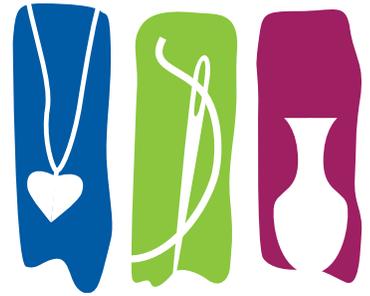


With These Hands

the Bucks County Guild of Craftsmen Newsletter



MAY 2019

Red Tulip Celebrates 5 Years in New Hope

In May 2019 Red Tulip Gallery, the cooperative craft store of BCGC, celebrates its 5th anniversary in its current location at 19C West Bridge Street in New Hope, PA. Nancy Gibbs, Monique Perry and Karen Goeller, three of the artists who began the co-op, answered some questions about Red Tulip Gallery (RTG) on the occasion of this anniversary.

WHY DID BCGC LAUNCH RTG?

The general concept of a retail storefront had been discussed in chapter and board meetings over a period of several years. We had sponsored many successful shows in years past, but that market had become rather saturated, and shows were no longer the success they once had been. So a committee of interested people got together to brainstorm the idea of a storefront where artists' work could be displayed and sold year-round, not just one or two week-ends.



photo by Don Schoenleber

HOW DID YOU CHOOSE NEW HOPE AS THE LOCATION FOR RTG?

We spent our first year sharing a retail space with a framing shop in Newtown. This was a very pleasant experience and allowed us to learn more about how to display, staff and market fine crafts in a retail situation. At the end of that year we decided that in order to grow ourselves as an arts destination we would need to find our own space in an area that had more foot traffic. New Hope has had a long-standing reputation for being welcoming to the arts, so while we looked at other locations as well, we focused on possibilities in New Hope.

HAS NEW HOPE PROVEN TO BE A SUCCESSFUL LOCATION?

We believe New Hope was the right choice, although there certainly have been challenges in the overall retail market, both in New Hope itself and in general. We have, however, become increasingly well-known in our area and remain uniquely positioned as a gallery which specializes in fine craft.

HOW DO MEMBERS OF RTG PARTICIPATE IN RUNNING THE OPERATIONS OF THE CO-OP?

Full members staff 2-3 days a month and participate in various other activities, such as social media (posting on Facebook and Instagram), help with display and physical maintenance (painting / cleaning/ decorating seasonally,

etc.), technology (computer and sales systems) publicity (special events / coordinating with other nearby shops, etc.) Everything is done on a volunteer basis.

HOW MANY ARTISTS PARTICIPATE IN RTG TODAY? Currently, there are 15 participating artists.

HOW MANY TYPES OF CRAFT ARE REPRESENTED TODAY?

Currently we have artists in jewelry, wood, fiber, pottery, glass and photography

CAN ANY MEMBER OF BCGC APPLY TO BE AN RTG MEMBER?

Yes—membership is open to any Bucks member (or prospective member). All applications are juried for quality, balance of medium with current members, and ability to participate in the working of the coop.

ARE THERE DIFFERENT TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP? Currently we have two types of memberships:

- Guest – limited to 4 months. This is primarily designed as a potential “bridge” for artists who are interested in Red Tulip but need to explore more before joining as a Full Member.

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From the President's Studio...



For those that do, the season is beginning! For fine craft shows, that is. Spring marks the return of most shows and a time of angst for many of us. Is my tent still in one piece? Where did I put my weights? What did I want to add to my list last year?

Some quick suggestions to perhaps make show life a bit less stressful:

- Make a list of everything you need to set up for a show, from your tent (and top and walls!) to your bags to package your sale, for both indoor shows and outdoor shows
- Use the list for every show and cross off items as you put them in your vehicle. Crossing them off as you pull them from their storage space doesn't do you any good if they don't make it into your car! Trust me... that one-hour trip home from the PA Guild show in Wilmington to get my tent poles only happened once!
- Remember to include those personal items such as suntan lotion, first aid, medications, water, snacks, food...

