



The Dish

Issued June 2019

www.nspotters.com

nspottersguild@gmail.com

Year 2018-19

CO-Presidents' Message

Hello Potters and other Clay Enthusiasts,

The AGM of the Nova Scotia Potters' Guild was held at the Findlay Community Centre, 26 Elliot St, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 2X7 on 31 March 2018. There was a table set up for Swap and Give supplies and another with delicious potluck offerings. Thanks to everyone for helping to keep the meeting moving.

There have been some changes in your NS Potters Executive since the AGM at the end of March.

At the AGM Sheri White was elected to the Executive and took on the position of Treasurer, while Andrea Puczkar, also elected to the Executive, took on the Secretary's position.

Here's what happened: At our Executive meeting, Erin Wells stepped down. So we have done some restructuring and the following changes occurred:

Now **Sheri White** has volunteered to take on the challenge of Website Designer and Social Media Coordinator. Thank you Sheri. We have appointed **Liz Brownrigg** as Acting Treasurer. Welcome Liz and thank you.

We want to extend our sincere thanks to Erin for all that she has contributed to the website development since 2016. We will miss her on the Board and wish her all the best.

We are excited by these new developments and your re-energized Executive looks forward to working together to provide even more and better opportunities for our membership.

Happy potting!

Sharon Fiske and Judy Gordon, Co-presidents

Check out www.nspotters.com

You will see further info on whom and how to contact as there will be changes on the website to make contacting the right person easier. There is lots of information on all of the exciting upcoming NSPG events and members events and more, on the website. In fact if you want to keep up with our vibrant clay community, this website is a must see and explore place.

For past "The Dish" issues including 2017-2018 go to: <https://www.nspotters.com/the-dish-20172018>

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Birds and The Bees entry info and Feedback Feast TIME SENSITIVE!!!

Buzzing about The Birds and The Bees

Feedback Feast



Feedback

A great opportunity to get together and discuss your ideas and projects for the upcoming Nova Scotia Potters Guild Exhibition The Birds and The Bees at The Craig Gallery.

Bring your work, sketches, or ideas about what you want to submit for the show and discuss it with your peers. We can talk about concept, techniques, materials, or anything else that has you guessing.

A great chance to brainstorm, support each other, and gain or give inspiration!

Feast

Bring a dish to share with others (please include ingredients for allergies and sensitivities). Bring your own dish to eat out of, utensils, and cup - to lessen the clean-up of our hosts.

Seastar Pottery

Iris Patterson
386 Causeway Rd, Seaforth
902 827-3747

R.S.V.P. seastarpottery@gmail.com

Sunday May 26th
1:00-4:00

Thrown Together Pottery

Danielle Sawada
37 King Street, Truro
902 895-9309

R.S.V.P. throwntogether@ns.sympatico.ca

Saturday June 22nd
1:00-4:00

Deadline for submissions to The Birds and The Bees is July 1st

See the full call for entry at:

<https://www.nspotters.com/the-birds-and-the-bees-call-for-entry>

Questions? Contact the Exhibition Committee (please do not contact The Craig Gallery)

Jennifer Houghtaling jenniferhoughtaling@gmail.com

Shauna MacLeod shauna.a.macleod@gmail.com

Mindy Moore mmoore@eastlink.ca

Iris Patterson seastarpottery@gmail.com

The Birds and The Bees estimated Calendar

Exhibition opening September 11, 2019

Deadline for submission and entry fees July 1, 2019

Jurors given entries to assess and select works July 15, 2019

Deadline for Jury to submit decisions August 5, 2019

Notification of selected works begins August 9, 2019

Delivery of work to designated location(s)
Exhibition installation
Opening reception
Exhibition closes
Tear down and pick-up of work

September 4, 2019
September 10, 2019
September 11, 2019
To be announced
To be announced

MEMBER'S WORK, SHOWS AND NEWS

Mary Jane Lundy went before the Standards Committee of Craft Nova Scotia on May 3rd, 2019 and successfully completed the Master Artisan assessment process, recognizing my stunning craftsmanship and extensive body of work . The Committee is delighted and welcomes me as the newest Master Artisan of Craft Nova Scotia. She is so delighted to receive this new title.

