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Petals and Flowers for the October Party

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



Our party this year will be decorating clay sugar skulls or decorating mini wreaths. To get you excited about it, Dawn Gray and Kim Day will both be demonstrating petal and flower canes. Kim will demo the fire flower petal cane, as shown on this [website](#). Dawn will be demonstrating constructing a blanket flower or Gaillardia cane, and might be a demo instead of a make along.



To make the fireflower cane, come prepared with two skinner blends, each with a light and a dark color. You are welcome to make small canes, so keep that in consideration with how much you use. One example that looks great would be turquoise to white and a magenta to white skinner blend. Also have a pasta machine (preferred) or rollers available.

Review

Photos, write-ups, etc of events we've finished

Kimono Angels

By Cathy Gilbert



These Kimono dolls/beads or ornaments can be made in a variety of sizes ranging from $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch to four inches. Materials we need are:

- black for hair;
- a mix of white and light flesh colored clay (equal amounts of each);
- a coordinating color for the obi (sash) or a strip of striped clay (needs to be fairly thin);
- and a couple angel wing slices (not needed if you're not making an angel).

This one I'm describing starts with an inch and a half square. I'm using a cane slice, but you can use any kind of veneer or patterned square of clay. I usually use about a medium thickness for this size. It helps to have a border, but it's not necessary. Use a coordinating color for the guts. This is rolled into a cylinder that is wrapped by the square. You can roll the cylinder out until the square edges just meet around it. You will also need a slice/square about one quarter of the size of the main square. It will be cut in half for the sleeves. If necessary, trim the guts even with the cylinder (top and bottom).





Next, the obi strip is wrapped around the covered cylinder, about a quarter inch down from the top. The edges will meet in the back. I use either a folded pad of clay or a fat bow to cover the seam in the back, the sash typically has that type of ornamentation on the back. Sometimes, I will also wrap the obi with a very thin string of clay. It's a kind of cord that the obi would typically have. It's easiest to put the sleeves on at this time. Cut the small square in half and place the 'sleeves' on either side. Make sure they are even and the border is towards the front.



Take a ball of the white/beige mix and roll it to a little over half an inch in diameter. I usually "audition" this ball to the cylinder to make sure the head isn't too big or too small. I use a very small slice of a roll of the clay mix for the neck and press it on the top of the cylinder, then press the ball on top of that for the head. Flatten a ball of black clay (the ball should be a bit smaller than the head). I tend to form it roughly into a triangle and wrap it around the top and back of the head. You may need to remove some of the clay to get the length the way you want it. A topknot can also be added.



If you are going to make an angel, cut two slices of wing cane and place them under the hair, right above the sash. You can tweak or bend them depending on how you want it to look. At this point, you can either drill a hole with a needle tool through your kimono doll or you can insert an eye pin and smooth the clay over it so it won't come out. You can make a loop for attaching a ribbon or chain with the part of the eye pin sticking out of the doll.

Finally, there are other things you can add like beads, extra ornamentation or hair sticks. Even a face (I can't do faces, so I go for the Amish look, lol!). Bake at the usual temperature for about 30 to 60 minutes depending on size.

I started out making these as a way to use up cane slices. I had made quite a few when I realized any kind of veneer or decorated sheet of clay could be used as well. They don't

take as long to make as you might think and they are easier than they look. There's a wide variety of sizes and techniques that can be used for the Kimono dolls. Once you've decided on the kimono itself, it's a matter of rolling a cylinder of guts, covering it with the kimono square, adding the obi, sleeves, head, hair and wings. Then you can use your imagination to add all kinds of ornamentation from hair sticks and beads, to obi strings and ornaments. Holes can be drilled through the doll to insert an eye or head pin for a bead, or put an eye pin in the top for a ribbon to hang on the tree. You can also just leave as is and stand it on a shelf. They've proven to be quite popular and I love making them. Enjoy!

