



Annual Report 2018

08.01.2017 - 07.31.2018



Chris Snedden



Dauma Stirbyte

THE LONDON POTTERS GUILD

Mission Statement:

*To be the leader in the education and promotion of the clay arts in Southwestern Ontario.
We provide high-quality programming, nurture the development of professional clay artists, collaborate with other community organizations and encourage fellowship in an inclusive and accessible facility.*

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Judy Sparkes
President



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Endri Poletti

MEMBERSHIP

188 Members

127 studio members, 24 summer studio members
35 non-studio, and 2 artist-in-residence

Natalie Kearns



Christine Torres



Marlies Gueth



President's Letter

In 2017-2018, The London Potters Guild (LPG) was once again awarded operational grant funding from London Arts Council (LAC) and Ontario Arts Council (OAC). The funds helped us pay our Administrator and Studio Technician to keep things running smoothly at London Clay Art Centre (LCAC). Special projects that were funded through grants beginning in 2016-17 extended into fiscal 2017-18. Their implementation and wrap-up made for a very busy end-of-calendar-year 2017. Other grants allowed us to make some significant changes at LCAC.

In the late fall, the intrepid team of Susan Day, Beth Turnbull Morrish, and Rob Hodson completed our unique Canada 150 Celebration mosaic project over an eight-month period. With the invaluable help of 80 other LPG members who volunteered a total of 880 hours, they designed, made, glazed, and fired more than 18,000 clay tiles produced with the participation of 650 individuals from 25 community groups. The colourful mosaic is installed on what used to be a non-descript cinderblock wall at LCAC.

The installation and celebration event took place November 30, 2017 with more than 400 people in attendance, including many who had participated in tile-making events as well as funder representatives and local dignitaries. This exciting legacy project and art installation is now a permanent public art feature on the east exterior wall of our amazing facility. The monumental Ontario and Canada 150 Mosaic is yet another example of the vibrant revitalization that is happening in London's Old East Village and will be a source of pride for generations to come.



Photo Credit: Preston Gervais



In December 2017, we held a public awareness event to share the accessibility improvements at LCAC made possible through funds awarded by the Rick Hansen Foundation as part of its Access4All Canada 150 Signature Project. The money allowed us to enhance accessibility features at LCAC such as automatic door openers on the red fire doors on the first floor, sound abatement panels throughout the second floor, software and hardware that provides closed-captioning for students or members with hearing impairments, and an accessible potter's wheel.





Partition wall



Slab roller



Extra wheels

Pugmill



At our 2017 holiday gathering, I was thrilled to announce the awarding of a \$297,000 Grow Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). Earmarked for capital and human resource expenses from January 2018-20, the funds will allow us to fulfill the grant's outcome of "enriching people's lives through arts, culture and heritage, by helping more people access arts-based learning opportunities and compelling artistic, cultural and heritage experiences." We committed to engaging an additional 480 participants in clay art classes and workshops over the grant's two years by optimizing the use of programming space, adding essential equipment, and putting in place the necessary human resources to enable the continuation of a broad array of program offerings for the public.

We were finally able to complete the vision of the 2008 master plan for LCAC by installing the partition wall on the second floor. It will allow us to simultaneously provide programming in the handbuilding classroom and meeting area. The slab roller, extruder, pug mill, and extra kilns and wheels give us greater capacity that will endure for years to come.

We passed an important organizational milestone and in June 2018, we hired another staff person as our first full-time Program Coordinator. Peg Dunnem's role is to build upon the extraordinary work done by our previous volunteer coordinators to increase programming and revenue for LCAC.

In the middle of all this amazing activity, it quickly became apparent that our kiln room could not keep up with the increase in capacity. To address the health and safety concern posed by the old deficient ventilation system the LPG Board hired engineering consultants and eventually a qualified HVAC contractor to complete an extensive renovation. Although the process extended for many weeks, rendering the kiln room unusable, and the final cost was significant, we now have a ventilation system that efficiently removes noxious air and draws safe, clean air from outside.

The LPG continued to engage the community with outreach efforts. Our members participated in Culture Days, Home County Music and Art Festival, and the annual Harvest Festival and Pow Wow held at the Ontario Museum of Archeology, a celebration of aboriginal art, music, and culture.

The LPG has much to be proud of in 2017-2018. The Board of Directors and all our hard-working volunteers at LCAC have continued to fulfill the guild's mission of being the leader in the education and promotion of the clay arts in Southwestern Ontario by providing high-quality programming, nurturing the development of professional clay artists, collaborating with other community organizations and encouraging fellowship in an inclusive and accessible facility.

Thank you for all you do!

President, Judy Sparkes

(Territory Manager, Flanagan Foodservice since 1999 and LPG member since 2007.)

