



Clay Space—The Next Chapter

March 2025 Newsletter #3



If you haven't yet checked out the Nonprofit Road Map on the Clay Space website here is the link to the page:

<https://www.clayspaceeugene.com/nonprofit-road-map>

This **webpage** explains what is happening with the transition to a nonprofit organization, including some history of Clay Space and what you can expect in the near future.

This **newsletter (3 pages!)** contains updates on what has been accomplished so far, in moving forward to this goal. Please read both and contact a Board member if you have questions or want to offer help in any way.

Committee Updates

Board of Directors—Janiece Woodland (including **Finance**)

A 2025 budget has been finalized and approved by the board. The nonprofit (ClaySpaceEugene.org) now has a bank account set up! This is the first big step to allowing the nonprofit to start accepting donations. While we don't yet have our 501(c)3 status, donations can still be made directly to the nonprofit. As always, speak with your tax advisor about claiming donations on your tax return.

Two meetings are scheduled with our membership for Sunday, April 6th. These meetings are to discuss what the Board has been up to since we met last fall, our approach to stabilizing our finances, and some ideas that we have for the future. Check your email for the time and place for your meeting.

Ceramic Materials—Janiece Woodland

Great news! Clay Space has entered into an agreement with Wildling Collaborative Arts (our local Laguna distributor). We will start carrying a variety of Laguna clays, in addition to the clays we get from Clay Art Center. Our plan is to carry B-Mix, some B-Mix with Grog, Baboo Porcelain and at least one brown/red clay.

Education Oversight—Mariah Williams

We have rolled out new studio cleaning checklists at each wheel station and near the sinks in the main studio and classroom. Bins are located at each wheel with new clean-up sponges for the wheel areas with a designated blue sponge for floor clean up. We created Version 1.0 of a student handout of studio processes, policies and procedures. Continuing to work on a compilation of all of the above, and more, to create an instructor handbook.

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March 2025 Newsletter #3

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Committees with no updates will likely have something to report for the next newsletter.

Events—Deb Babcock

Clay Space is on the **Maude Kerns Artist Studio Tour** on Saturday, April 26, from 11 am to 4 pm. Four of our artists will be featured: Lee Dwyer, Martha Pitts, Yvonne Stubbs, and Barbara Herman. We expect up to 100 people to come through during the day. We will have monitors who agreed to help us guide people through: Jackie, Liv, Brunson, Meg, Deb, and Megan. Thank you to all for stepping up! If you want to help with this event, please contact Deb: deb@blueskypottery.com

We are also on the tour for the **Local Clay Group** on Sunday, May 25. More details to come. If you would like to help Lee with this event, please contact her at madpotterdwyer@yahoo.com

Thanks to Lee Dwyer and Emily Kidder, we have **calendars** with all events listed on them. One is a year-long calendar on the wall by the bisque kilns, and the other is a take-home flyer listing 3 to 4 months of events. You can find these near the big calendar, in the office, and in a rack in the main gallery.

Jackie Clark is working with Megan Anderson to get the **Pottery Challenge** program up and running again. The first Challenge is NESTING, and creations will go on display May 1st on the shelves in the hallway between classrooms. We also will start up a monthly **Featured Artist** program on May 1st, using the shelves next to the Challenge shelves. Thank you to graphic artist Talia Zigler for designing the signs to go up there soon.

In place of the spring pottery sale this year, we are hosting an art fest that includes Wildling Collaborative Arts and Whiteaker Printmakers. Thank you to Cathy McGrath, Jeff Keating and Cecelia Story for heading up the planning committee for the June 8 **Second Avenue Art Fest!** More to come on this event. Put the date in your calendar!

Facilities—Steve Gab

Facility changes since last month include getting rid of the old hydraulic press and finishing the classroom wall. We'll always have a list of "to do's". At the top of the list are reorganizing the clay reclamation process, possibly adding a second rinse sink in the main studio and creating a better wedging table for the classroom.

Current Board Members
Denise Railsback
Janiece Woodland
Sherri Jackson
Tabitha Buzby
Meg Littler

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March 2025 Newsletter #3

Committee Updates

Volunteers —New Committee!

We are looking for someone to help us start collecting and tracking volunteer hours. For the time being, it is going to be a manual process - likely spreadsheet based. We will need to work with each of the current committees to collect hours spent each month by volunteers and consolidate those numbers. Long term, this information will be used to help solicit grants and other funding for the non-profit. Janiece will help facilitate this until we have a volunteer (or small group of volunteers) to help manage it going forward. If you are interested in taking this on (or helping with it), please reach out to Janiece at: Janiece@clayspaceeugene.org

Upcoming Activities for Members!

On March 30th, Clay Space will be having a "Make-a-Thon" event for wheel and hand-builders. As part of some of our upcoming and ongoing events for the nonprofit, we will be selling small wine/beer tumblers that will carry the Clay Space logo. We are looking for members to help make these using their wheel and hand-building skills. Clay will be provided; you will not be responsible for any of the work beyond the original make. We have a small team who will apply the medallions and do all of the glazing. Sign-up on the sheet on the gallery door. We hope to see you there!

SAFETY REMINDER

PLEASE, be extra careful if you are at the studio alone and/or after hours. Be aware of your surroundings if you are entering or leaving the building before or after opening and closing times. If you suspect anything is amiss, leave the building or do not enter the building and call 911 immediately.

Emergency contact details are posted on the main studio door.

Support Your Studio!

We have quality Clay Space aprons and T-shirts for sale in the office. See Emily or Anna to purchase them.

Aprons \$30—one size, adjustable

T-shirts \$22—small, med, large, XL