Shauna MacLeod

Inspired by artist Chihuly's glass sculpture installations in botanical gardens, I wondered how I could have my ceramic art collaborate with nature. I created these large, fantastical flowers using a variety of brightly coloured glazes, to be placed among greenery, trees, and flowers. I wanted the work to be obviously not real but yet appear to be in place beside the natural plants. These 38 flowers were part of Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens 2018 outdoor art sculpture installation.

Shauna MacLeod
Black Crow Pottery
www.blackcrowpottery.ca
902-225-7582





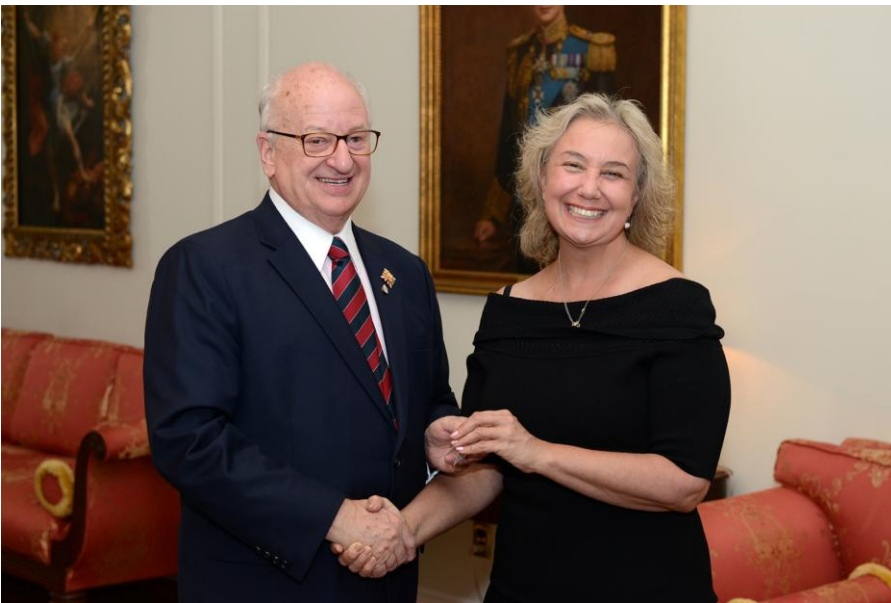
Condolences on the Passing of Dr. Sandra Alfoldy

Sadly, Dr. Sandra Alfoldy, one of our esteemed jurors for “QUAFF; to drink deeply”, passed away on February 24, 2019.

An esteemed and cherished colleague Sandra was a most vital professor and mentor at NSCAD University. Her research in craft history was unique and established her as a leading academic authority in craft scholarship.

Her commitment to craft, to the NSCAD Craft Institute, that she co-founded with Prof. Gary Markle and Prof. Rory MacDonald, and her most recent international research curatorial and commissioning project, responding to the dominant history of the Great Exhibition of 1851 from the vantage point of the Commonwealth, will be sorely missed.

Sandra’s boundless energy, laugh, and love of working with students was truly inspirational. We invite you to remember and honour Sandra, by helping future students continue her intellectual legacy through the establishment of the Dr. Sandra Alfoldy Memorial Scholarships, in her memory. Your financial support will help students pursue and continue their studies and contribute to and continue work in craft history and media. To donate go to this website: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/40455>



Homesick by Shauna MacLeod was a series of six large vessels based on the historical Moon Jar form. The body of work explored a sense of home, connectedness, and permanence. They represent a moment in which a number of close family and friends moved away within a three-month period. I created one moon jar for each person with whom I had become disconnected from geographically and one for myself. I confronted and resolved feelings of pain, sorrow, and abandonment with the vast emptiness of the voluminous jars as a symbol of my emotional journey.

The jars were made from Nova Scotia red earthenware clay which strongly connects me to not only the vessels but to my own home. I had my family and friends collect dirt, soil, and rocks from their travelled destinations and I processed it to be added to the glaze. Dirt came from New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Germany. I wanted to create a permanent record of the connection with these five people, the lands we live, and a moment in time.

This investigation of surface and form allowed me to not only challenge myself artistically and technically but allowed me to process the experience. The approach of creating the moon jar is complex and specific; the result, however understated, conveys a simple beauty for the viewer. This body of work is a continuance of the theme within my previous work exploring connections between the experience of wounds -- emotional or physical -- and the journey of healing.



