

Fusion

THE ONTARIO
CLAY AND GLASS
ASSOCIATION



Jody Greenman-Barber



Layne Verbeek

ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017

FUSION Board 2016-2017

Current Board

President	Chris Snedden	2015-2017
Past President/Nominations	Barbara Banfield	2015-2017
Secretary	Gene Timpany	2015-2017
Treasurer	Ann Allen	2016-2018
Clay & Glass Show	Christopher Reid Flock	2015-2017
Conference	Ann Allen	2016-2018
Creative Directions	Dianne Lee	2016-2018
Mentorship	Barbara Banfield	2015-2017
Programming & Education	Chris Snedden	2015-2017
Director	Salina Szechtman	2016-2018
Director	Marlene Zagdanski	2016-2018
Executive Director and Bookkeeper	Deborah Freeman	
Office Administrator	Jenanne Longman	



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Front Cover: Fireworks 2017

President's Report

Chris Snedden, President

The FUSION Board, staff and volunteers have worked very hard this year. Our efforts in the form of programs, the web site, E-news, publications, awards, and scholarships continue to provide all who are interested in clay and glass with information, advice, education, and opportunities to exhibit and sell their work.

Last June FUSION hosted five Master potters from Icheon, South Korea to come and present their centuries old decorative techniques to the membership, in a hands on participatory workshop at our annual Conference. Each Conference delegate received a box of blank clay pieces to work on, and a set of tools hand-made by the masters themselves. The masters Yu Yong Chul, Jo Se Un, Lee Hyan Gu, Choi Ing Gu, and Kim Seong Tae set to work demonstrating throwing and decorative techniques that have been traditional in South Korea for millennia. They presented with grace and humour and all the participants went away with something they could take back to their own studio practice.

The 2016 Clay and Glass Show was a resounding success in its second year with its new format and cash awards. The show attracted artists from all over the country to display their work, including a couple of installation pieces, at the Wychwood Barns in Toronto. It was amazing to see the work of top artists from all over Canada gathered, sharing ideas and inspiration.

2016/17 was the inaugural year of Creative Directions, a new program intended to provide guidance to those who wish to progress in style and technical facility within their practice. FUSION contracted Michelle Mendlowitz to lead the group of eager participants through an exploration of personal style and technique. This program has its own blog following the progress of, and profiling each participant. As the year long series of workshops and critique sessions continues, it will culminate in a showing of the participants' work that I am very much looking forward to.

In October of 2016 we ran our second Fall Workshop with great success. Hosted in partnership with the Deep River Potter's Guild, the workshop featured Don Goddard, a master of Shino. Participants enjoyed a full weekend of demonstrations, glazing, critiquing and gas-reduction firing.

The 2017 Winter Workshop with Bryan Hopkins was a great experience, hosted in conjunction with the Mississauga Potters' Guild, who pulled out all the stops to make their guests feel comfortable and at home. Bryan showed us his casting techniques, talked about the properties of various porcelains, and demonstrated the contrasting use of texture in his compositions. He was a generous and excellent presenter and we all learned a lot from him.

We continue to deliver the magazine digitally and to work on improving the content and presentation. The digital world is extremely challenging and we are most appreciative to Derek Chung who continues to provide tremendous support to FUSION for all its design needs.

We truly appreciate our donors for the awards as well as our patrons that continue to come out and support the artists who work so hard to deliver quality handmade goods.

All of these programs have required the work of a dedicated board and staff. I can not thank the following FUSION Board Members enough: Barb Banfield, Past President; Ann Allen, Treasurer and Director of the Conference; Sara Atkins, Director of Workshops; Salina Szechtman, Director at Large; Marlene Zagdanski, Director at Large; Gene Timpany, Secretary; Dianne Lee, Director of Creative Directions; and Christopher Reid Flock, Director of the Clay and Glass Show. Supporting us all is Jenanne Longman, Administrator, and Deborah Freeman, Executive Director and Bookkeeper. These two hard working individuals are the backbone of FUSION. I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone.