We all have our horror stories of setting up for shows and realizing we forgot something, so let's share our knowledge. In the next few days I'm going to post on the BCGC Facebook page a conversation starter – What must-haves do you take to shows. Just reply to the question and we will be creating a list of packing essentials for all to see. Not on the BCGC Facebook page? Go right now to your FB page and search for Bucks County Guild of Craftsmen and like us, really, really like us. And click to receive all notifications. We don't send that many and you'll be assured to be kept up with BCGC quick news.

Wishing all members who do shows this spring and summer sunny days, no strong winds, low humidity and, of course, great sales!

Merle
BCGC President

2019 BCGC Board

PRESIDENT: Merle Slyhoff
merle.slyhoff@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Cynthia Prediger
ckprediger@gmail.com

TREASURER: Mindy Spray
dnmspray01@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Jen Blyth
Jenkaisa@gmail.com

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE: Jill Tarabar
jill@jistdesigns.com

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE: Mindy Trost
cartabooks@gmail.com

2019 BCGC Committees

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Nancy Gibbs
nancygibbs.1@gmail.com

STANDARDS CHAIR: Monique Perry
monique@moniquesartjewelry.com

PROGRAMS CHAIR: Cynthia Prediger
ckprediger@gmail.com

SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR: Jill Tarabar
jill@jistdesigns.com

NEWSLETTER CHAIR: Mindy Trost
cartabooks@gmail.com

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CHAIR: open

Upcoming BCGC Programs

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Chapter meetings are held once a month on the second Wednesday from September to June at the Boy Scout Building at 1 Scout Way, Doylestown, PA (unless otherwise noted). A brief business meeting is followed by a program. Occasionally, programs are at a special location, such as a museum for a tour.

WED, MAY 8TH, 7:30PM: Spring Clean Up & Swap Meet! Clear that clutter that's been piling up in your studio and bring your "good stuff" to swap with fellow craftsmen: Tools, materials, books, magazines! Bring one or tons ... see what you can trade or give away!

SAT, JUNE 15TH, 10:30AM: Tour Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen headquarters in Lancaster (335 N. Queen Street). Tour our guild store, gallery, offices and workshop spaces with members from both Bucks and Lancaster. Arrange transportation privately then the rest of the day is yours in Lancaster!

JULY & AUGUST: No meetings; have a great summer!

WED. SEPT. 11TH, 7:30PM: Annual Show & Tell! NO THEME but this is always an inspiring and fun evening. Bring your latest creations and spend 3 to 5 minutes introducing your pieces to your fellow BCGC members!



Pysanky artist Basia Andrusko explained her art influences and processes at the March 13th Chapter meeting.

Have a Seat: BCGC Tours a Special Exhibit At the Michener Art Museum

We sit most of the day, don't we? Either at a work desk, a painting easel, a potter's wheel, at meetings, on mass transit, in our cars, on the couch, at meals, and many more places than that. To make visitors welcome in our homes, we almost immediately offer them a chair. Sitting is, well, easy to relate to. But how often do we look at the seating we sit on as if they are sculptures, appreciated for their design, proportions, materials and history? That is the goal of *The Art of Seating: Two Hundred Years of American Design*, a special exhibition currently on display at the Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, PA.



On Saturday, February 17th, eleven members of the BCGC met at the Michener to tour *The Art of Seating*, organized by Cynthia Prediger, BCGC Programs Chair. The tour was led by docent Nancy Stock-Allen. After pausing to mention Wharton Esherick's work—some of which is found on display in the museum—Nancy started the tour in the Nakashima Reading Room where she discussed George Nakashima, how he discovered furniture making and why he came to live in Bucks County. Members were encouraged touch items in the room and sit in the chairs in that room that were designed by Nakashima.