Alexandra McCurdy was invited to be one of four jurors for the 2018 Governor General's Bronfman Award last November. If anyone is interested in hearing about what she learned during that process, do contact her.

Her work has been juried into the Korean Foundation's International Competition of the Gyeonggi International Ceramic Bienalle 2019

She also has a piece juried into the Marion McCain exhibition of Atlantic Art at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery this coming fall. The curator is Tom Smart, who has written books on Alex Colville and Mary Pratt, and is the new chief curator at the gallery. This piece, called Black Box with Shells, is made of porcelain.



She also has work purchased for the Art Bank of Nova Scotia this year, called Polka Dot Covered Jar and Bowl.



WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW



Philip Hodges Marla Benton Patricia Lindley

Working the Waterfront

May 8 - June 21

The Sunroom - Halifax Central Library
5th Floor, 5440 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Opening Reception May 9, 5-7 pm



3. Tunnel Vision

By Marla Benton

Lift me up and look through me.
This sculpture installation requires you to swivel the tubes and peer through them towards the distant and ever-changing landscape. Each tube will give you a different focal point.

This installation is sponsored by
Domaine de Grand Pre
www.grandprewines.ns.ca

uncommon common art
locate additional installations at www.uncommoncommonart.com
or download the Otocast App for an interactive tour

Otocast I C I



Opening & Receptions
at
LUNENBURG ART GALLERY
194 B LINCOLN STREET, LUNENBURG, NOVA SCOTIA

Artists will be present for receptions on:
Tuesday, May 29th at 5pm & Saturday, June 2 at 2pm

coordinates

44.3774, -64.3117

Featuring Artists:
Maria Benton – Philip Hodges – Patricia Lindley

May 29 – June 24, 2018



Street Sign Flower Brick

Coordinates: Sculptural Show

This show is based on 12 different GPS coordinates around Lunenburg, NS. All three artists involved, myself, Patricia Lindley & Philip Hodges, all went to the locations, gathered photos and inspiration. Separately, we all created our own pieces of art for each location. The pieces are displayed by GPS coordinate.

Marla

Coordinates is a three artist show. Each artist works in a different medium: Philip Hodges in acrylics, Patricia Langley in pastels and myself in clay. Twelve GPS coordinates were chosen around Lunenburg & Blue Rocks. The artist, by themselves, visited each coordinate site and chose something to create a piece of art from. Some pieces are literal representations of landscape, seascape, buildings or objects found on site.

My pieces are mostly conceptual pieces inspired from each location. I have created 12 different sculptures. I worked with 7 different clay bodies and fired to both cone 06 & cone 6 temperatures. I used a variety of clays depending on the piece and it's construction, as well as the desired aesthetic I was attempting to achieve with the surface decoration.

The Show will be opening May 29 at 5pm and stay up until June 24.

Nocturne 2018

www.marlabenton.com



WHAT HAPPENED IN 2018

TOUCHSTONE MAKING FOR QUAFF IN NORTH PRESTON-approx. 250 pieces, SO MUCH FUN!!





QUAFF – To Drink Deeply!

- submitted by Gerri Frager

As an NSPG membership survey had expressed a member exhibition as a top priority, QUAFF was conceived. Sharon Fiske, Gerri Frager, Shauna MacLeod, and Nancy Roberts served as the QUAFF Committee.

The show ran from September 20-October 24, 2018. As Government House is not a Gallery or typical venue for an arts exhibition, QUAFF had many moving parts. We needed plinths and extra shelving for our displays, volunteer gallery sitters, people to help set up the show and take it down. Thanks are acknowledged in the Minutes of the NSPG's March 31, 2019 AGM and will not be repeated here. Toni Losey's work graced the promo posters, designed by Sharon Ward.

A total of 50 pieces were submitted by 42 individuals thoughtfully judged in a blinded process by Louise Pentz, Mariko Patterson and Sandra Alföldy. Brandt Eisner did a brilliant job staging the show.



The Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc and his wife Patsy hosted the NSPG, showcasing QUAFF for an Evening At Government House on October 2, 2018.

Approximately 100 people were invited with NSPG submitting names for a portion of attendees. The Programme for the Evening included an image of Beverlee Beaudet's raku-fired "*Blessed are the Water Carriers: For There Will be No Thirst*" (shown here - photo by John Driemen). Presenters included Shauna MacLeod, Sandra Alföldy, Karen Robinson, and Gerri Frager, with the presentations taped for Eastlink Community Television.