Judy Sparkes



Empty Bowls

Empty Bowls 2018 was a great success! Hosted by Growing Chefs! Ontario and Bridges out of Poverty|Circles, our members contributed almost 700 bowls to set a new record for most amount raised—over \$22,000! The two recipient organizations also raised about \$2000 each from their silent auction tables. They had a wide range of items—from potted succulent bowls to cooking lessons, to tickets for the Grand Theatre and the London Knights games. Both organizations were thrilled and amazed by the

results and impressed by the members of The London Potters Guild. The quality and design of the bowls were truly stellar and the number of volunteers who stepped up to set up, wash bowls, serve soup, and tear down was greatly appreciated.



Left to right: Eva Koh, Christina Tischler, Jessica Justrabo - (Bridges out of Poverty/Circles Initiative), Teresa Ainsworth, Danielle Moynihan, Judy Sparkes, Lynn Heinitz, Jenn Jack, Andrew Fleet (Growing Chefs)

Report by Judy Sparkes,
(Empty Bowls chair since 2012.)



Artist-in-Residence (AIR)

The AIR program was created to provide professional studio space to up-and-coming clay artists in exchange for 5 hours per week of studio technician support at London Clay Art Centre. Our residency programs allow clay artists to pursue their artistic endeavours while working in a state-of-the-art studio and contributing to the community of fellow artists.

Daumante Stirbyte, the first **International Artist-in-Residence**, at the LCAC comes from Lithuania (by way of Ireland). Dauma has taught classes and workshops, participated in exhibitions, LCAC's Spring and Fall shows, donated pottery to fundraisers and volunteered for the annual Empty bowls event, was a guest speaker at HB Beal, attended Fusion conference in Waterloo, and had a piece of work 'Inflorescence' at the Breakthrough exhibition, Robert Langen Gallery where she was awarded Best in Show.



"I've always been fascinated with the natural world and the unusual creatures with whom we share the planet. My research often delves into deep sea exploration, various insects or microscopic close ups of the plant and animal world - things that often go unseen or unnoticed. My work is highly detailed and delicate and I mostly work with porcelain. I aim to instill a sense of curiosity and wonder in the viewer - as well as explore the notion of the 'unknown' through unexpected combinations of shapes, colour and surface treatments. Blurring the lines between reality and fantasy, the work is intended to suggest an eerie possibility of life forms we are not aware of. Familiar yet uncomfortable, my creatures are much like unusual specimens at a natural history museum."



Nicole Waddick Tenacity Exhibition

This exhibition of sculptural stoneware vessels by Nicole Waddick was created during a two year artist residency at the LCAC. The work celebrates the beauty of Southwestern Ontario's rural landscape throughout the seasons. The vessels echo the gentle hills and valleys of the upper Thames River watershed. The surfaces and colours of the pottery correspond to the vegetation, both wild and cultivated, of the region.

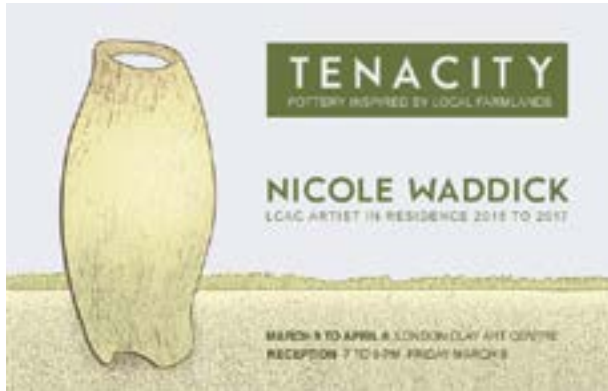


Photo Credit: Lynn Heinitz

Student Exhibition

October 2017, the second annual "Student Exhibition" was held with artwork created by students from the Adventures in Clay class, teen classes and summer clay camps.

Left to right: Kaya Cygalski, Mya Jackman, Shyah Pierson, Maisie Kniivila, Chloe Millar, Ben Burnett, Geoffrey Dolbear, Absent: Grace Sun, Lydia Zadorsky, Hannah Zadorsky, Vivian Yuan



External Workshops

Jen Allen (June 9 and 10, 2018)

Clay artists from far and wide are invited to conduct demonstrations and workshops to enhance the learning and skills of LPG members and non-members.

Jen Allen has a home studio in Morgantown, WV, teaches ceramic classes at West Virginia University, has a BFA from the University of Alaska and an MFA from Indiana University. In March 2008, the National Council for the Education of Ceramic Arts (NCECA) recognized Jennifer as an "Emerging Artist".

Report by Marilyn Barbe

(owner of Ailsa Craig Village Pottery; has been a potter and LPG member for over 30 years.)



