

Ceramics Guild

what is it?

The Ceramics Guild of LACS is a unique place for both beginners and professional potters to work and learn from each other. With a current membership limited to 36, we have a fully equipped studio including six kilns (three electric kilns, a test kiln, an outdoor raku kiln, and a 28 cu ft gas kiln). We fire in reduction and oxidation up to cone 10.

Throughout the year, we offer workshops, ongoing adult and teen classes, and opportunities for members to exhibit and sell their work. Our guild is proud to host the bi-annual State of Clay show, a juried exhibition of ceramics from artists who live or have lived in Massachusetts.

As spots open, the Ceramics Guild accepts new members who have successfully completed a six-month prospective period during which they become familiar with the studio and develop and/or demonstrate competencies in firing, glazing and safety.

As a fully volunteer cooperative, Ceramics Guild members are assigned jobs and are expected to participate actively in guild operation and governance.



what's in it for you?

- Use a fully equipped ceramics studio with communal supplies of chemicals, equipment, and glazes. Guild members have daily access to the studio except during classes.
- Store your tools and materials in an individual in-studio storage space.
- Exhibit your work and offer it for sale in the spacious Parsons Gallery during the Guild's Annual Exhibition and other invitational exhibits, as well as in other locations.
- Sell your work in the summer Artisans Market and the December Holiday Marketplace* as well as in the Back Door Gallery.
- Automatically receive membership in NARM, North American Reciprocal Museums, which offers benefits such as free admission and member discounts at museum shops at over 600 museums in the U.S., over 30 in Massachusetts.**
- Receive discounts on classes and workshops.
- Receive discounts at quality retailers and benefit from group ordering by the Ceramics Guild.
- Increase exposure of your art through the LACS website and social media.
- Participate in Lexington Open Studios at LACS.
- Receive Society and Guild newsletters with updated information on our programs, shows and events.‡
- Access Guild and Society libraries and resources.‡
- Be invited, along with a guest, to attend the popular Holiday Marketplace Preview Party and advance sale.
- Make lasting friendships with other artists who share your enthusiasm and desire to explore a variety of techniques and materials.

*Dependent upon submitting work for sale in the Fall Fair fundraiser.

**NARM benefit with full-year, non-discounted Society membership.

‡Not all Guilds have newsletter and library.



what would your part be?

- Fulfill shared responsibilities in maintaining an active communal studio. In addition to these shared tasks, such as keeping the studio clean and making glazes, guild-specific jobs are assigned on a rotating basis, for example overseeing maintenance of the electric kilns or managing the guild's participation in a particular sale.
- Fulfill shared responsibilities in the operation of the Society, for example, chair or serve on a committee, help with clerical tasks, plan and stage events, and staff the gallery during shows.
- Participate with work for sale or make a cash contribution to support the Fall Fair, our primary fundraiser.
- Help out with the Holiday Marketplace.
- Meet annual Society and Guild membership dues.

Fired pots ready to unload from the guild's gas kiln.

what to do next?

Ceramics Guild membership is open to adults with some previous experience in working with clay. They may be experienced potters or have taken classes offered by the guild. Since the number of members is limited, guild membership openings depend on turnover. When a slot opens, an applicant is invited to become a "prospective member" for six months, during which they become familiar with the studio and develop and/or demonstrate competencies in firing, glazing and safety. Prospective members are free to work in the studio as long as a full member of the guild is present to supervise them. The guild then votes on whether to admit the applicant. If accepted, they receive a key to the studio and become a full member of the guild.



Artwork by: Lainie Dearden

To apply for membership in the Ceramics Guild and LACS:

- Indicate interest in joining the Ceramics Guild.
- A representative of the guild will contact you to discuss the joining process.
- There are Prospective Guild Member and full Guild Member stages of joining, with different levels of dues.
- You may become a Society Sustaining Member while on the waiting list.

For more information contact:

781-862-9696

lacs.lexington@verizon.net

or email the guild at CeramicsGuild@LACSMA.org