Pan Pastel? **Don't throw it away!** It can be fixed quickly and easily using just isopropyl alcohol. [Here is a step by step tutorial complete with photos.](#)

New Class: Creating Polymer Creatures at Artworks

By Meredith Arnold | meredith@mereditharnold.com



Expand your creativity and discover making creatures with polymer clay with instructor Coyote Sarkin. Gain the skills to bring your dreams to life. You can make a cute snail with flowers, a small cat that lives in your pocket, or anything else in your imagination. Together we will find the right creature for you. This class will be held Wednesday March 16, 6:30-8:30 pm. The cost is \$20 plus \$10 for materials.

There will be tools available for use in class. [For more info and to grab your spot click here for ArtWorks class page.](#)

Blueberry Beads Discount for NWPCG members!

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



Thanks to Maria Brown for setting this up, and to Blueberry Beads for wanting to help our clay community (they've also offered to send out Guild business cards to local clayers). Use coupon code: nwpcg121021 for a 15% discount on clay at [Blueberry Beads.](#)

They do have a list of members, so I'd ask you not to share this discount code with non-members (remember, it's only \$20 a year to join the NWPCG). They carry Cernit (including all the lovely metallics and translucent), Pardo, Premo and Souffle. They also have an in-person shop in Bothell.

Member discount code: nwpcg121021

Clay Camp 2022: What You Need To Know

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

Save The Date!



Updates

We are finalizing classes, and getting all the paperwork in order (teaching proposals and pictures from the teachers). Once we have all of this information, we will open registration. Look for it in early March (a few weeks from now), and we'll send off a special announcement when it's open.

Changes this year

We have a new membership software service, so registration will look quite different this year. Instead of charging \$20 extra fee to non-members, which is our yearly dues anyway, registration will only be available to Guild members. (Non-members will need to join the Guild prior to registering for Camp.)

Most importantly, as we warned in previous newsletters, the board has decided that we are requiring full vaccination (this means first shot, three to four-week wait depending on brand, then second shot which must be at least two weeks before the start of Clay Camp) and updated boosters (if last vaccination is not within six months, again at least two weeks before the start of Clay Camp) for all attendees.

But why?

According to Camp Huston's Covid rules, they allow negative tests instead of vaccines. The reason is quite simply to protect our members. Vaccination does not mean that someone cannot get

infected, it just greatly reduces the chance of a severe case, including death and hospitalization. Since we cannot to any degree of accuracy prevent Covid from appearing at camp, we can reduce the risks by not allowing those in the most danger of a serious case, i.e. the unvaccinated, to attend. If this will prevent someone from attending, I apologize, but this is non-negotiable. In the fall we plan to have another Virtual Clay Camp, which was a ton of fun last year, so you can keep that as something to look forward to. We must all decide our own limits.

Other information

Class descriptions, swap information, brown bag exchange, what to pack lists and more will all be on the [NWPCG Clay Camp website](#). Feel free to ask if there's something not yet covered! Many of us on Zoom are just so excited to see people in person again, we've already begun making swap items even though it's months away. :) Come join the fun at our Zoom hangouts.

Clay Camp Swap: Totems!