At another Government House event, NSPG was again hosted on Oct 17, 2018 by their Honours at a Reception with Judy Gordon presenting on behalf of our guild,

QUAFF
...to drink deeply...
presented by the Nova Scotia Potters Guild

September 20-October 27, 2018

Exhibition Hours
Tuesdays 11-4; Sept 25 and 11-2; Oct 16
Thursdays 11-8; Sept 20, 27; Oct 11, 18
Saturdays 11-4; Sept 22; Oct 6, 20, 27
Sunday 11-4; Oct 7
Nocturne, October 13: 6-midnight
Check nspotters.com for schedule changes.

Government House
1451 Barrington Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia

followed by wonderful treats served with tea and coffee, again a limited number of invitees with a portion requested by NSPG to be on the invite list.

A real highlight was NSPG at Government House for Nocturne. On October 13, 2018 more than 2800 people saw 10 of our members demonstrating throwing on the wheel and hand building in the Ballroom. Truly a 1st for GH and for us! Here's Elizabeth Sircom with her sculpture demo.



...and Amy Noel and Susan Guppy at the wheel-throwing demo station.



Here's our co-pres Judy Gordon, re-enacting everyone's favourite scene from Ghost with a delighted Nocturne visitor.



Everyone visiting was offered a bisque-fired touchstone (> 3000 touchstones made by 11 individuals and 3 groups).

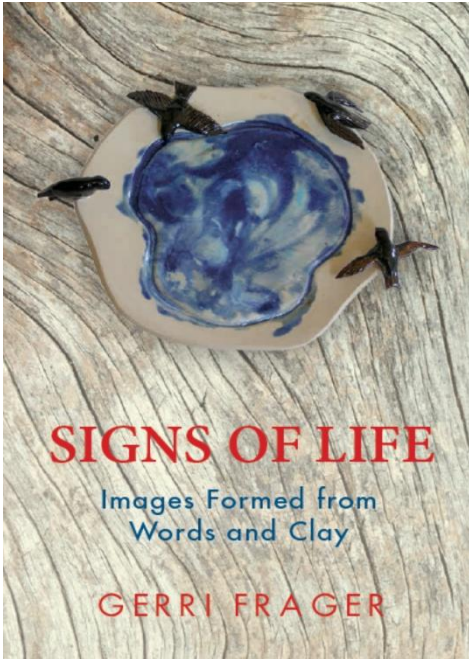
Every visitor was given a ballot to vote on their favourite piece, which Sharon Fiske won as the overall People's Choice Award. With nearly 2500 ballots (counted by Iris Patterson), the lead was narrow with the top five pieces made by: Denise Aspinal, Iris Patterson, Sharon Fiske, MJ Lundy and Gerri Frager. All of the works from QUAFF can be seen on our website www.nspotters.com

QUAFF had a terrific write-up in the Chronicle Herald by Elissa Barnard, coverage in numerous newspapers across the province and was featured on CBC TV.

We were very sad to hear that one of our valued QUAFF jurors and co-presenters, Sandra Alfody, died from cancer that, although invasive, never seemed to erode her notable presence or great sense of spirit.



Gerri Frager



Press in 2018. This 96 page full-colour paperback is a collection of 39 pieces of my pottery, each a companion to my poems, finding resonance in one another and the viewer. A glossary is included of pottery terms and descriptions of the various steps in the process of making pots.

I've enjoyed doing readings and talking about the pottery that accompany the poems at several venues including the Halifax Central Library, Musquodoboit Harbour Library, and Sheet Harbour Library.

Available for sale on-line and at any bookstore (ISBN # 978-1-988286-41-9), my proceeds from book sales are donated to:

- * Potters for Peace, ensures safe drinking water through ceramic vessels to those without access pottersforpeace.org
- * Refugee Emergency Fund through ISANS (Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia)

I presented at a Humanities Conference at Dalhousie University. The moderator of the session is an editor for the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ). She asked if I would submit several new poems and pottery to be considered for publication in CMAJ. I'm delighted to say all 3 of images of my pottery (created specifically for the new poems) were published with the poems in the CMAJ this year.



This is an example of one of the pieces, "Portage, that accompanies a poem of the same name.

