

**July 2023**

*A publication of Southern Arizona Clay Artists*



# The Kiln Post

## President's Message

Happy Summer! Hope you're staying comfortable in your studios or having grand adventures in cooler parts of the world. I know I am definitely counting down the days until my family' beach vacation later this summer. It can't come soon enough!

Our SACA board is excited to add some events to our calendar! Check out the upcoming Member Programs happening this summer and into the fall. And be sure to mark December 10 on your calendar for our Holiday Party – we're excited to get this going again!

We want to feature your work in the new Member Gallery on our website! Just go to [Member Gallery](#) to submit an image or two. Help us show the community what amazing artists you all are!

Stay cool and creative this July,  
~melissa



Silver City Clay Festival  
July 10-16, 2023  
Silver City, New Mexico

*If you don't have plans this weekend, it's a short drive from Tucson to Silver City.*

SACA's own Elaine Walsh has been accepted into the exhibition, Grace.

And Melissa Henshaw and Julie Stein will be selling their pottery at the Makers Market on Saturday, July 15.



## Elections for Expiring Board Positions

SACA is getting ready for board elections in September at the Annual General Meeting and looking for a Nominations Committee Coordinator. [Please message President, Melissa Henshaw if you'd be willing to help us find members to fill our open board positions.](#)

Several of our members are finishing their Board terms and we are looking for new friends to join us! If you've ever considered getting more involved in SACA, now's the time. We are currently looking for applicants for the following positions for the 2024-25 2-year term:

- Vice President
  - Member Programs (position currently open)
  - Shows Chair
  - Website & Technology Manager
  - Member at Large
-



## SACA Marketplace

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the July registration date for this show is temporarily suspended. Additional details will be provided as we get more information. Please watch your email for updates--and apologies for the delay.

## Annual Tohono Chul Show February 9 & 10, 2024

The Annual Tohono Chul Show is open to all juried SACA members on a first come, first served basis. There will be room for approximately 30 artists. Please take time to review the [Shows Policy](#) on page 15 of SACA Board Policies & Procedures.

**Registration will open on the website at noon on December 1, 2023.**

More details will be forth coming as they become available. Keep you eyes open for emails from SACA.



## Tips & Tricks

Do you struggle with trying to keep glaze out of certain areas while dipping planters and other pieces with holes in the glaze bucket? Check out this great tip from artist [Kirsti Kash](#), who was recently featured in Pottery Making Illustrated.



Use ear plugs to fill the holes when dipping your pieces! They're flexible, squishy, and will expand to fit small holes blocking the glaze from getting through. They can even be washed and reused a few times.



Try it out!

## MEMBER PROGRAMS

*always free and open to the public*



Have you been interested in selling online but aren't quite sure where to start? Are you overwhelmed by the different platform options or simply wondering if you need a website or not? If so, this online event is for you!



Join us for the SACA Clay Circle, an opportunity to take a closer look at the techniques and construction of your work. See what areas could be improved upon. Ask questions you may have.

Join us for a look into some of the options available that our members are currently using to sell their work online.

Hear about their experiences. What worked for them when they were just starting out. What they wish they'd known early on. How it's going now, and more.

RSVP by July 23, 2023 to receive the Zoom link for this virtual program.

If you would like to share a bit about your experience, please contact [Melissa](#)



Bring 1-3 pieces of your own work to review with other members. Everyone is welcome, it will be a great learning opportunity for all.

For those looking to participate in our upcoming October Jury session and feeling some jury jitters, this will be a helpful meeting to attend.

Murphy-Wilmot Library Meeting Room  
530 N Wilmot Rd  
Tucson



## SACA Chillin' at the Chul

Chillin' at the Chul was a great success! Several of our members braved the heat on June 24 for a lovely evening of socializing with SACA friends at Tohono Chul. It was definitely hot out, but just like the gardens say, it really is cooler under the trees.

While there we visited the latest gallery exhibit, "The Exotic Sublime: land and sky." The exhibit features work by fellow SACA members Terry Moss and Ric Maledon, Samirah Steinmeyer, and Matthew Valiquette. Terry also shared some of his design process and pictures of his studio, too.



Monsoons Dreams

Terry Moss & Ric Maledon



Terry Moss



Sonoran Sunset

Terry Moss & Ric Maledon



Existent

Samirah Steinmeyer



Jaguar Mountain

Matthew Valiquette

### MEMBER GALLERY

Remember to visit our brand new [Member Gallery](#) to see the amazing work created by our fellow

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Have a new piece of work you want to show off? Or trying out a fun technique new to you? SACA would love to share

SACA artists. And while you're there, submit a photo or two of your own work for the community to see. We love this new member feature and are excited about the opportunity to share the work of our members.

### **JURY SESSION**

Coming in October

Visit the SACA [website](#) for preliminary information.

your work on our Instagram and Facebook Stories. Be sure to tag us @SouthernArizonaClayArtists and use the hashtags #SouthernArizonaClayArtists and #SACATucson the next time you post! You can also join the [Southern Arizona Clay Artists and Friends](#) group on Facebook to connect with our members and others in the community!

### **IN MEMORY**

Remembering Marilyn Cleavinger  
by Mary Swallow

Marilyn Cleavinger passed away on the night of June 26, 2023.

She was a vital part of the Tucson clay community through her many years of teaching for Parks and Recreation pottery programs at Randolph, Udall and Ellie Towne, and also in SACA as a Board Member. Marilyn was the kindest and most generous friend and teacher. She was a talented potter in her own right and she was a natural teacher. Her quiet, patient teaching style inspired and helped develop the skills of so many clay artists.

She would always have a thorough well-thought-out answer to any question (even if not clay related) and would follow up with research to give you further information and input. She helped so many with setting up their home studios. Her generosity of time and talent to her students was legendary.

Thank you, Marilyn, for being my teacher, mentor and friend. You will be missed.





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