

## **Clayfolk**

P.O. Box 1334 Jacksonville, OR 97530

Highlights of Clayfolk

**New Member Packet revised December 2022**

## **Clayfolk**

*A fellowship celebrating the ceramic arts through education and promotion.*

Welcome to Clayfolk. As a new member there are several ways to take advantage of all that Clayfolk has to offer. Come connect with other potters and expand your clay experiences.

5 meetings a year

5 newsletters a year

Website [www.clayfolk.org](http://www.clayfolk.org)

2 - 3 workshops a year

Monthly focus group on glazes

Volunteer positions available to help run the organization

Show and sale opportunities

## **Who We Are**

Clayfolk is a non-profit, educational ceramic arts organization based in Southern Oregon. Clayfolk was born in 1976 when a small group of Jackson County potters began meeting together to share ideas, experiences, and potluck dinners; now, our organization has grown to over 150 members who come from all over Oregon as well as Northern California. Because membership is open to anyone interested in the ceramic arts, Clayfolk embraces a wide range of participants, from those pursuing clay as a part-time hobby to full-time ceramic artists.

## **Membership**

A Clayfolk Membership costs \$18 annually and is not pro-rated, meaning that although an annual membership currently extends from January to December, you may join at any time. Membership dues and the annual fall pottery show and sale fund Clayfolk's myriad of costs and activities. A Clayfolk Membership includes five newsletters a year, five meetings, enews, a member's discount on Clayfolk workshops, and an opportunity to participate in Clayfolk Shows & Sales.

## **Clayfolk Newsletter**

The newsletter, published five times a year, regularly highlights a summary of the most recent meeting, reminders of scheduled workshops or other events, and the location and time of the next meeting. The newsletter also contains items similar to classified ads, announcements from galleries searching for artwork, organizations holding contests, or people looking to sell used ceramic equipment and supplies. In addition, the newsletter also reports on members' news, and is always seeking photographs of members' work to publish.

A yearly membership directory and an application for the annual show and sale is included along with the April/May/June newsletter.

## **Meetings**

Meetings are held in either a member's home or another venue hosted by a member. You can attend in person or via zoom. Each meeting features a business agenda and may include a presentation on some aspect of ceramics, and sometimes a potluck meal. Meetings are a wonderful opportunity to socialize with other Clayfolk members as well as participate in the business of the organization. You can volunteer to host a meeting at the January meeting or contact the Clayfolk president prior to the meeting.

**Points** People join Clayfolk for a variety of reasons. If you are interested in show and selling opportunities, the earning of points will be of interest to you. Details about points can be found on the website. Most interested members are able to participate in the show in their first or second year of membership.

**Programs** Plan program for three general meetings a year. Program can be a visiting or local artist doing a demo, info that helps with self-promotion, and ways to stay ergonomically healthy.

**Library Program** : As part of its educational endeavors, Clayfolk purchases books and videos to give to both the local Jackson and Josephine County Library Systems. These books, chosen by Clayfolk's library committee, range from adult to children's books, and from practical, how-to books to coffee table volumes featuring world famous ceramic artists.

**Empty Bowls** : Each year many Clayfolk members participate in local Empty Bowls projects, which collect work from potters and help organize events for various hunger project sales in Jackson, Josephine, and Douglas counties. Originally started in 1990 by a Michigan schoolteacher who wanted to raise money to feed the hungry, the Empty Bowls project is now a nation-wide event. Clayfolk members are encouraged to donate their work for this sale; the Empty Bowls sale is traditionally held in the fall.

**Ellice T. Johnston Scholarship** : The Ellice T. Johnston Scholarship is a scholarship of \$2000 awarded yearly by Clayfolk to a student (a non Clayfolk member) who is currently studying ceramics at a college or art school. For an application, contact Clayfolk or download the form from our webpage. Please check the website for deadlines.

**Workshops** : Clayfolk is pleased to sponsor several workshops a year led by nationally known potters and sculptors. Adrian Arleo, Paul Soldner, Virginia Cartwright, Ian Curie, John Glick, John Leech and Ellen Currans, Lana Wilson, and Steven Hill are some of the artists who have visited Clayfolk in the past. Clayfolk members receive discounts on all Clayfolk-sponsored workshops.

**Clayfolk Show and Sale** : Each fall, Clayfolk holds an annual pottery show and sale. Along with selling their work, Clayfolk members also have the opportunity to offer clay demonstrations and teach children about ceramics. Read more about this show and sale on the following pages and on our webpage.

### **Board Members**

The Clayfolk Board consists of seven positions. Board members are elected yearly. Ballots are published in the December/January newsletter. Board responsibilities are as follows:

#### **President**

Set agendas and run 5 board and 5 general meetings. Work with the Show Chair and oversee how everything is going. Update with the Board annual calendar of all meetings and newsletters. Provide information for newsletters including opportunities for members to make points. Distribute point forms to Scholarship and Library Chairs and give points for Board members to the Point Chair. Each January update webpage information with the Vice President.