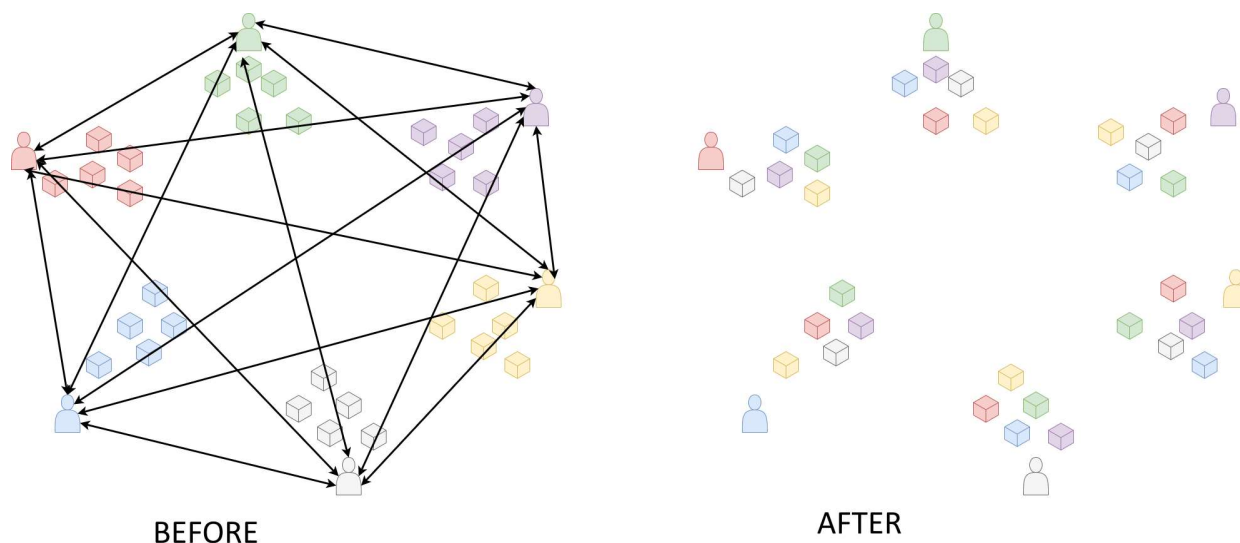


This was meant to be our swap theme for both previously canceled in-person Clay Camps. Since we are a go this year, barring state or camp mandates, it is finally happening. So, here's a refresher of what the requirements are.

Totems are basically big beads that have a big hole in the middle, which can be stacked on the provided totem stand (skewer with lovely bases made by Dawn). Each dimension (length, width and height) needs to be between 1 inch and 3 inches. That means the smallest that would count as a totem is 1 inch by 1 inch by 1 inch, the largest would be 3 inch by 3 inch by 3 inch, but everything in between is also fine (example 1 inch by 1.5 inch by 3 inch). The hole should be big enough for the skewer, which is around 4-5 mm.

Totems can be just about anything. Animals, flowers, rocks, vegetables with faces, pretty colors, geometric shapes. Way back in 2017, Meredith went to the polymer clay teacher's retreat, an exclusive clay retreat for those that teach polymer clay, and she brought back a wonderful assortment of totems. Feel free to look here, or do a pinterest search for polymer clay totems for inspiration.

Here's the one part that confused people a lot the last time around. We will be making totems in sets of 5. You can join as many sets as you would like. If you want to make two sets, then you would make 10 totems, for example. Not all of the totems in a set must be the same, HOWEVER, no two sets of totems can be the same. So if you want to make two sets, here are several of the combinations you can do: A) 5 of one type, 5 of a different type.



B) 10 all different C) 5 of one type, 5 all different. What is not allowed: A) 10 all of the same type B) more than 5 of the same type. Here is a swap infographic to show how the swapping works. For each swap group of 5 you join, you will receive 5 different ones back. You will not receive one of your own back. The swap happens at clay camp, usually on Saturday. If you cannot make it and want to participate in the swap, communicate with Kim Day (polymerclay@gmail.com) and get them to me before clay camp in May.

Clay Camp T-shirts

By Susan Locsin



We will have Clay Camp t-shirts this year. They way it works – bring a t-shirt of your choice to Clay

Camp and get it silk screened with this year's design. If your shirt is 100% cotton, you can also tie or ice dye it. All supplies and instruction will be available outside of class times. I have bought some great Supima cotton shirts from landsend.com.

Meetings: Zoom

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

From the President: Appreciate the Little Things

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

Hi Clay Peeps,

I'm a bit saddened to have decided my health is too unpredictable to attempt the 100 day project this year. I was discouraged, but then I reminded myself of all the clay things I can still do. More often than not I attend the Wednesday evening and Saturday morning Zoom sessions, which keeps



me actively doing clay and seeing friends. I have more ideas than I can shake a stick at for things I want to try for the totem bead swap at Clay Camp. I have some reach goals in terms of Pinterest pictures of things I want to try and recreate in clay by the end of the year. So yeah, I can't dedicate hours a day for the next three months, but it's more than zero, so still a thing to celebrate.

I also have some joy in planning my garden. Less joy coming in terms of preparing the soil and weeding, but I found some powdery mildew (my nemesis!) resistant squash seeds, so still a great thing to look forward to!

For anyone else experiencing up and down days, try and write yourself some notes during the up days of everything you're excited about. :)

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



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