PORTAGE

large hand-built platter & canoe of speckled white & coloured stoneware (stain wedged into clay), impressed with grasses, carved, underglazes + glazed, fired to Cone 6

PORTAGE

skilled with
wood
water and
the ways of people

I wish you

your wrongs righted
your lost arrowheads returned
to you
solid & soothing in your palm
whispering their ancient history
a comforting review of a solid past

I wish you could be
crafted back to an enduring smoothness
like the rocks in the river
you love so well

To have the hard edges of pain
cleanly carved away
One sharp blade through cedar
exposing a heart of good and golden wood

If not. then
I wish for you, the gift
of a portage
a clean divide from one thing
to another
Let the turbulent waters
find their own home

Leave behind the
well-tilled soil
Let wind and time
weather the swaying grasses
to an indiscernable powder

Travel sure and safe
Bringing only what nourishes
your heart and soul

Move on to
where fresh waters are ready
to cradle and carry you
forward in celebration of
a new beginning

THIS WAS A SPECIAL SEPTEMBER 2018 EVENT:

Seeking donated pottery bowls for fundraiser in Berwick, NS.

We are assisting the high school students below to gather donated pottery bowls for this **Sept. 22, 2018** event. They have done all the other leg-work themselves (sponsorship for the Hall, food, advertising) but getting the actual bowls is where we are stepping in to help. We hope to gather approximately 200 bowls for this inaugural event and would be happy to come to you to pick up if you have any pieces you'd be willing to donate to this cause.

Pick up was by September 1, 2018 if possible and the contacts were:

Meg Raven, Two Rivers Pottery, Black Rock, NS: 902-538-9574 megraven@gmail.com
Joceline Doucette, Berwick, NS: 902-538-0203 jbmd@eastlink.ca

The students wrote:

We are save R neighbors. Our group's goal is to raise \$3000 to contribute to the Berwick Food Bank, the Berwick Library and Open Arms: \$1000 going to each.

We are very passionate about change in our community so we are raising money to help the environment that people from our community live in.

The next project we've envisioned is a pottery sale with a twist. In concept, community members will join us at our venue, pay a sum of 20\$ and receive a bowl of their choice, crafted by local potters. A small meal will be provided for the guests as well as live entertainment.

Our goal is to have approximately 200 members of the community attend. We would appreciate if you could provide us with pottery as a donation to help us out. We are partnering with S.O.U.P and plan to host this event on September 22, 2018 at the Berwick Lions Hall.

Thanks!

Samuel Doucette
Joshua van Nostrand
Destiny Bartlett

Reach us at:

Email: saveRneighbors@gmail.com

Phone: (902) 538-0203 (Sam Doucette)

Facebook: save R neighbors

Le français suit

**Media Release
April 20, 2018
Halifax, NS**

Shauna MacLeod named as the 2018 Artist-in-Residence at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21



The Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 is delighted to welcome Shauna MacLeod as their Artist-in-Residence for 2018. Shauna's work is inspired by *Refuge Canada*, a new temporary exhibition in the Museum's Ralph and Rose Chiodo Gallery, running until November 11, 2018. *Refuge Canada* explores the themes of life before, fear, displacement, refuge and life in Canada.

Shauna MacLeod is a NSCAD graduate who has been working as a studio potter since 2012. She is one of a handful of ceramic artists working with Nova Scotia red earthenware clay. During her summer residency at the Museum, she will produce approximately 300 single-serve bowls to be

given to newcomer refugees upon their arrival in HRM. The beautiful bowls will allow recipients to set up their new homes with a gift, hand-made expressly for them with care and consideration. As Shauna explains, "using the local clay strongly connects me to the objects I make, and my intent is that the newcomers receiving these gifts will feel the connection to the land the clay comes from as well as the larger community."

Quick Facts

- The Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21's Artist-in-Residence program allows an artist to create new work that contributes to the Museum's mandate while advancing their art practice.
- Shauna MacLeod will be the Museum's third Artist-in-Residence from May to October 2018. The compensation for this six month program is \$15,000.
- For the project, Shauna will be creating approximately 300 clay bowls to be distributed to newcomer refugees by ISANS.
- The clay required for this project will be donated by Shaw Brick, the additives will be donated by Tuckers Pottery and the oven baked china paints will be donated by DeSerres.