The tour then moved on to the special exhibit, *The Art of Seating: Two Hundred Years of American Design*. On

display are more than 40 forms of seating, including different kinds of formal and informal chairs, a bench, stools and lounge chairs. There's even one doll's chair. All are on view as pieces of art; a number of them are displayed in such a way as to allow the viewer to walk around them or see them from three sides, as if they truly are sculptures. Famous makers on display include Frank Lloyd Wright, Frank Gehry, Ray Eames and the Stickley Brothers among others. Docent Nancy Stock-Allen gave us insights into most of the seating in the exhibit as BCGC members asked questions and discussed what caught their eye the most. She also pointed out the effects of how natural and mass-produced materials were used in several designs—from animal horns to aluminum to corrugated cardboard—and how manufacturing techniques and technological advancements affected seating designs throughout the 200 years of seating in the exhibit.



Docent Nancy Stock-Allen, left, points out the history and details of the Texas Longhorn Armchair (c. 1890) to BCGC members.

The Art of Seating is on display through May 5th. *Nakashima Looks: Studio Furniture at the Michener* (which had yet to open the day of the BCGC tour) highlights the Michener's long-standing focus on Studio Furniture while providing a window to the Museum's future direction. This exhibit is curated by George Nakashima's daughter, Mira, and runs through July 7th.

For more information about exhibits, special programs, lectures and art classes:
<https://www.michenerartmuseum.org/>



How'd You Do That?

An Interview With Polymer Clay Artist Eileen Cressman-Reeder

Eileen Cressman-Reeder, a BCGC member, shares her insights and inspiration



NAME: Eileen Cressman-Reeder

CONTACT INFO: www.cressmanreeder.com

email: cressmanreeder@gmail.com

Facebook: Eileen Cressman Reeder Artist

Instagram: [eileen_cressmanreeder_](https://www.instagram.com/eileen_cressmanreeder_)

HOW DID YOU DISCOVER THAT YOU LIKE WORKING IN POLYMER CLAY? I wanted fish bones for a mixed media painting I was doing. I needed a material that was durable and didn't require extra equipment. Behold! Polymer clay fit the bill.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING WITH THIS MEDIUM? I have been using polymer clay as my primary art medium since 2004.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT IT? When you mention polymer clay, most people think jewelry. It can be used for so much more. It can be used for sculpting, carving, relief work, printmaking, and things we haven't begun to think of. I have seen it crocheted!

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU DON'T LIKE ABOUT IT? The clay is expensive. Polymer clay starts curing at 265 degrees. I remember ordering clay in August. When it arrived, it was half baked.....kind of like me.

WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO WORK WITH IT? The year I started, Kathleen Dustin was doing a workshop at North Country Studios. She is a fabulous artist and teacher. That same year I discovered the Philadelphia Area Polymer Clay Guild. I am indebted to the members of PAPCG for helping and mentoring me.

DID YOU ALWAYS DO SOMETHING CREATIVE? IF YES, WHAT OTHER MEDIUMS HAVE YOU EXPLORED? In high school, I studied watercolor, oil, and acrylic painting with Jerry Quier. That led me to major in art education in college. After I graduated, I took classical drawing and painting at Barnstone Studios. The Arts have always been important to me and my family.

ARE THERE DIFFERENT TYPES OF POLYMER CLAY? IF YES, WHAT ARE THEIR DIFFERENCES? Enough to blow your mind! I am familiar with a few. My favorites are Kato and Premo. Kato withstands a lot of abuse. It takes longer to soften it to a workable state. It is my go to for canes and large sculpture. Premo is a versatile clay. It is easier to manipulate and is durable.

CAN OTHER MATERIALS BE ADDED TO POLYMER CLAY TO, SAY, CHANGE THE TEXTURE OR MAKE IT SHINY? Yes you can. Us professional types call it inclusions. I love experimenting with this technique. I have used dried herbs, sand, embossing powders, and let's not forget glitter, the herpes of arts and crafts!