Internal Workshops

LPG members share their knowledge and expertise for these workshops. The focus is on providing professional development opportunities while fostering a community spirit at LCAC.

Handbuilt Plates	October 27, 2017	Nicole Waddick
Intro to Plaster/Mold Making	November 19, 2017	Daumante Stirbyte
Flat Patterns	December 1, 2017	Nicole Waddick
No Wheel? No Problem!	December 8, 2017	Nicole Waddick
Intro to Plaster/Mold Making	January 7, 2018	Daumante Stirbyte
Coloured Slip/Transfers/Paper Stencils	July 17, 2018	Nicole Waddick

Report by Judy Riseling

(former music teacher, Orchestra London Box Office Manager, and LPG member for the past five years.)

Studio Potter Program (SPP)

All LPG members are eligible to take part in the sessions which are taught by instructors with extensive experience in the SPP areas of focus. Participating members become better educated about effective studio hygiene practices as well as techniques to enhance studio efficiency.

Kiln Loading	November 5, 2017	Chris Snedden
Glazemaking	December 3, 2017	Teresa Ainsworth
Studio & Equipment Maintenance	February 25, 2018	Daumante Stirbyte
Studio & Equipment Maintenance	May 27, 2018	Daumante Stirbyte
Glazemaking	June 24, 2018	Teresa Ainsworth

Report by Elly Pakalnis

(Administrative Assistant in the Dean's Office, Faculty of Social Science at Western University.)

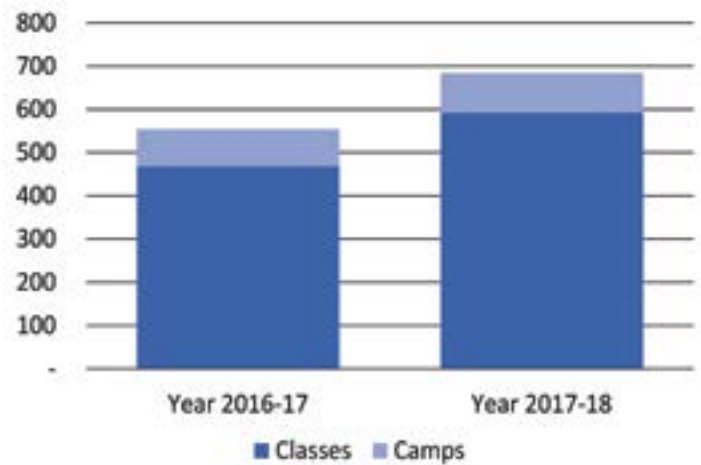
Programming

Four sessions of classes are offered each year, along with March break and summer clay camps. Wheel courses, hand building and specialty classes are offered to parent-and-child, adults, teens, and children. Full and half-day clay camps actively engage children and teens in clay.

LCAC also offered team building events, adult clay parties, birthday parties for children/teens, home schooling group classes and numerous specialty workshops.

Report by Karen Bailey

(Retired teacher and part-time clay artist and LPG member since 2011.)

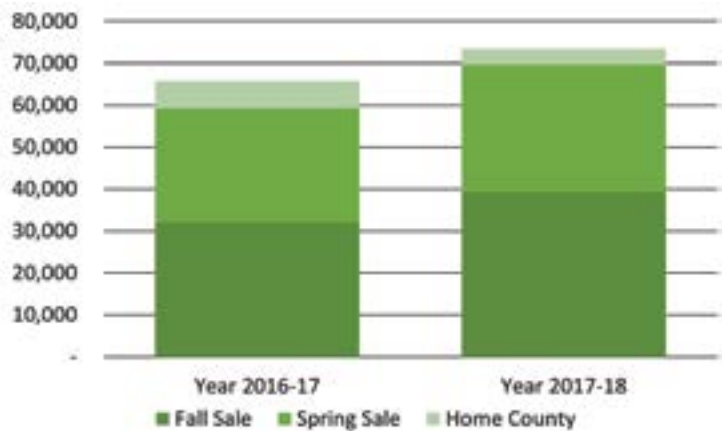


Sales

Each year in November and April, two sales are held offsite at the Thames Valley District School Board Education Centre. In July members also have a sale at the Home County Music & Art Festival.

Report by Nancy Friedrich

(Research Technician at Western University and LPG member since 2008.)

