



Upcoming Programs

August Mushrooms

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



Sorry there isn't a real picture this month! The make-along will be Sculpted Mushrooms with Kim Day. While the intent is for realistic mushrooms, you may choose any colors and make them as fantastical as you choose. If you intend to make with suggested colors, here is the supply list:

- A light base (white or cream) clay,
 - Red clay,
 - Brown clay,
 - Brown acrylic paint,
 - Scrap clay to make molds (optional),
 - Head or eye pins (optional),
 - Pasta machine or rollers, and
 - Needle tool.
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Review

Wisteria Slab Construction

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



In July, Dawn demonstrated and taught her wisteria slab construction techniques. Many different backgrounds could be used, from skinner blends to solid sheets. First she added the stems by tapering green clay snakes, and curling the ends of them. They came from the edge of her sheet inwards. She used two different sizes of leaves, though more can be

used, with the smaller leaves at the ends of the vines.

Each leaf started as a circle, which was cut in half. The half circle was transferred to the sheet, and an exacto knife poked it in to join the stem. The exacto knife was used to make a vein down the center of the leaf, then the edge pointed and turned to make the half circle into a leaf shape. For the flowers, she started with adding an optional background of shimmery translucent purple where she was going to add the drops. Each individual flower started with a lighter color on the bottom, and a darker color on top, and the flowers were added to make a draping bunch. See the show and tell section for pics of students' work!

Show & Tell

Work by Cathy Gilbert



Work by Cheryl Dixon



Work by Dawn Gray

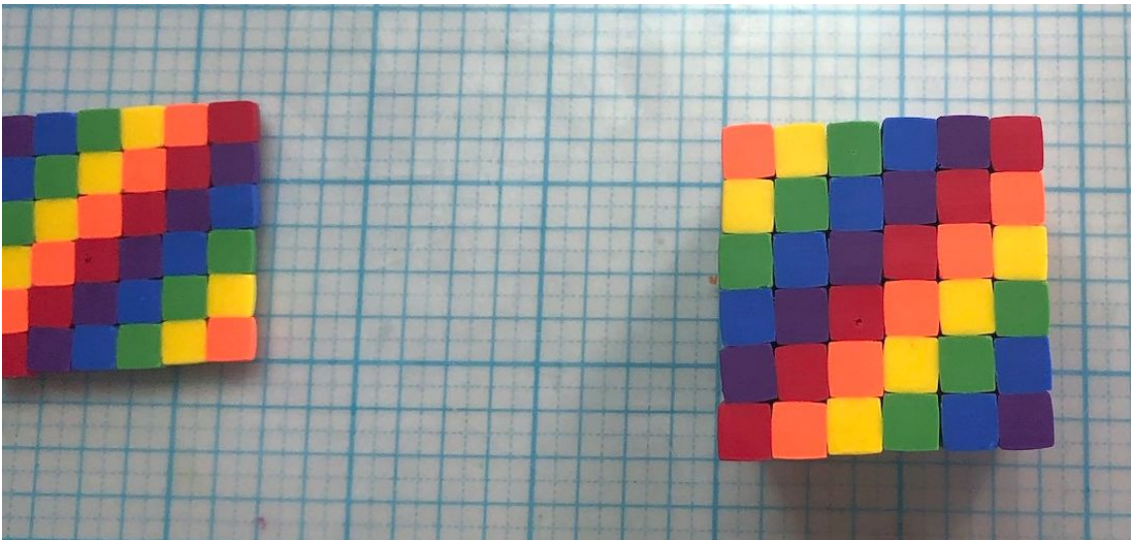


Work by Esther Schmidt





Work by Katie Weibel



Work by Kim Day



Work Lu Ann Fino





By Maria Brown



Work by Sharon Mhyre





Special Feature

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

An Ode To My Foot Pedal by Sandy Nigro



I love having a foot pedal to operate the motor on my pasta machine. It is so simple and easy to use. It looks just like the pedal on a sewing machine, but it has a dual plug that connects your pasta machine motor to the foot pedal, which you then plug into the wall, like you would use an extension cord.

