



April 2022

# THE KILN POST

## President's Message

Dear SACA members,

Today we had a great program at Janet Burner's studio about preparing to jury. As someone preparing to jury myself, it was an incredibly informative session, and I learned a lot. We also got a lovely tour of Janet's studio and had the opportunity to look at her work and ask questions. It was great seeing other members and talking about clay and the jurying process. See below for some pictures from today's event.

In other news, we have some great workshops in the works and we're looking forward to sharing more details. Also, if you're planning to jury, remember to sign up for our upcoming session.

The return to in-person events has been incredibly rewarding and the opportunity to meet and talk with other clay artists has taken on a new meaning as the pandemic hopefully fades into our collective rear view mirror. After the challenges the pandemic brought to our community, I treasure and value my growing connections to our members that much more. I hope you are all well and that you've been finding time this spring to make some cool things with mud. Thank you!

[Cory Aaland](#)  
[President](#)

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## **Get A Grip! How to Handle Your Pots Better**

**Date: Sunday, May 15, 2022**

**Time: 1:00 to 4:00 PM**

**Location: Tucson Clay Art Center  
1703 E Ft Lowell Rd  
Tucson**

**Instructor: Virginia Thompson**

**Fee: \$60 members  
\$70 non-members**

Learn the forms and physics of good handles for your handmade drinking and pouring vessels. This workshop will cover:

- What makes a handle good or bad, both in relation to the human hand and the usage of the vessel.
- Six different ways to craft handles that are pleasing to the hand and eye.
- How to place and attach the handles to vessels and make sure they stay there through drying and firing.

This will be an interactive workshop. Participants are asked to prepare in advance at least one handbuilt or wheel thrown vessel, and have it in the "gouda to cheddar cheese" state (aka soft leather hard), trimmed if necessary, to attach handles to during the workshop. Feel free to bring several. You should have these vessels along with 5 pounds of the same clay body, fresh, and a basic ceramics tool kit ready for use.

This workshop is appropriate for all levels from beginning to expert.  
If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact,  
[Elizabeth Garber, SACA Vice President.](#)

**Registration Open Now!**  
**Registration Closes Tuesday, May 10, 2022.**

**Register**

**Tucson Clay Art Center  
Health & Safety Guidelines  
Masking is optional if fully vaccinated.**



Virginia Thompson has been studying and creating pottery for over 20 years, some highlights of which include a year at the Aichi Prefectural University of Fine Arts and Music in the Traditional Ceramics program as a research student in Japan, working as an apprentice at Whitefish Pottery in Whitefish, MT, and artist residencies in Rochester, NY and Tainan, Taiwan.

She holds an MFA from the School for American Crafts at the Rochester Institute of Technology, and has been a full-time faculty of Ceramics and Sculpture at Cochise College in Sierra Vista, AZ for the last decade. Virginia loves working with pottery enthusiasts at all skill levels to share with them the technical and functional elements that can be applied to make good vessels in their personal style. She has a private studio at her home in the Huachuca Mountains called Stump Canyon Studio, and spends any spare time hiking with her husband, cuddling her two cats, and practicing the banjo.



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## SACA Jury Session

**Sunday, April 23, 2022**

**8:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

**Registration Open: Now**

**Registration Closes: April 20, 2022**

**Location: [The Romero House Pottery at TMA, 102 W Washington Street](#)**

- Please plan to arrive between 8:30-9:30 am to set up your display. Plan to leave by 9:45 am because judging will begin shortly thereafter.
- Please return for your work between 1:00-1:30 pm. If you need to ask for different drop-off or pick-up time, contact the Jury Coordinator who will try to accommodate your request.
- The jurors' decision about your work will be emailed to you by the Jury Coordinator within two days. The decision is "Accepted" or "Deferred."

***This is the second jury session for 2022.*** SPACE IS LIMITED to the first 12 SACA applicants. If you want to be placed on the wait-list, complete the entire application, pay the fee, and the Jury Coordinator will notify you if the session can accommodate you. The fee will be refunded promptly if there is no room. Walk-ins are not accepted on the day of the session. [Read more about Jury Sessions.](#)

It is strongly urged that you [download and review a copy of the Jury Guidelines](#). They will help you understand the judging requirements and prepare accordingly.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Janet Burner, Jury Coordinator.

Register



## Renew Your Membership

Hey! We're getting back into the swing of things and planning some exciting workshops, presentations and discussions.

[Renew Now](#)

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## Open Board Positions

Please consider volunteering!

**Workshops Chair** - Plans and facilitates workshops and coordinates with workshop artists, workshop hosts and workshop participants.

**Marketing Chair** - Informs the membership and general public about SACA events and activities through media and outlets appropriate to the event.

**Member Programs Chair** - Responsible for planning programs for members and guests throughout the year.

For more information or to express your interest in a position, please contact SACA.

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## Southern Arizona Clay Artists & Friends

### [Join the Facebook Group Now!](#)

Tell your friends to join us. Membership in SACA is not required.  
You will always find a link in the footers of our newsletter and website.

[southernarizonaclayartists.com](http://southernarizonaclayartists.com)

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