

Creative Directions

Call for Application

FUSION: The Ontario Clay and Glass Association is proud to announce the launch of Creative Directions, a new and exciting program for potters and sculptors who have several years of clay experience. This extended workshop is for those who have achieved a reasonable level of competency and are now looking to take their ceramic practice to the next level.

Designed for wheel workers, hand builders or sculptors, Creative Directions will expand your technical skills, help you develop critical thinking and build confidence. Participants will be encouraged to research ideas, explore materials and take creative risks.

You will work towards developing a body of work for a final group exhibition. Running from September 2016 to fall 2017, this program will include:

- ◆ four full day hands-on workshops with demonstrations and time for practice, skills development and feedback;
- ◆ four full days of discussion and critiques with the instructor and group as you develop your ideas and work; and
- ◆ a final group exhibition.

During the program the instructor will work with you to identify personal goals and needs to:

- ◆ enhance your technical skills base;
- ◆ develop a sense of critical thinking;
- ◆ assist you in creating an artist statement;
- ◆ source, develop and resolve new ideas;
- ◆ work towards creating a personal aesthetic; and
- ◆ generate work for a final group exhibition.



Artist and educator Michelle Mendlowitz will be leading this innovative program. Michelle holds a Bachelor of Design from the OCAD University. For over ten years she has been maintaining an active studio practice and teaching. Michelle regularly participates in group exhibitions, winning awards and grants, most notably: *Best in Ceramics* at the Toronto Outdoor Exhibition (2011, 2013), and an Ontario Arts Council Grant. She is represented by several of Canada's leading galleries.

Michelle's work consists of both functional and sculptural objects. She is drawn to clay for its expressive nature as well as its ability to create utility. As an artist she is intrigued by layers and as a maker, process plays an important role in her work. Each working stage increases the depth of information and each action leaves its mark. The forms created are derived from landscapes and borrowed elements from nature, architecture and the human form.



Applications are due June 10, 2016.

In collaboration with FUSION, Michelle Mendlowitz will choose a maximum of 15 participants for the group. Participants will be notified of decisions via email by June 28, 2016. The workshop fee for the 8 full-day sessions and final exhibition is \$565.00 (includes HST); due by August 2, 2016.

The hands-on workshops will take place at the Kawartha Potters' Guild in Peterborough. The balance of the meetings will take place at the Clarington Visual Arts Centre in Bowmanville.

Suitable candidates should:

- ◆ have had some instruction and have a level of comfort working with clay;
- ◆ have access to a studio space and a kiln to finish their work;
- ◆ be willing to make a commitment to learning new skills, making work, taking risks and having fun;
- ◆ be prepared to engage in conversation about your work, be open to ideas, set goals and begin the process of researching and writing about your work; and
- ◆ be a member of FUSION to apply and throughout the duration of the program.

This process is intended to take place with support and guidance. Developing new ideas and a body of work is an exciting learning process.

To apply, please submit:

1. A letter of intent briefly outlining (max. 500 words):
 - ◆ your experience with clay;
 - ◆ why you are applying; and
 - ◆ what your goals would be.
2. 10 jpeg images 300 dpi images with a list of information stating: i) title; i) medium; iii) size; and iv) date.

Send your letter of intent and 10 images on a CD/DVD via mail to:

FUSION
1444 Queen St E, Toronto ON M4L 1E1

Or upload your letter of intent and 10 images to a DropBox folder and share the folder with fusion@clayandglass.on.ca.



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