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR INSPIRATION? I know this is trite but I get inspired by life.

HOW DO YOU BEGIN WORKING ON A PIECE? FOR EXAMPLE, DO YOU SKETCH FIRST? I might hear a pun or a joke. Surprise! I will sketch out my ideas. I am collaborating with CartaBooks for my What Not series. She creates paste paper boxes and



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How'd You Do That?

An Interview With Polymer Clay Artist Perrie Layton

Perrie Layton, a BCGC member, shares her insights and inspiration

NAME: Perrie J. Layton

CONTACT INFO: www.MortimerInc.com

email: mortimerinc.studio@gmail.com

Facebook: MortimerInc Studio

Instagram: [perrie_layton](https://www.instagram.com/perrie_layton)

HOW DID YOU DISCOVER THAT YOU LIKE WORKING IN POLYMER CLAY? I had been playing with jewelry making when I wanted to make a focal bead I saw in a magazine. It was a picture transfer on polymer clay. I bought the polymer clay, made the transfer and I was hooked. I taught myself the basics and then found the Philadelphia Area Polymer Clay Guild where I had access to others with more experience willing to share their knowledge and access to exceptional national polymer clay artists.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING WITH THIS MEDIUM? I've been working with polymer clay for about 12 years.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT IT? I like the diversity of uses for polymer clay. I can do just about anything with it now that I understand how it works. I've made jewelry, or course, but once I discovered how to use it to create 3D figures my enjoyment of the medium grew. I have many characters all with names. I'm drawn towards making cows, elephants, rabbits, snowmen, and various Santa Claus figures. A few years ago, I began combining polymer clay with found wood. I've also made custom switch and electrical plates for my friend's kitchen to match her tile. And I've used it to repair nicks in Formica. Amazing stuff.

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU DON'T LIKE ABOUT IT? The down side of polymer for me is that I now must use nitrile gloves to work with it. I've developed a skin allergy to it.



DID YOU ALWAYS DO SOMETHING CREATIVE? IF YES, WHAT OTHER MEDIUMS HAVE YOU EXPLORED? Polymer is really the only medium I'm somewhat proficient with. When I was a kid very much enjoyed drawing and art classes but was not allowed to pursue it. Both my sons are both very good artists, one excels in drawing and painting, the other in photography and clay.

ARE THERE DIFFERENT TYPES OF POLYMER CLAY? IF YES, WHAT ARE THEIR DIFFERENCES? There are a number of different clays on the market. You will recognize them in the craft store as Sculpey, Premo, Fimo, Kato, Cernit and a few others. Each polymer clay artist finds what works for them in their designs and sticks with it. I don't want to go as far as saying there are polymer clay tribes out there, but some folks can be very adamant about which clay is best. It can be like discussing politics—just don't go there.

CAN OTHER MATERIALS BE ADDED TO POLYMER CLAY TO, SAY, CHANGE THE TEXTURE OR MAKE IT SHINY? I use many materials in translucent polymer clay. I use embossing powders and pastels to add color to

continued on page 10

Studio Safety: A Concern For All Artists

At the BCGC member meeting on Wednesday, April 10th, studio safety was the topic of discussion and learning. At the prompting of Cynthia Prediger, Program Chair, members wrote in before the meeting to answer questions about what they do to protect themselves against injury while working in their studios. Here are the top concerns that were discussed:

- Members say they most often cut themselves on something sharp while they are cleaning their studio. Their guard is down and that's when accidents happen.
- Wear gloves for different uses. They can be made out of leather, rubber or other material and used when handling sharp tools or chemicals.
- Airborne particles was a specific concern of many who work with a number of different materials, from clay to fiber to glass. Ventilating the studio properly and wet mopping the studio floor (as opposed to dry sweeping) are important things to do, as well as working with a mask, working outside with a fan blowing away from you or installing an air filtering system. Other cleaning tips include using lint rollers and spreading newspaper to catch small bits and pieces, then carefully rolling it up and throwing it away.
- Take breaks, to combat both eye and physical strain.
- Keep tools in proper repair. Replace blades, awls and other tools before they wear down too much.
- Wear closed-toed shoes and clothing made of natural fibers, especially when dealing with heat sources.