The main benefit is for conditioning clay. It takes less time, less effort, and no need to run the noisy motor continuously. In addition to saving your hand, arm and shoulder from cranking the handle manually, you have the ability to use both hands when making a long strip of a skinner blend. This is when it's also handy to have a chair on wheels, so you can catch and guide that long strip by just backing the chair up. I'm still working on a reverse gear for my chair.

I bought my foot pedal on [Amazon for \\$18.99](#), so they are not terribly expensive. It's called a [Foot Switch, Foot Operated Pedal Controller Power Switch Woodworking Machine Control, 5-ft Cable with Piggyback Plug, Deadman Style](#).

Announcements

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

Evergreen State Fair Demo Volunteers Requested



Want to join Cathy Gilbert for clay demos at the Evergreen Fair? Let [Kim](#) know which days you're interested in, and we'll get you fair tickets and a parking pass for those days. While you can stay the whole day (10:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.), shorter shifts are fine because Cathy is awesome and doesn't mind being solo (in the past, we've had four-hour shifts). Here are the dates we need volunteers for:

- Saturday August 26
- Sunday August 27
- Tuesday August 29
- Saturday September 2
- Sunday September 3
- Monday September 4 (closes at 7:00 p.m.)

Sculpey Contest

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



Sculpey's latest contest is for making a color mixing recipe using Sculpey clays, and posting that recipe to social media (Facebook or Instagram) using the appropriate hash tags. The winner will get \$100 worth of Sculpey products. Here are the details:

Enter to win!

Show us your favorite **COLOR RECIPE** for a chance to win \$100 worth of Sculpey Products!

Here's how to enter:

1. Make a post showing the Color + The Recipe you use to make it (i.e. - how many parts of each Sculpey color)
2. Must use Sculpey Clay for all colors
3. Must include brand name (ie - Sculpey Premo, Sculpey Souffle, Sculpey III, etc) and specific color
4. Tag your post with **#Sculpey** and **#ColorRecipe2023**

Open to everyone from July 27, 2023 - August 13, 2023. Winner will be selected and announced the week of August 14, 2023. **To see original contest post on facebook, click here.**

From the President

Kitten Smitten

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com

Hey folks!



I hope everyone got a chance to enjoy the fantastic weather this past month. What are you doing with clay? I know some people are making some last minute entries for the Evergreen State Fair and the Puyallup (Washington State) Fair. Some are getting a head start on next year's swap (things with wings!). I'm still planning to make the things I meant to make at Clay Camp, and hopefully record some clay videos for Instagram (earrings!).

My house has been crazy this past month with amateur remodeling (looks professional, but takes 10 times as long and 1000 trips to Home Depot). We left the 80s and joined this century with an update to the living room floor. My clay room was inaccessible due to cramming everything from the living room in there, so I'm very happy with it being done. Plus it looks neat.



We've brainstormed a bit on Zoom, but I thought I'd seek input here too. For the past many years (seven? dunno) we've done a miniature candy swap and a mini gingerbread house decorating party. We kind of want to try something new, but want to incorporate the ahead of time swap with some type of assembly party.

Mini snow globes were mentioned (the plastic snow globes would be provided), with people making small things to go inside for the swap. This would involve a swap sign-up ahead of time. Does this sound fun to people? Have another idea?

Want us to do the gingerbread houses again? Your feedback is important to me!

My family got a new kitten this month, so expect kitten pictures from me for the foreseeable future! Happy claying and hope to see everyone on Zoom.

Much love,

Kim

Editor's Notes



Newsletter basics

By Ria M. Hoyt | ria@orangejar.com

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.

Photo submission guidelines:

- When taking photos, make sure the room is well lighted. Taking pictures beside a window during the day provides nice lighting
- Keep your background clear. Use a blank sheet of paper, plain bedsheet or parchment paper – these are materials that are usually easy to find at home and make good backgrounds
- Before you click, make sure the subjects are sharp and clear. If using a phone, double clicking on the item usually focuses on it. If this does not work for you, check your phone manual.
- As much as possible, please do not crop your photos before submitting.
- For questions email [Ria](#).

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