

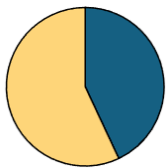
CLAY STUDIO COLLECTIVE



Special Newsletter

We're Listening...

Welcome to our Special Edition Newsletter that addresses issues and questions from the recent Member Feedback Survey. Thank you for taking the time to respond!



Satisfaction Rating- On a scale of 1 (lowest) - 5 (highest) we asked you to rate your satisfaction with the studio. 57% - 5 rating and 43% - 4 rating! Some comments:

- Welcoming, love the venue, peaceful, bright, spacious
- Value the camaraderie and sharing of ideas with fellow members.
- Appreciate openness and willingness of the executive to resolve issues and continuously work toward developing and improving operation of the studio



Event Recommendations:

- Member pottery sales at local events (Athens Farmersville, CornFest).
- Online auction for donation pieces or private lessons
- Raffle for unique donated item
- Silent auction social event

These are great suggestions which will take volunteers to organize and manage. We are currently looking to establish a Membership Committee to work with our Membership Director, to provide the necessary support to host member events. Please send an email if you are interested.

Studio Cleaning: There is much discussion within the pottery community regarding vacuuming a pottery studio. Vacuuming is a common cleaning process however, when vacuuming, it is important to use a vacuum with HEPA rated filtration. HEPA rated means it removes the super fine particles which are the concern with clay dust. Studio and member safety is very important to the CSC. We use a HEPA vacuum with HEPA filter and HEPA vacuum bags.

There was a test completed recently to use the vacuum with just the HEPA vacuum bags to reduce the noise level of the vacuum. Unfortunately, it had little effect on the noise and did create dust in the studio. We quickly went back to using both the HEPA filter and HEPA vacuum bags. We are continuing our research to find an alternative quieter option. We have implemented a studio cleaning time, which is every Tuesday from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.



As a result of comments received in the survey, we are implementing the following:

- Special orders: if there is clay from Amaranth that you would like to use, please send an email and if possible, we will include in our next clay order. The person requesting a specific clay will have first access once the clay is in the studio.
- Old clay: Members may have left over clay from other studios that they would like to use here at CSC. We will address any request on an individual basis. Please send an email to claystudicollective@gmail.com with the type of clay you wish to use and the amount.
- Alternative uses for old clay: Cookies, studio glaze testers or donate for use in community initiatives such as Empty Bowls.

Clay

Summer Announcement!

We are excited to announce that extra studio time will be available during the summer months. As soon as we have a schedule – we will let you know! Come and get your clay on this summer!

How Can We Improve?

More Glazes

- We just added new glazes including dark chocolate brown, honey, butterscotch & cream
- Greenliner will be ready next!

Larger Cubbies

- Following Operation Kiln Connection, our next project will be larger cubbies

Timely Kiln loading/unloading

- We realize there has been a slow turnaround due to empty bowls & having 1 kiln
- The 2nd kiln will alleviate this problem in the future

Kiln Schedule

- The schedule is dependent on the number of items. When production increases and is more consistent, we will be able to develop a schedule.

Classes / Workshops: Members indicated they would like:

- Refresher classes
- Glazing and decorating workshops
- Sculpture workshops
- Private throwing sessions

Anyone interested in refresher classes or private throwing sessions should email kcameronpottery@gmail.com directly and indicate their interest. Once there are enough participants for a class, something can be scheduled. It is important for you to email Krista Cameron Pottery and get on the mailing list for upcoming classes. The CSC respects your privacy and would never provide Krista Cameron Pottery (KCP) with a list of our members and email addresses. In cooperation with KCP, we hope to offer various workshops to members. Workshops will be promoted via email to members, posted on the studio bulletin board and the CSC website.

Additional Recommendations

1

Member Representation on the Board

Yes please! We have a documented process for joining the Board of Directors. This requires working on a committee. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please send an email and we can begin the process.

2

Publishing Goals

It was recommended that we develop and post a work plan of current and future goals. The CSC BoD have the following goals:

1. Most important goal is to increase CSC Membership
2. Additional current goals include:
 - Operation Kiln Connection
 - Grant Applications (ongoing)
 - Fundraising Initiatives - Plant Kindness
3. Future goals include larger cubbies, hydro metering system, shelving units, etc.