FUSION is extremely grateful for the continued support from the Ontario Arts Council, Tucker's Pottery Supplies, Pottery Supply House, Longo's, Potters' Guild of Hamilton and Region, Longo's, Deep River Potters' Guild, Greenrock Charitable Trust, Art Gallery of Burlington, Jenny Rushforth State Farm Agent, Craft Ontario, and all the volunteers that step in throughout the year right across Ontario. Most importantly, we sincerely appreciate all our members. FUSION's Board and staff look forward to another year of continuing to provide programming and support to you. ■

Treasurer's Report

Ann Allen, Director

The Fusion Board has been working hard to generate a balanced budget and to rebuild our operating reserves. We have been making every attempt to ensure that each program organized by FUSION either breaks even or generates a surplus to cover a portion of the overall costs to operate FUSION.

This past fiscal year we were able to generate a surplus of \$10,240. This surplus is mainly due to the success of 2016 Conference, plus each board member working diligently to ensure their program is successful and sustainable. ■

Conference 2016

Chris Snedden, Director

FUSION hosted five Master potters from Icheon, South Korea during its 2016 Conference, June 3-5. Attended by 260 delegates, the Conference was held at the Chestnut Conference Centre in Toronto. The Masters provided us with a weekend of fantastic demonstrations of their throwing and decorating techniques that have been traditional in South Korea for millennia. Delegates all had the chance to practice the techniques on greenware provided to them with tools hand-made by the Masters, which they got to keep.

The mug auction, held annually in conjunction with the Conference, was a resounding success, raising

\$2,800 for the Awards and Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all who donated work and placed bids.

A highlight of the weekend was the reception held at the Gardiner Museum Friday evening to celebrate the work of the masters: Yu Yong Chul, Jo Se Un, Lee Hyan Gu, Choi Ing Gu, and Kim Seong Tae. Overall, everyone had a great time learning and networking.

FUSION would like to thank our Conference sponsors, without whom we could not make it happen: Longo's; Pottery Supply House; Tucker's Pottery Supply; and Jenny Rushforth State Farm Agent. ■

Fall Workshop

Barb Banfield, Director

The 2016 Fall Workshop was held in partnership with the Deep River Potters' Guild, October 22-23. This two-day workshop, entitled "Shino Extravaganza; a glaze of great beauty," was delivered by Don Goddard, one of Canada's most impressive Shino experts.

Participants were instructed to bring their own cone 10 clay pots, which they glazed with Don's recipes, using his techniques and a reduction firing

followed. This workshop also included an evening program presentation and critique session. Participants came away with a set of new glazes, firing profiles and a richer understanding how to achieve dynamic results on interesting forms.

FUSION wishes to thank the members of the Deep River Potters' Guild for hosting this event, and in particular Eva Gallagher, for all the effort she put into making this workshop a great success. ■

Winter Workshop

The 2017 Winter Workshop was held in partnership with the Mississauga Potters' Guild, February 10-12. This two-day workshop was delivered by Bryan Hopkins from the USA.

Friday evening Bryan offered a lively and fun slide presentation on his process of combining slip cast slabs, throwing, surface manipulation and his love of porcelain and its history.

On Saturday and Sunday, Bryan demonstrated his methods of working in porcelain that led him to create a distinct body of work. He shared his love for translucence and surface manipulation while demonstrating his techniques using a combination

of wheel thrown, slab built, and slip-cast parts. He inspired participants with his ideas about designing pots with a monochromatic approach in mind. He discussed his unique perspective on working as a studio potter and what it takes to make a living from the arts.

Bryan lead the group through exercises geared toward finding inspiration through personal exploration of one's own practice. Attendees gained the skills and confidence necessary to explore form, texture, line, and color.

FUSION thanks Longo's for generously providing food for this event. ■

Publications

FUSION Magazine was published with the assistance of Helen Rudin, editor. Derek Chung Communications assumed responsibility for design

of the magazine this year. We hope you are enjoying the updated format and look forward to more changes in the coming year. ■

Schoarship and Awards

Barbara Banfield, Director

FUSION continues to support the Clay and Glass community with its Scholarship and Awards Program. Our mug auction and other fundraising initiatives continue to replenish FUSION's Awards and Scholarship Fund.

Scholarships

Since the mug auction inception in 2010, FUSION has assisted twenty two students and artists in furthering their education.

This year we updated the Scholarship application process to be an entirely on line process. Keith Campbell of North Bay juried the Scholarship Awards for 2016. We had so many wonderful applications, it was not easy to select only two. In his juror comments, Keith stated "... this has been the hardest decision I have had to make in all the jurying duties I have had over the 45 years of my career." Congratulations to all who applied.