#### **Vice President**

Attend Board meetings, general meetings, and run meetings when President is unable to. Assist President with updating the webpage annually. Assist with tasks as designated by President.

#### **Treasurer #1**

Write checks to Members and Accounts Payable. Assemble yearly information and deliver to tax preparer. Maintain electronic spreadsheet and file all pertinent receipts and statements. Regularly attend Board meetings and reports fiscal health to Members and the Board.

#### **Treasurer #2 (Show)**

Work with show venue representatives and Show Chairs. Tally yearly show receipts and individual artist show sales. Collect and deposit all monies during the show and throughout the year. Consult annually with scholarship committee. Regularly attend Board meetings.

#### **Secretary**

Take minutes and keep track of board and general meeting notes. Record attendance at meetings and give points to the Points Chair. Vote on board decisions. Provide meeting notes to webmaster. Be available to give members general information.

#### **Members at Large**

Attend all board meetings, present the concerns of the members to the board. Vote on all board decisions including the selection of chairpersons. Assist with tasks as designated by President. If the Secretary isn't at a meeting, will take minutes and collect sign-up sheet. Other Positions and Committees

#### **Workshops**

Set up two to three workshops per year. Contacts workshop artists, advertises to our member ship and elsewhere, collects monies, assists the artist, and runs the workshop.

#### **Empty Bowls**

Separate Chair each for Jackson, Josephine, and Douglas County. Collects work from potters and helps organize events with various groups to sell pots to donate monies to local food banks

**eNews**

Responsible for all electronic/email communications sent to the membership.

**Library Committee**

Keeps a list of books and DVDs previously donated to the library. Selects and buys books and DVDs for libraries in Jackson and Josephine Counties.

**Membership**

Keep members information up to date, add new members as needed, print labels for newsletter.

**Newsletter**

Organize Clayfolk information, format, copy/collate and send out 5 newsletters per year. Send email copy to webmaster and eNews Chair.

**Points**

Organize and update points yearly - works with President, Show Chair and others to update points.

**Programs**

Plan programs for three general meetings a year. Program can be a visiting or local artist doing a demo, info that helps with self-promotion, and ways to stay ergonomically healthy.

**Scholarships**

Advertise the annual scholarship, create application, process applications. Select candidate.

**Webmaster**

Webmaster will maintain and update web page. Webmaster also serves on Promotions committee during the annual show.

**Archivist**

Collect, organize, and maintain Clayfolk digital archives.

**Annual Clayfolk Pottery Show and Sale**

For over four decades, Clayfolk has held an annual pottery show and sale. This event offers the opportunity for people to come to the Rogue Valley to see and to purchase the work of Clayfolk artists. Clayfolk members also give clay demonstrations during the show, further educating the public (and each other) about the exciting world of ceramics. There is also a children's area where our young visitors can make a piece of pottery to take home with them.

The annual Clayfolk show is not juried. Because of limited venue space, participation is regulated by a points system, which is described in the Points information. Show participants are involved in all aspects of the show-- planning, organizing publicity, sales, wrapping purchases and greeting people. Each Clayfolk member who participates in the show is required to serve on one committee and work two or three shifts (as cashier, wrapper, greeter, etc.) during the show. Currently, 15% commission covers the show's expenses and funds various Clayfolk sponsored activities throughout the rest of the year.

Members who take on the additional responsibility of chairing a show committee or being the trainee earn points. There are also other opportunities to be involved in Clayfolk and earn points; again, see the Points section for more detail.

Each annual show includes a group booth; artists who have been members of Clayfolk less than a year are eligible to apply. Artists who have been members of Clayfolk for a full year or more may apply for space in the group booth, a half booth, or a full booth. Booth locations are determined by point totals.

Clayfolk's April/May/June newsletter contains the annual show application form as well as show deadlines, guidelines and a listing of committees. Those members who wish to participate in the show usually list three committee choices, work shifts, or jobs (in order of preference) and send the application back to the Show Chair. In turn, the Show Chair sifts through the applicants' preference lists, assigns committee chairs and members.

The Show Chair then publishes the results of the applications in July/August Clayfolk newsletter - Clayfolk show applicants then find out to what committees they have been assigned and what type of booth space they have received (full, half-booth, group booth, waitlist, etc.)

Clayfolk has come a long way from those informal gatherings of potters over potluck dinners in the '70s, but the organization still remains united by a common love of ceramics. If you have any questions about Clayfolk, please feel free to contact any Clayfolk chair or member. Welcome to a dynamic, growing community of artists.