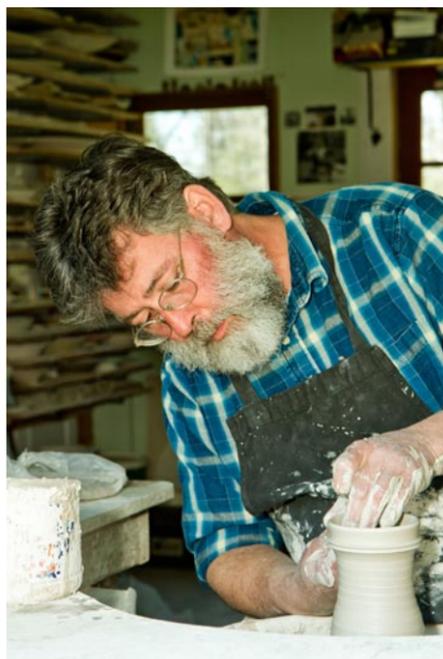


NC Potters Conference in Seagrove

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Patrick Rowe and Leanne Pizio demonstrating at the conference site during check-in on Thursday. These special additions of guided tours and demonstrations to Thursday, Mar. 5 of the conference will kick off the conference with an exciting amount of creative and historical activity.



Dan Finnegan working

The theme of this year's conference, *The Similarities in Our Differences*, is inspired by the transition of the event from one organization to another. As organizers, makers, or manufacturers, we all use a variety of skills and techniques to achieve a similar goal... to create the best pieces of art we can. Every aspect of the 2020 NC Potters Conference is designed to explore the similarities and differences, and sometimes the similarities in our differences that we all share in executing our craft.



Work by Dan Finnegan

After an initial day of guided tours the conference will continue in a similar format as past years centering around two days of demonstrating artists in addition to multiple speakers. Three demonstrators will work side-by-side, encouraging questions, and conversing with the audience and each other covering topics surrounding their unique techniques and perspectives on their ceramic careers. Interspersed in the program are speakers that will help to inform on a diversity of contemporary business practices including manufacturing, advertising, and marketing. Unlike other conferences, you do not have to pick and choose which workshops to attend. All the demonstrations and presentations are scheduled for the entire group. Potters at any skill level will come away with new ideas and inspiration to improve their work and professional practices. Even non-potters have found the weekend a worthwhile introduction into the world of ceramics.

Our demonstrators this year are Bede Clarke, Dan Finnegan, and Lisa Naples. Bede Clarke has been a Professor of Art at Missouri University in Columbia since 1992. Clarke will demonstrate a range of his utilitarian wares and share his wood firing methods. Lisa Naples works and teaches from her barn in Doylestown, PA. Naples will share her hand-painted sculptural vessels that portray highly detailed illustrations of animals that convey a narrative. Dan Finnegan received his initial training in clay at Winchcombe Pottery in Gloucestershire, England, with Ray Finch. Finnegan now works in a studio deep in the woods next to his two chamber



Work by Thomas Schmidt

wood-fired kiln outside of Fredericksburg, Virginia. Prior to the demonstrations, each artist will give a brief presentation about their background, methods, and works made throughout their career.



Works from East Fork Pottery

The featured speakers during the conference will be Alex Matisse and Connie Matissee of East Fork Pottery, Ron Philbeck, and Thomas Schmidt. The East Fork Pottery team creates a unique brand of ceramic wares out of an ever growing factory space in Asheville, NC; they just opened another manufacturing space in Atlanta, GA. Alex and Connie will both give separate talks about the evolution of the business and marketing direction of the East Fork model. Ron Philbeck owns and operates a pottery in Shelby, NC. He will give a talk about creating social media promotion and online sales for the traditional individual handmade pottery scale. Thomas Schmidt is associate professor of Interdisciplinary 3D Studio and Ceramics at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Schmidt's talk will delve into his integration of digital fabrication and slip casting to create ceramic production lines.

Related pottery shows include:

Unless otherwise stated, all conference-related shows/sales will be held at the conference site - the Historic Luck's Cannery.



Work by Ron Philbeck

Demonstrating Artists and Speakers who are also artists are invited to participate in this show. Come check out the wonderful pieces by our 2020 artists. All pieces in the show will be available for purchase. A percentage of each sale goes towards making the conference a success!

Attendees who purchase Full Conference Registration are eligible to place up to 5 pieces into this show. Come check out a kaleidoscopic variety of great pieces by our 2020 conference attendees. All pieces in the show will be available for purchase. A percentage of each sale goes towards making the conference a success!

As part of the North Carolina Pottery Center's ongoing collaboration with East

continued above on next column to the right

HOT GLASS Cold Beer



Hot Glass Cold Beer - Hearts Ablaze
with guest artists
Julia and Robin Rogers.
Live music in the
STARworks Cafe &
Taproom following demo.
Food truck on site.

Feb. 13
The fun starts
at 5:30pm.

STARworksNC
Center for Creative Enterprise
www.STARworksNC.org
(910) 428-9001

Carolina University's Ceramics Program, we have invited their current Ceramics Guild members to exhibit at the conference. Come check out some of the cool and interesting work being produced by ECU's ceramics students. All pieces in the show will be available for purchase. A percentage of each sale goes towards mak-

ing the conference a success!

For more information about all of our presenting artists, full conference schedule, registration, accommodations, and much more can be found on our conference website at (www.NCPottersConference.org).

A Celebration of the Potteries of Historic Busbee Road in Seagrove, NC, Takes Place - Feb. 8, 2020

The Seagrove Potters of Historic Busbee Road in Seagrove, NC, are literally in motion making new creations for Valentine's shopping. Visit the pottery shops along a 3 mile drive and enjoy shopping and refreshments. You will find an amazing variety of functional and decorative pottery, jewelry, and other crafts. Shops will offer a variety of happenings and refreshments; look for the Event signs. Where is Busbee Road, you may wonder? It's about five miles north of Robbins and seven miles south of Seagrove. Come celebrate the art and craft of clay while supporting local businesses this Valentine's season.

Participants include:



Pam & Vernon Owens at Jugtown Pottery

Jugtown Pottery, with their Valentine's fundraiser for animals in need, featuring mugs, vases, tea-ware, fine crafts, chocolate, coffee and tea.

JLK Jewelry at Jugtown will have a selection of new jewelry designs available at Jugtown. Handmade sterling silver jewelry set with pottery cabochons made using Jug-



Works from Studio Touya

town's clay and glazes and accented with semi-precious stones and sometimes gold.

Original Owens Pottery, featuring signature Owens Red glaze, dinnerware, planters and complimentary popcorn.

O'Quinn Pottery will feature items including "I LOVE YOU" mugs, angels and heart-shaped pottery pieces and serve refreshments.

Studio Touya will feature mugs, tea cups and more functional pottery, and refreshments will be offered.

Ben Owen Pottery will have new pieces in Chinese Red and Purple Haze; refreshments and chocolates will be served.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call Jugtown Pottery at 910/464-3266 or visit (www.jugtownware.com).