For more tips on safety in the studio, see "On the Artist's Shelf" on page 7.

RTG Celebrates 5 Years In New Hope *(continued from page 1)*

- Full – Generous sales commission, staff 2-3 days a month, monthly rent, participate in governance via monthly members' meetings, opportunities for special sales events

IS THERE A MEMBERSHIP WAITING LIST IF CATEGORIES ARE FILLED OR IF SPACE IS AT CAPACITY? Yes.

RTG HAS A WEBSITE THAT ALLOWS CUSTOMERS TO SHOP ONLINE. HAS THIS BEEN AN EFFECTIVE SALES TOOL? We believe that online sales are a driving force in today's economy and that it is important for us to focus on this as well as our bricks and mortar shop. We have just converted to a new Point of Sale system for our shop that has a fully integrated website. This enables our artists to manage their own inventory and allows many more products to be sold online, not just the items currently on display in the shop.

HOW DOES RTG PROMOTE THE STORE AND THE PARTICIPATING ARTISTS?

- Professional, rotating display of artists' work so the shop is continually refreshed.
- Promotion of members' work on a professionally designed ecommerce website as well as social media channels
- Member artists can have solo trunk shows, openings, and small group events at no extra cost for participation
- Organized marketing efforts and events to involve the community, with an extensive and growing email list for our newsletters



photo by Don Schoenleber

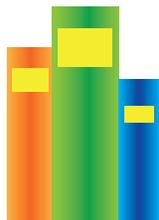
HOW DOES RTG POSITION ITSELF FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS?

Our mantra is "Fine Craft, Local Artists." We set ourselves apart from other galleries and shops by not only offering all locally handcrafted items, but by being artist-run and staffed. Our goal is for customers to come in, chat with the artists and have a shopping experience that they will remember fondly. Having that uniqueness in the New Hope retail scene is what makes us memorable for visitors and helps us build our reputation as a must see, shop, and return destination for locals and tourists alike.

Hours: 11-5 Thursday-Monday
(7 days between Memorial Day and Labor Day)
19C West Bridge Street, New Hope, PA 18938
267-454-0496 / info@redtulipcrafts.com

For more information about RTG, including how to apply for membership, go to: redtulipcrafts.com.

ON THE ARTIST'S SHELF



This column will highlight recent publications in various mediums of art. Interested in a title? Search for it on Amazon.com or bn.com or check to see if your local library has it. If they don't, ask the librarian if they can get it through Interlibrary Loan (they will borrow it from another library for you. And as a librarian I know you will impress them with your library knowledge!)

Have a specific type of art or fine craft you would like me to search? Just let me know at merle.slyhoff@gmail.com.

See you On the Artist's Shelf! Merle

As artists we create joy in our work. We don't want to think bad thoughts while creating. But we do need to think about studio safety. As a follow-up to our April meeting on Studio Safety, this list provides some background information for you to check. Have fun but be safe! —Merle

BOOKS

This is just a sampling of titles dealing with studio safety issues. Check your local library if you don't want to buy one sight unseen. If they don't have it ask them to get it on Interlibrary Loan.