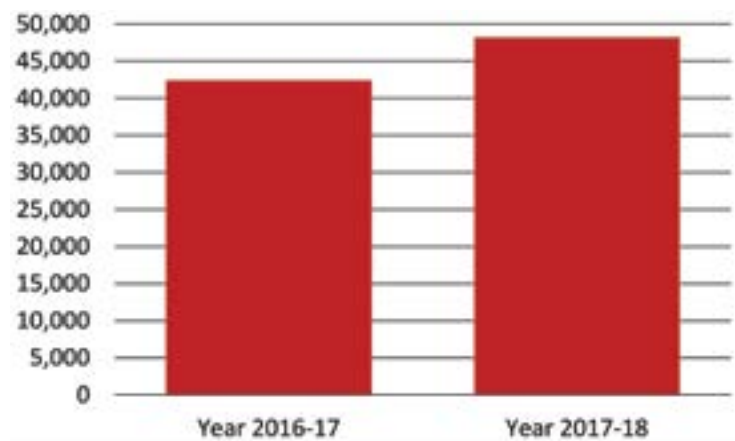


Retail Store

The LCAC store is the ultimate showcase for work produced by LPG members. To ensure a consistently high quality of work offered to the buying public, every piece in the store is juried by dedicated members of the store committee. Over 4,000 visitors patronize the store annually, with pottery sales increasing steadily each year.

Report by Cathy Regan

(Research technologist at Western University, teacher at the LCAC and LPG member since 2013.)



THE LONDON POTTERS GUILD
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT JULY 31, 2018

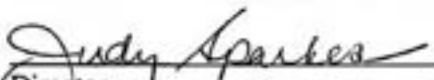
ASSETS

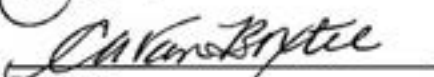
	2018	2017 (note 12)
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 302,860	\$ 184,012
Accounts receivable	6,577	2,483
Prepaid expenses	<u>1,212</u>	<u>1,252</u>
	310,649	187,747
Tangible Capital Assets (note 3)	<u>1,244,207</u>	<u>1,225,872</u>
	<u>\$ 1,554,856</u>	<u>\$ 1,413,619</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 47,679	\$ 31,982
Government remittances payable	3,074	5,842
Deferred revenue (note 5)	153,718	77,394
Current portion of long-term debt (note 6)	<u>154,152</u>	<u>17,267</u>
	358,623	132,485
Long-Term Liabilities		
Long-term debt (note 6)	15,713	169,143
Deferred contributions related to tangible capital assets (note 7)	<u>882,451</u>	<u>859,973</u>
	1,256,787	1,161,601
Net Assets		
General fund	61,434	34,974
Invested in tangible capital assets (note 8)	208,435	192,444
Building fund	<u>28,200</u>	<u>24,600</u>
	<u>298,069</u>	<u>252,018</u>
	<u>\$ 1,554,856</u>	<u>\$ 1,413,619</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:


 Director


 Director

The attached Independent Auditor's Report and notes form an integral part of these audited financial statements.



THE LONDON POTTERS GUILD
STATEMENT OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2018

	2018	%	2017 (note 12)	%
Revenues				
Product sales	\$ 183,061	31.10	\$ 157,509	34.13
Class instruction, workshops and programs	158,076	26.86	127,799	27.69
Grants	80,463	13.67	62,339	13.51
Membership fees	50,854	8.64	45,284	9.81
Ontario Trillium Foundation grant	41,383	7.03	-	-
Amortization of deferred contributions	39,744	6.75	35,189	7.63
Ontario Arts Council grant	17,280	2.94	17,575	3.81
Studio space rental	11,999	2.04	12,271	2.66
Interest and miscellaneous	3,625	0.62	3,270	0.71
Fundraising and donations	<u>2,070</u>	<u>0.35</u>	<u>224</u>	<u>0.05</u>
	588,555	100.00	461,460	100.00
Expenditures				
Accounting and legal	6,810	1.16	7,251	1.57
Advertising	17,548	2.98	5,248	1.14
Amortization of tangible capital assets	57,480	9.77	53,329	11.56
Commissions	97,051	16.49	87,378	18.94
Consulting fees	-	-	11,247	2.44
Instructor fees	61,479	10.45	61,911	13.42
Insurance	8,203	1.39	7,574	1.64
Interest and bank charges	8,826	1.50	7,837	1.70
Interest on long-term debt	6,943	1.18	6,112	1.32
Janitorial	14,964	2.54	14,965	3.24
Mosaic	33,968	5.77	18,777	4.07
Office and general	22,910	3.89	12,539	2.72
Property tax	13,048	2.22	11,759	2.55
Repairs and maintenance	31,137	5.29	16,086	3.49
Supplies	34,594	5.88	32,657	7.08
Telephone and utilities	23,619	4.01	26,990	5.85
Wages	<u>103,924</u>	<u>17.66</u>	<u>76,767</u>	<u>16.64</u>
	542,504	92.18	458,427	99.37
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	<u>\$ 46,051</u>	<u>7.82</u>	<u>\$ 3,033</u>	<u>0.63</u>

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The London Potters Guild
gratefully acknowledges the support of



London **Arts** Council



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