Show & Tell

Show off what you're working on, new supplies, books or whatever!



by Esther Schmidt



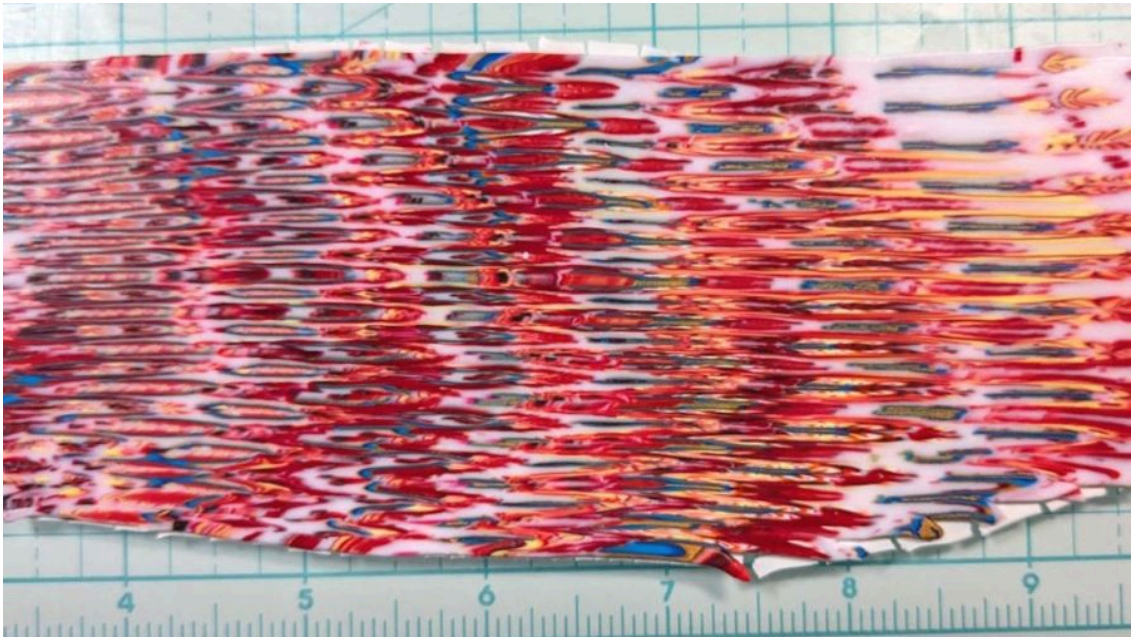
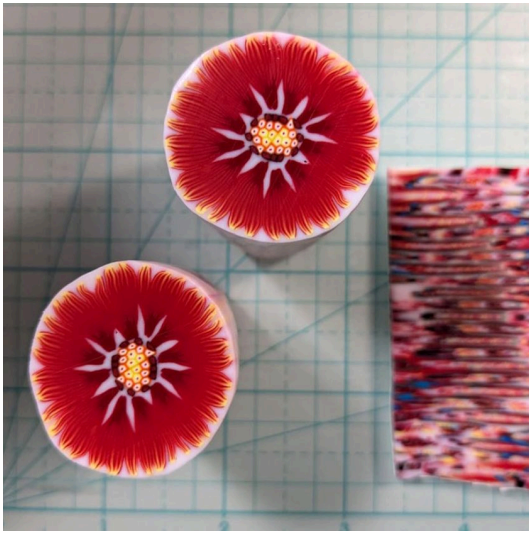
by JuLee Wolfe