The two 2016 scholarships recipients were:

Jerre Davidson (glass)
Stephanie Flowers (clay)

Design Awards

Every year, our Guild Members take advantage of being able to offer a FUSION Design Award to an artist in their juried exhibitions. This year's winners were:

Frances Ward:	Burlington Potters' Guild
Hannah Pruder:	London Potters Guild
Robert Cheong:	Mississauga Potters' Guild
Puck Janes:	Ottawa Guild of Potters
LeeAnn Janissen:	Toronto Potters Association
Eekta Trienekens:	Waterloo Potters' Workshop
Karla Rivera:	Potters' Guild of Hamilton and Region

Student Awards

This year, FUSION was pleased to provide six awards for the 2016 graduating classes for glass and ceramics students at Sheridan College. The awards type were as follows:

- Technical Achievement Award: \$250 + 1-year FUSION membership + ticket to FUSION's annual conference;

- Community Involvement Award: 1-year FUSION membership + ticket to FUSION's annual conference; and
- Award of Merit: 1-year FUSION membership.

2016 Recipients:

FUSION Technical Achievement Award (ceramics):
Gracia Isabel Gomez

FUSION Community Involvement Award (ceramics):
Amanda Kopas

FUSION Award of Merit (ceramics):
Andrew Pierce

FUSION Technical Achievement Award (glass):
Collin Walsh

FUSION Community Involvement Award (glass):
Eric Di Mascio

FUSION Award of Merit (glass):
Phebe Leung

Volunteer of the Year Awards

Fusion is very grateful for the support it gets every year from its members to help us deliver numerous programs and workshops. For the year of 2016 we acknowledged the following volunteers for their outstanding commitment.

Barbara Rose
Gary De Roche
Karla Rivera
Shelagh Mirski

Clay & Glass Show Awards

FUSION was very pleased to present the following awards of excellence at the 2016 Clay and Glass Show:

Best in Show \$1,000: Lesley McNally
Best in Ceramics \$500: Carolyann Bloomer
Best in Glass \$500: Courtney Downman

The following generous donors made these awards possible:

The Greenrock Charitable Trust
Bill Poole
Shane Norrie. ■

Creative Directions

Diane Lee, Director

In the fall of 2016, FUSION launched Creative Directions. Creative Directions has been designed to meet the needs of ceramic artists with several years of experience and who have achieved a reasonable level of competency. It grew out of requests for a more hands-on approach to strengthen and expand skill bases, and take members artistic practise to new levels.

Creative Directions is an 18-month long program that develops new professional relationships, critical thinking, sourcing and resolving new ideas and provides participants the opportunity to exhibit their work publicly.

Through a series of hands-on, day long workshops and critiques participants were encouraged to practice new techniques, take creative risks, open their work and ideas to group discussions, research new ideas and work towards the exhibition.

Creative Directions is unique in that it is the only extended educational program for intermediate artists to expand their work both technically and conceptually. The program is unique in its structure, which combines demonstrations and hands-on learning, with group discussion, feedback, and self-critique.

Fifteen participants were selected to take part in the program from twenty applicants, and they met eight times. Their meetings were split into four workshop and four critique days and split between the Visual Arts Centre of Clarington, the Artisan Centre Peterborough and the studios of the Kawartha Potters' Guild. The group was lead by Michelle Mendlowitz who provided the expertise for the program.

In the summer of 2017 an exhibition to conclude the program will take place August 17 - September 10. In preparation for the exhibition participants are undertaking several activities including: producing several well resolved pieces of work; professional photographs of the work; and artist statements. For many participants the exhibition will be their first opportunity to partake in a curated exhibition.

FUSION would like to acknowledge funding support for Creative Directions from the Ontario Arts Council (program grant) and the Potters' Guild of Hamilton and Region. FUSION would also like to thank the Visual Arts Centre of Clarington, Kawartha Potters' Guild and the Artisans Centre Peterborough for their support with Creative Directions. ■

Clay and Glass Show

Christopher Reid Flock, Director

The 2016 Clay and Glass Show was held at the Wychwood Barns in Toronto, October 14-16. Once again, 36 invited and juried artists participated. The show provided participants with a 6'x6' space in which to display their work. New this year was the introduction of installation spaces and emerging artist 3'x6' spaces.