ARTIST BEWARE : THE HAZARDS IN WORKING WITH ALL ART AND CRAFT MATERIALS AND THE PRECAUTIONS EVERY ARTIST AND CRAFTSPERSON SHOULD TAKE. *Michael McCann. Guilford, Conn. : Lyons Press, 2005.* Covers Chemical and Physical Hazards and Art and Craft Techniques

GREEN GUIDE FOR ARTISTS : NONTOXIC RECIPES, GREEN ART IDEAS, & RESOURCES FOR THE ECO-CONSCIOUS ARTIST. *Karen Michel. Beverly, Mass. : Quarry Books, 2009.* "The Green Guide for Artists inspires artists to make better eco-conscious choices within their work and their studios and shows them how. The book has four sections: The first contains recipes for DIY art supplies such as ones for mixing your own non-toxic paints and adhesives and making your own papers from recycled paper. The second offers safe and green practices for the workspace. The next section shares a fresh look at using recycled materials through creative step-by-step projects and a gallery section. The final section contains a resource guide for eco-friendly materials and supplies, including websites and forum links"--Publisher description.

WEB PAGES

To get more specific guidelines for your art form search Google or similar search engines for - [art form] studio safety (example: clay studio safety).

<https://cerfplus.org/get-ready/studio-protector/studio-safety/> - general

<https://cerfplus.org/studio-safety-guide/> - general

<https://ehs.yale.edu/art-safety> - general

<https://ceramic.school/pottery-studio-safety/> - clay

<http://www.bullseyeglass.com/what-should-i-know-about-studio-safety.html> - glass

<https://gamblincolors.com/studio-safety/studio-safety-create-without-compromise/> - painting

Teachable Moments

These BCGC members will be teaching classes or workshops in the next few months.

KAREN WYCHOCK, BASKET MAKER, will teach how to create an Apple Basket on September 28, 2019 at the Mennonite Heritage Center in Harleysville, PA. All info can be found at <http://mhpc.org/events/>. Information can also be found on her website at karenwychock.com.

Are you teaching a class or a workshop in the fall or winter? Want to easily spread the word? Email a short class description, contact information and any links to Newsletter Chair Mindy Trost at cartabooks@gmail.com. Deadline to be included in the September issue of *With These Hands* is **August 15, 2019**.

Congratulations!

Three BCGC members who applied for Chapter Jury status were granted this distinction at the April 10th BCGC member meeting in Doylestown, PA. They are Jen Blyth (jewelry/metal), Pete Maltese (natural stone mosaics) and Jill Tarabar (stained glass).

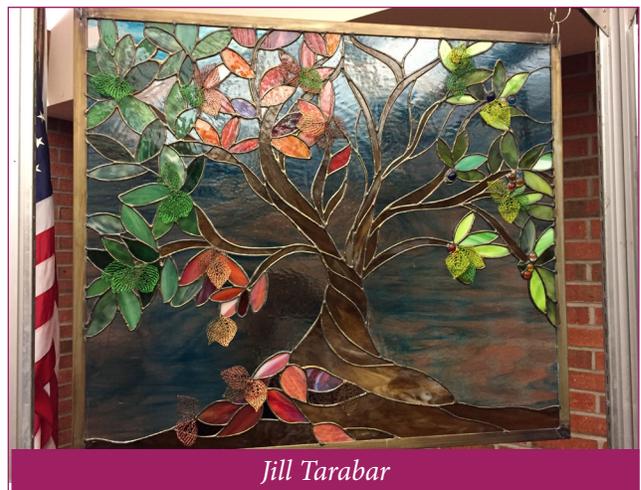
Katherine Cheetham (fused glass) announced at the meeting that she has attained Master Artisan status through the jurying process at the state level, which is the process by which member craftsmen may be awarded this high honor among our ranks. Master Artisans of the PGC receive special consideration in show acceptance, have their works sought out for PGC publicity, and are recognized among their peers as being the best of the best.

For more information about Chapter Jurying, turn to page 9. For more information about how to apply for Master Artisan status, please go to <https://www.pacrafts.org/our-guild/master-status>.