by LuAnn Fino



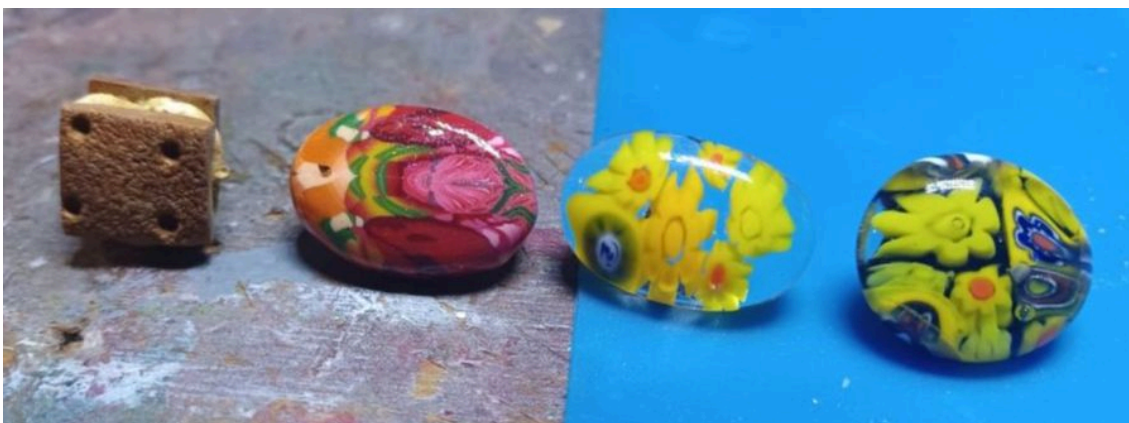
by Cathy Gilbert







by Dawn Gray



by Gil Ledesma



by Kim Day





by Maria Brown





by Sharon Mhyre

Feature

Written tutorials, haikus, and other special stuff

August

Too hot for claying
So I'll plan my next project
Cold drink and Pinterest

Announcements

Special Announcement for September Program



The September program will be extruder canes with Kim Day. Kim will be printing extruder discs on her 3D printer for the program and will be mailing them to registered participants. The extruder discs are 18 mm across and will fit a Makins extruder, or any of the fake Makins fondant extruders. The discs should fit in a standard envelope when mailed. If you want to participate, or just want a set of extruder discs for yourself, you will need to register using this [google form](#). Kim will not be accepting verbal requests. If you need help filling out the form she can help with that, simply send her an email at polymerclay@gmail.com.

In-Person All Day Clay Day



Our next All Day Clay Day will be at Third Place Books Commons on August 18, from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Bring a project, clay or non-clay, that you can safely bring home with you since there will be no oven there. There are nearby restaurants, or you can bring yourself a lunch. Stay for all or part of it, it's always a good time.

Autumn/Winter Guild Party



Our holiday party this year will be an in-person event at Kim's house in Edmonds. We will be decorating clay sugar skulls and/or clay wreaths (your choice of earring or ornament sizes). You are welcome to bring things to share such as petal or leaf canes for the skulls, or other mini decor. There will be an opportunity to RSVP when the date comes closer, along with the dish or type of entree you want to bring for the mini potluck.

The party will be on:

- October 20, 2024
- From 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- at Kim's house in Edmonds.

For any questions, email Kim at polymerclay@gmail.com.

Board Positions and Elections

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



It is with sadness that I announce that the wonderful Cheryl Dixon has stepped down as Guild Secretary.

Cheryl, we appreciate all you've done for the Guild. Your can-do attitude and wonderful energy made planning Clay Camp fun.

The remaining Board members researched the question, and we determined that we have enough right now: a Board of three members is required to be a 501c3 non-profit in Washington. So, at this time, we will not be looking to fill that position. We had new votes for the three remaining positions last year, so there won't be a Guild election this year. That being said, we're always happy if people let us know they're willing to help out, and we will gladly accept all offers, whether it's for a one time event or becoming a Board member.

From the President

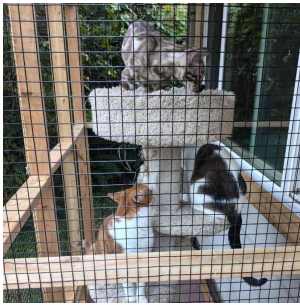
Old Carpets, New Catio & Tiny Hearts

By Kim Day | polymerclay@gmail.com



It's been a busy month! We'll be ripping out the carpet in my clay room in early September, so I've been dedicating a lot of time to packing and sorting my mess. I managed to clear the floor so far, which makes me happy.

The girls, Tayla and Tab, built a wonderful catio, and one of our cats has pretty much been living in it. As a fantastic side benefit because he is no longer meowing for hours to go outside (he would go outside on a leash). The puppy loves our new kitten, and the kitten



likes her a little bit back.



I've been having fun designing and printing clay cutters. I'll be using these cutters to build a supply of earrings for a potential craft show this year or next. But for some reason, right now I'm still stuck on making little tiny hearts with flowers on them.

Still dealing with migraines, but it's so much better than last summer, feels fantastic to be able to make plans again.

Anyways, hope you have some idea that makes you excited to try out in clay!

Much love,

Kim

 Forward

NWPCG website



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