Juried participants and award winners were selected by Alan Elder of the Canadian Museum of History.

The event lunched with a wonderful reception and awards ceremony. FUSION thanks Gay Longo, of

Longo's, and Sleeman Breweries for their very generous opening reception donations of food and beer respectively.

FUSION extends a huge thank you to our award donors: The Greenrock Charitable Trust, Bill Poole, and Shane Norrie.

The 2016 Clay and Glass Show award winners were:

Best in Show \$1,000:	Lesley McInally
Best in Ceramics \$500:	Carolynn Bloomer
Best in Glass \$500:	Courtney Downman ■

**FUSION: THE ONTARIO CLAY AND GLASS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Chestnut Centre, University of Toronto
Toronto, ON
June 4, 2016**

1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

President Barbara Banfield called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm and welcomed conference delegates and thanked board members for all their continued work and dedication to FUSION.

Board members who were present and introduced:

Vice President, Director of Education and Programs: Chris Snedden

Secretary and Director of Communications: Gene Timpany

Treasurer and Director of Conference: Ann Allen

Director of Membership and Guild Engagement: Jenny Rushforth

Director of Workshops: Sara Atkins

Director at Large: Jen Leis

Staff present and introduced:

Executive Director: Deborah Freeman

Office Administrator: Jenanne Longman

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: June 6, 2015

June 6, 2015, Mohawk College, ON
Barb asked for additions or correction to the June 6, 2016 AGM minutes. None were given.

MOTION: Maureen Geraghty moved and Alison Brannen seconded that the minutes for the Annual General Meeting of June 6, 2015 be accepted as circulated.

Motion carried

3. ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

Board of director reports were presented. Please see attached annual report.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Ann Allen presented the financial report and the audited financial statements.

MOTION: Gary DeRoche moved and Jennifer Assinck seconded to accept the financial report as submitted.
Motion carried

5. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Slate of Nominees

Ann Allen – re-election

Dianne Lee

Stephen St. Amant

Salina Szechtman

Marlene Zagdanski

MOTION: Judy Donaldson moved and Christie Gruppe seconded that the slate of nominees as listed be elected to the FUSION Board of Directors for a two-year term.

Motion carried

6. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR

MOTION: Duncan Aird moved and Ann Allen seconded that the firm of Jeffery D. Milgram, Professional Corporation be appointed to audit the accounts of the Association for fiscal 2016-17.

Motion carried

7. Membership Rates

MOTION: Gary DeRoche motioned and Carol Rossman seconded that all membership category fees be increased by \$10 per year as of July 1, 2016.

Motion carried

As a result, the new fee schedule would be:

Regular Members – one-year \$ 75

Regular Members – two-year \$ 130

Members of Affiliated Societies – one-year \$ 70

Members of Affiliated Societies – two-year \$ 120

Senior Members – one-year \$ 50

Senior Members – two-year \$ 80

Student Members – one-year \$ 40

Student Members – two-year \$ 65

Family or Group Members – one-year \$ 95

Family or Group Members – two-year \$ 170

Affiliated Society and Co-operating Institution – one-year \$ 95

Affiliated Society and Co-operating Institution – two-year \$ 170

Outside of Canada – one-year \$ 95

Outside of Canada – two-year \$ 170

8. Outside Canada membership Rates

MOTION: Jennifer Assinck motioned and Margaret Showalter seconded that the “Outside of Canada” membership rate be the same as the “Regular Member” rate as of July 1, 2016.

Motion carried

9. Family/Group Membership Category Removal

MOTION: Ann Allen motioned and Kathy Matsushita seconded that the “Family or Group” membership category, as defined in the FUSION by-laws, Section 14, clause 3 be removed from the types of membership as of July 1, 2016.

Motion carried

10. New Business

Barbara Banfield presented Volunteer of the Year Awards to:

Shelagh Mirski

Barbara Rose

Gary DeRoche

Karla Rivera

11. Adjournment

Judy Donaldson motioned and Iris Dorton seconded that the Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried.

Acknowledgements

FUSION gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following generous supporters:



Derek Chung Communications
Gardiner Museum
Art Gallery of Burlington
Deep River Potters' Guild
Visual Arts Centre of Clarington
Kawartha Potters' Guild
Artisans Centre Peterborough
Greenrock Charitable Trust
Bill Poole
Shane Norrie