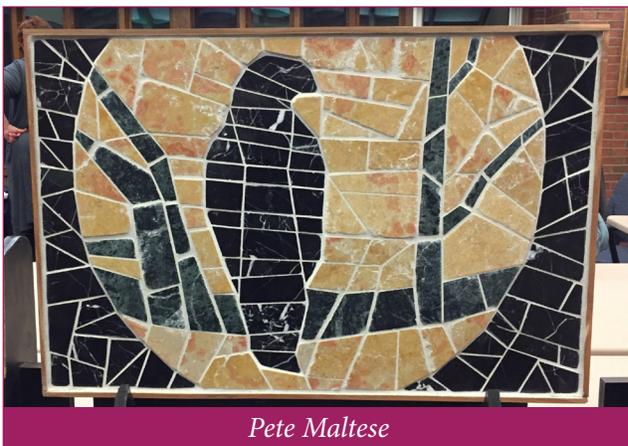
BCGC congratulates all on these achievements!



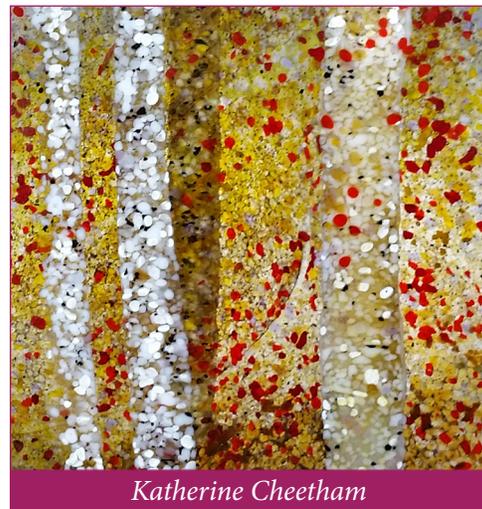
Jen Blyth



Jill Tarabar



Pete Maltese



Katherine Cheetham

Red Tulip Gallery's New Member

BCGC joins Red Tulip Gallery in welcoming Mette Pederson, fiber artist, to the BCGC artist's co-op. Mette creates handbags out of 100% felted wool. She creates innovative textures, looks, and color combinations in her work, sometimes adorning her handbags with vintage or second-hand brooches. This up-cycling of brooches contributes to making Mette's handbags particularly unique and eco-friendly. Mette's handbags are lightweight, durable, and knitted with no seams. Hours of care and attention have gone into making these exclusive pieces of wearable art.



Exhibit Excursions

Highlights of some craft and art exhibits at museums that are located within 100 miles of Bucks County.

MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM: “New Directions In Fiber Art” exhibits recent works created in an array of traditional and contemporary fibrous materials and methods.

Through June 16, 2019

<https://www.montclairartmuseum.org/>

KEMERER MUSEUM OF DECORATIVE ARTS: “Artifacts Reimagined” explores historic artifacts through the eyes and talents of five artists: a photographer, a mixed media/mosaic artist, a pastel artist, an oil painter and a printmaker.

Through August 18, 2019

<https://historicbethlehem.org/>

NEWARK ART MUSEUM: “Unexpected Color: A Journey Through Glass” features the Thomas N. Armstrong III Collection of Steuben Glass, recently donated to the Newark Museum.

Opens May 1, 2019

<https://www.newarkmuseum.org/>

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART: “Jewelry for America” explores the development of jewelry made in the USA over the last 300 years.

June 10, 2019 through April 5, 2020

www.metmuseum.org/

AMERICAN FOLK ART MUSEUM: “Made in New York City: The Business of Folk Art.” Around 100 works of art by self-taught artists tell the story about New York City as the center of America’s financial and commercial world.

Through July 28, 2019

<https://folkartmuseum.org/>

NOYES MUSEUM OF ART (NOYES ART GARAGE):

“Collective Identity: The Legacy of Apprenticeship Under Toshiko Takaezu” features work by seventeen of Toshiko’s former ceramics students and celebrates her dedication to mentorship.

Through June 23, 2019

<http://noyesmuseum.org/>

PGC Rittenhouse Show Needs Booth Sitter Volunteers!

