

NEWS

IN CLAY



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Above: Canadian Potters with the Korean Masters in front of the TOYO Mascot

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DARLENE PRATT

Welcome home to the five intrepid world travelers from The London Potters Guild who spent 15 days in Icheon, Korea learning from five ceramic masters! From all accounts the adventures of Pauline, Chris, Judy, Sandy, and Jordan were spectacular and their learnings deep, profoundly altering their clay practice to come. Many kudos for taking on the challenge and bringing back extraordinary knowledge and wisdom to the LPG members.

In the spring of 2016, the masters will be coming to Ontario and we will have the honour of hosting them in our city and facility. This represents a great opportunity for us to take advantage of a fortuitous relationship; the potters' guild in Icheon would like to become our sister guild! As time moves along, a plan to host them and show their work will be put in place for all guild members to be inspired by.

Our very own Jordan Scott was recently awarded the top honours as the Gardiner Award winner from his graduating class at Sheridan College. Congratulations Jordan!! Enjoy your upcoming travels and pottery research in England at the Leach Potter in St. Ives, and later in China. Come back to us and share your experiences and learnings.

Lastly, half of our fabulous studio technician team will be leaving us to explore other opportunities in Peterborough. Kaitlyn McGill came to us after graduating from the Calgary School of Art. She became our first local artist-in-residence and was quickly integrated into our wonderful team of studio volunteers and instructors. Her tremendous talent, enthusiasm and desire to help us build a better LCAC has been a big influence on the facility and its people. Much luck in your new world, Kaitlyn and don't forget about us!

All in all, guild members are doing amazing things throughout the ceramic world. As our members learn and grow their skills, the overall artistry and talent of our membership will also grow. This synergy has always been a part of the vision for the community that thrives within the London Clay Art Centre. It is exciting to witness the

growth of LPG members and of our community.

Thank you for continuing to support the guild and the London Clay Art Centre. We have a vitally important community asset that brings joy and meaning into many peoples' lives.

I look forward to watching it strengthen and reach new heights!

Sincerely,

Darlene

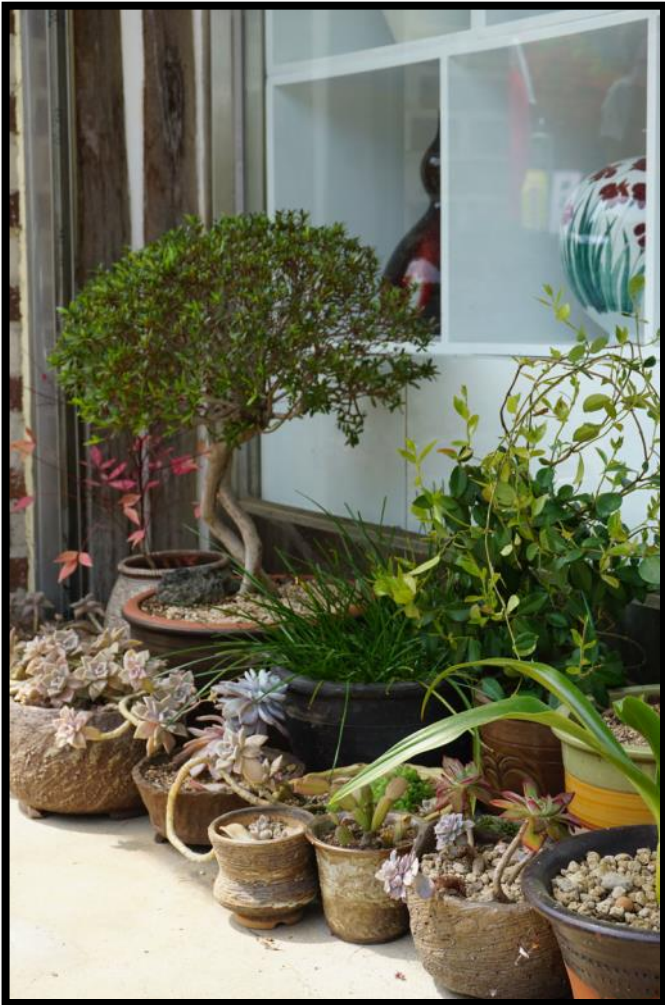


Jordan Scott: Woodfired Vase

THE GREAT KOREAN EXPEDITION, 2015

CHRIS SNEDDEN

On May 26th 13 potters, mostly from Ontario, took the thirteen hour flight to South Korea to participate in the Icheon Ceramics Festival and to see the sights. Icheon city is a mecca for clay, and literally there are pots everywhere.