Quotes

"Refuge Canada shares the stories of people who came to Canada under the most difficult of circumstances. Often without choice or agency, refugees arriving in Canada have persevered, established new lives and greatly contributed to their new home. We are humbled by being able to facilitate this project which will result in those who arrive in HRM in late 2018 and 2019 being given a personal gift of welcome from the Museum and the artist." -Marie Chapman, CEO, Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

"What could be more personal, giving, inviting, and loving than providing hand-made bowls to share. Bowls represent comfort, health, sharing, and sustenance. All things that we can hope the newcomers will find in their new home. I am honoured to be involved in providing them with that bit of comfort and having the bowls represent a joyous beginning of a relationship with their new community." -Shauna MacLeod, Artist-in-Residence, Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

Media Contact

Please contact to schedule an interview with Shauna MacLeod.

Beatrice Houston Gilfoy, Communications Specialist
Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21
Telephone: (902) 425-7770 ext. 264 C : (902) 430-3986
bhouston-gilfoy@pier21.ca

About the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

[The Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21](#) collects, shares and pays tribute to the Canadian immigration story. The Museum is situated in

Halifax, Nova Scotia at Pier 21, the National Historic Site that served as the gateway to Canada for nearly one million immigrants between 1928 and 1971. Today, the Museum shares the stories and experiences of all immigrants to Canada, past to present day. The Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 enhances public understanding of the experiences of immigrants to Canada, highlights the vital role immigration has played in the building of our country and the contributions of immigrants to Canada's culture, economy and way of life. It is Canada's sixth national museum and the only one located in Atlantic Canada.

Steve Peters Show, May 2018, his invitation



Dear friends,

You are warmly invited to an open house at my studio on Sunday May 27, from 2 – 5 PM. I wanted to share my output for the last two years, now hanging on the studio walls, before I start to take things down. I hope you can make it!

Best regards,

Steven Peters
[38 Albion Road](mailto:38AlbionRoad@eastlink.ca)
[Halifax, NS B3P 1P7](mailto:Halifax,NSB3P1P7@eastlink.ca)

902-475-3773
www.stevenpeters.ca

Vaughan Smith <vsmithpots@eastlink.ca> announced his May 2018 show

All is ready, the food from the bakery will be terrific, made by Gael. The music by Pennybrook will be, as always very special. The free 100 planters are out and the half price bowls for the Firehouse fundraiser are on display. All we need now are lots of people, or we will get very fat.

Update on the opening Saturday in LaHave. The sign iron work is from the old Rissers Country store that burned down, refurbished by Tim Bolivar blacksmith. The cornices and bird houses are reproduced exactly as the old building that was demolished in 1994. Inside we have the old light fixtures from a local church that was torn down. The building is made from real wood clapboard and shingles with wood trim that will go gray with age. Inside it is rough cut spruce trim lightly sanded to preserve the texture and discolour of aged wood.

The opening is Saturday at 5pm featuring a fund raiser for the firehouse "Soup and a Roll and a Half Price Bowl". The first 100 visitors will also get a free planter.





Amy Noel of Wabi Scotia Pottery and Erin Wells from the North Preston Community Centre hosted an event to get together and review our submissions for Quaff. Quipping about Quaffing was held at the Good Robot on April 28, 2018 and was a great chance to meet fellow potters over some craft beer shared in handmade mugs!

And that's a brief view of some of the events of the 2018-2019 year in our pottery community here in Nova Scotia.

To wind up The Dish for this year here are a few wise sayings and a useful tip:

Brother Thomas (Thomas Bezanson) 1929-2007 in Creating Out of Clay:

“Work on your Art and just keep working on it, until the light of your spirit shines through.”
 “Risking and dreaming are primary arts of creativity.”

Walter Ostrom:

“Leave your wheel (tools and studio) clean each time, so it is nice to come back to.”

Pablo Picasso:

“Without great solitude no serious work is possible.”

Elizabeth Mowry, Pastelist:

“Some humans avoid silence just as they fear solitude; others cultivate both and create beauty.”

POTTERY TIP:

Solvents for Wax Resist need to be petroleum based products such as:

Gasoline, laquer thinner, methyl ethyl keytone, paint thinner

WARNINGS-don't get it on your skin and don't breathe it in. Do have lots of ventilation.

Happy potting and may the clay be with you, Carol Smeraldo, NSPG Communicator and Editor of The Dish