Want to lend a helping hand while taking in a PA Guild craft show and earn \$30 to offset your travel expenses to the show? Then spend some time volunteering at the PA Guild of Craftsmen Fine Craft Fair at Rittenhouse! The show runs Friday, May 10th through Sunday, May 12th. Volunteers are needed to booth sit between the hours of noon to 5pm. You will receive a “volunteer” badge. You can work in pairs if you like, so bring a friend and explore the show while waiting to be texted to report to a certain booth and help out a member artist. Or you can simply ask each artist if he/she needs a break as you walk around Rittenhouse Square and take in the show.



You can sign up for shifts that last as little as an hour (you must volunteer for 4 hours to earn the travel expense reimbursement).

To sign up, please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050c4eaeaf2ea3f94-spring>

Questions? Please contact Carol Heisler at 610-570-2343 or at paguildshows@gmail.com. Thanks!

Interested In Attaining Chapter Juried Status? Here’s How!

Are you interested in obtaining Chapter Juried Status with the BCGC guild? This status is given to a member’s work that has been reviewed by peers within the chapter and exemplifies the mark of excellence that distinguishes their work from the mainstream. The next deadline to apply is **August 28th**. The next jury session date for 2019 is September 11th, prior to our regularly scheduled Chapter meetings. For application and information, contact BCGC Standards Chair Monique Perry at monique@moniquesartjewelry.com, or by phone at 215-962-0295.

Polymer Clay Q&A: Eileen Cressman-Reeder *(continued from page 4)*



the inspiration. I don't sketch my ideas for those because I like the immediacy it creates.

WHERE CAN YOUR WORK BE FOUND FOR SALE? I have work for sale at Touchstone Gallery in Yardley and on my website. I sell at craft shows. The show listings are on my website.

IF YOU TEACH, HOW CAN POTENTIAL STUDENTS FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR TEACHING SCHEDULE? You can go to my website or email me. You can arrange for group or private lessons.

IF YOU COULD GIFT A PIECE OF YOUR WORK TO A FAMOUS PERSON, WHOM WOULD YOU CHOOSE? I guess Anthony Bourdain. He was able to have in depth conversations while sharing a meal. He respected people and their cultures. I remember Marilyn Hagerty from Grand Forks, North Dakota who wrote a review of the Olive Garden. She was bullied and mocked by the culinary community for her critique. Anthony Bourdain stood up for her because snobbery holds no place in food criticism. He would eat anything without pretense or shame.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE? I could go on and on and on about art but it's time to say goodnight Gracie.

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Polymer Clay Q&A: Perrie Layton *(continued from page 5)*

the clay to get a unique look. When I want to get a sheen, I use a varnish. My pieces are often too large to sand and intricate of shine by sanding.

HOW DO YOU BEGIN WORKING ON A PIECE? FOR EXAMPLE, DO YOU SKETCH FIRST? I usually start a piece by drawing a rough sketch. Sometimes the clay leads the way.

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR INSPIRATION? My inspiration can come from just about anywhere.

WHERE CAN YOUR WORK BE FOUND FOR SALE? I have a studio at the SmARTivities Art Store at 60 Center Square in Easton PA, where my work is on display every day. I have a gallery on my website and if someone saw a piece she wanted to purchase, they can contact me directly.

IF YOU TEACH, HOW CAN POTENTIAL STUDENTS FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR TEACHING SCHEDULE? I don't have a set teaching schedule, but I do teach at SmARTivities. If potential student is interested in learning the ins and outs of polymer clay, I will schedule with him/her a lesson or two or they can sign up for my six-week schedule of beginner polymer classes. When I have four or more students interested, I will schedule the classes. To see the lesson plans for each class, you can them on found my website.

IF YOU COULD GIFT A PIECE OF YOUR WORK TO A FAMOUS PERSON, WHOM WOULD YOU CHOOSE? I would give any of my pieces to George Clooney and Bill Murray. I would gladly deliver them in person.

