



# Clay Space—The Next Chapter



Have you been wondering what's happening with the changes at Clay Space recently? If you were at the meeting on October 27 you know that there is a group of folks (interim Board of Directors) who have been working on the process to move Clay Space to a non-profit organization. Clay Space owners, Denise and Kevin, have been wanting to make this change for awhile and have decided that now is the time to move forward with their idea.

After that meeting, folks were invited to join various committees to facilitate all the upcoming changes. There is still time for you to sign up to work on a committee that you may be interested in. Together we can make this the best environment of support and inspiration where all feel welcome and part of a community!

We hope to publish a newsletter like this, every few months, to provide you with information from each committee lead.

**Questions about the non-profit process or to sign up for a committee, contact any of the interim board members, either face to face or via email (listed at the end of this document).**

## COMMITTEES

Ceramic Materials	→ Janiece Woodland
Committee Oversight	→ Lee Dwyer
Communication	→ Cathy McGrath
Education	→ Megan Anderson
Education Oversight	→ Mariah Williams
Facilities	→ Steve Gab
Finance	→ Kevin Railsback
Future Facility	→ Tabitha Buzby
Events	→ Deb Babcock
Grants	→ Meg Littler
Legal	→ Sheri Jackson
Non-Profit	→ Denise Railsback

Committees with no updates will likely have something to report early next year. Happy New Year to all!

## Committee Updates

### **Facilities—Steve Gab**

To be financially sustainable, we need to increase revenue by maximizing our capacity. New ware shelves, cubbies, and new staff to help with firings and admin, will enable opening membership to more people.

Steve reports that the Work Party on 11/23 was a rousing success! Huge kudos to Laureen, Kat, Robert, Jen (plus her son), Margie, Chris, Bridgett, Megan A. and Kevin! These changes are the first in a series of reconfigurations to allow room for the growth of the membership and make the studio a more efficient space to work in.

### **Future Facility—Tabitha Buzby**

Even though there are 2 years left on the lease in the building, the possibility of moving to a new location has been discussed. Tabitha has a team of folks who have begun a list of wants and needs for a new studio location. We plan to meet early in the new year and will do some research on zoning and real estate in the meantime.

### **Ceramic Materials (Clay and Glazes) - Janiece Woodland**

We are now stocking two new clay bodies from Clay Art Centers (WA): Dakota Yellow is a slightly sandy stoneware with an average shrinkage rate of 12%. Fires a medium reddish brown with golden hues. Takamori is a porcelain with an average shrinkage rate of 14%. Fires off-white (not paper white like Crystal Springs).

Glazes are now considered stable enough that the staff is creating all new test tiles (with the new clays).

### **Events—Deb Babcock**

The Events/Fundraising Committee is composed of me, Lee Dwyer, Jackie Clark and Meg Littler with Emily CC'd on everything. Our first official meeting will be on January 7th. We have made some initial steps into an event in May with Local Clay, and will likely discuss the Spring Sale that the Mud Sisters organized the last two years (which we may or may not do anything with via this Committee, depending upon the wishes of the Mud Sisters). And we will be working with Megan Anderson and the Education Committee on some other fundraising and friendraising events.



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## Finances—Kevin Railsback

The finance committee has been working on orienting everyone to the historical operations of Clay Space LLC (Jim & Sandy) and Clovermoon Clayworks LLC (Denise & Kevin) so that we have a good footing to set up the non-profit. The team has a lot of experience in various areas and industries, and this should work out well for us in the future as we draw on everyone's expertise. The current finance team is made up of: Kevin, Deb, Martha, Steve, and Sherri. Over the next couple of months, we will be working to form a draft budget for 2025 so that we have a starting point once the nonprofit is finalized and approved.

## Grants—Meg Littler

Meg has been gathering a list of grants for 2025 as well as working on a few that have rolling deadlines. Some grants are applicable now with the company's current status while others will become available when Clay Space becomes a non-profit.

## Other News

### Holiday Sale

The Clay Space Holiday Sale was a fun and successful event. This is the time of year when the studio comes together to deep clean and decorate our space. Twenty artists had their wares for sale and the event made about 5% more than last year.



Jeff Keating's work



Happy cashiers and wrappers



Barbara Herman's work

### New Kiln

Clay Space has gotten a large, new (used) kiln donated to us by a company in Creswell. All of our glazes and clays will need to be tested to see how they fire in it. So it will be awhile until it can be widely used. Time will tell, but in the meantime, be patient with some probable cramped space in the firing areas.

### INTERIM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tabitha Buzby—tabbybuzby@yahoo.com

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