Scenes like this (see images, left) are common in the city, but beyond that there are vase sculptures on top of hotels and restaurants, on lampposts, in signage, rows of planted pots on walls, etc. The entire city celebrates clay as a local industry like I've never seen before.

In Icheon we met and worked with the Five Master Potters from THAT video.... you know... the one that has gone viral on YouTube. (just in case you haven't seen it: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6T7W0ECCRY>) Our tour organizer Unha Hill from Hamilton, Ontario, did a great job being mother hen and organizing the trip!

The festival over there is amazing and enormous in scale. Here are some shots of the Masters work in their own showrooms:





We had a chance to work with the masters and try out their techniques, and boy! I thought I knew something about clay but I quickly discovered how much I don't know! They were very kind, of course, and we all left feeling enriched by their lessons.



One of the masters won a \$30,000 prize for this big bowl (top right) in a national competition. In order to claim it, he had to reproduce the piece under supervision. It took him a month.

There is not enough space here to describe all that we saw and did over the two weeks we were hosted by the five masters, but suffice it to say that it was an experience of a lifetime. Not only did we see the most amazing clay work, not only did we experience South Korean culture and cuisine, we also made some fine friends.

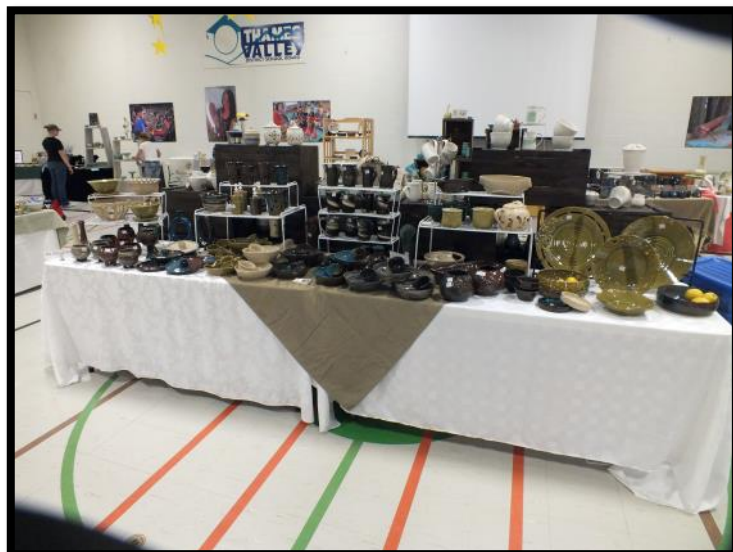
SPRING SALE

TERESA AINSWORTH

The spring sale was one of the best looking sales ever. The potters have really upped their game and the displays are just getting better and more professional all the time. Unfortunately, the buying public didn't come out in droves to see how great it looked and the amazing works of art that were available. However, we did have 700 people through and sales just under \$21,000.

We missed the pottery from the crew that went off to Korea – Chris Snedden, Sandy Harquail, Pauline Durham and Judy Sparkes. Pottery from Jordan Scott, another Korea traveller, was present and set up by Melody Green (Jordan's mother).

Thanks to everyone for a great sale.



LIBRARY

TERESA AINSWORTH

As most of you know, we have a large selection of older issues of Ceramics Monthly (mainly with a few Pottery Making and other clay-related magazines). These are available for sale for a mere 25cents each. It is a treat to read the older issues and they are really a source of inspiration for potters. All the proceeds from the sale of these issues go towards purchase of new (or new to us) books for the library .

Since we have a number of children's classes and clay camps coming up, I thought it would be a good idea to purchase some books on clay for children. So... "Exploring Clay with Children", and "Funtastic Clay Critters" are on the way and will be put in the library as soon as they arrive. If you want to browse through the magazines for sale, contact Teresa and she will show you where they are.

INTERNAL WORKSHOPS

JUDY RISELING

We had two very successful workshops in May. The open studio with David Moynihan was focused, informative and full of techniques and tidbits to roll over in our brains. Kaitlyn McGill's Gold Lustre workshop was well received and we learned how to enhance our pots with a little pizzazz!

Our summer workshops should be fun and interesting. Chris Snedden will be running both the Open Studio on July 19 and the Raku workshop on July 26. In August we have a full slate of workshops beginning with an Open Studio with Chris Snedden Aug. 16; Sandy Harquail will help you with Teapots on Aug. 23; and David Moynihan will give us some Dinnerware Tips, Tricks and Techniques on August 24-28. It all sounds great--hope to see you there.

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