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introduction

An annual report is mostly about retrospect: what happened, why should we care, how does it inform the future (prospect). Despite having majored in history in college, prospect—or the future—has always been more interesting to me, although I am fascinated by others' histories. Thinking about and planning for the “what ifs” of the life I'm directly involved in always holds possibility and uncertainty, two conditions that almost by definition can not be boring.



Participants in the 2011 Regis Masters Reunion. Top row: Val Cushing, Warren MacKenzie, Patti Warashina, Bill Daley, and John Mason. Bottom row: Nino Caruso, Jim Melchert, and Ron Meyers. Photo by Peter Lee.

For Northern Clay Center, 2010 was about both retrospect and prospect. We started a yearlong celebration of the Center's 20th anniversary, an activity by definition about retrospect, but also including projects that look to the future. (The full plan is shown at the end of this report.) The first two projects were a special edition of the American Pottery Festival in September, and in October, a big birthday party and reunion of Regis Masters. At the same time, we looked forward, as the Board and staff began the search for a new director. The process included two retreats, to look again at our strategic and operating plans in the light of new conditions in the world, and to ask the question, “what kind of leadership do we want for the next 5, 10, 20 years?” After updating the job description, we opened the search.

At the time this report was being published on-line, the Board had just completed that process. As of August 4, the Board announced its selection of Sarah Millfelt, NCC's deputy director, as the new director. Sarah will begin in her new role in October. A press release about the decision can be found on the Website at <http://www.northernclaycenter.org/userFiles/pdfs/pressreleases/Director%20Press%20Release.pdf>. The 2011 annual report will have additional information about the process and the selection. Until then, however, everyone at NCC congratulates Sarah on her promotion and wishes her continued success in her new role at the Center.

A paraphrase of an old Greek proverb seems particularly appropriate to apply to the history of 2010 at Northern Clay Center. The original proverb is: “A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they will never sit in.” My variation on that theme in 2010 (and into 2011) was “an arts organization grows great when old directors raise money they know they will never spend” with a codicil that says we do enough advance planning so that there is a legacy of direction (and some breathing space) but not so much as to strangle future creativity. Both the 20th anniversary projects and the search for my successor incorporate the idea that while *today* is important, we must always and simultaneously look to *tomorrow*.



A Tree in Iowa

This annual report highlights stories from staff that are key to their memories of 2010 and that seemed to them emblematic of the mission and values of NCC. For me, the following vignettes stick in my mind:

- at the **Philadelphia NCECA**
 - Jim Lawton and several other potters at NCECA thanking NCC for preparing to mount the Michael Simon show *without selling the pots*. (Michael Simon later commented on the same thing.)
 - the chance to see a re-installation of the pots, drawings, and model by father and son team Bill and Tom Daley, from the NCC *Architecture* show at the Pennsylvania AIA offices.
- the massive number of volunteer hours that went into making the **2010 APF** and **Big Birthday Bash** successful events for everyone—and which once again demonstrated the value of finding amazing volunteers and then letting them run with their jobs.
 - huge amounts of good food (who else has served visiting artists and volunteers grilled salmon *niçoise* for 50!), prepared and served with style and affection.
- the generosity of spirit and wealth of wisdom represented by the gathered **Regis Masters**, not to mention the sheer entertainment quality: Val Cushing and Bill Daley danced with everyone to the music of the Swamp Boogie Kings at the birthday party.
- the process of thinking through the **next steps for NCC** as it looked for my successor—the helpfulness of board members, staff, and funders to that thinking, and to the required work following the decision, including the two retreats held with the board and the staff to talk about critical future issues.



Pictured from top to bottom: grilled salmon *niçoise* salad at the 2010 American Pottery Festival; Bob Walsh and Emily Galusha presenting the Mayor's proclamation for Northern Clay Center day; Vernita Mason, Jim Melchert, Val Cushing, Mark Pharis, and Bill Daley toasting at the 20th Birthday Bash; Peter Leach speaking to Emily Galusha and Bob Walsh at the 20th Birthday Bash.

This is my last annual report as director of Northern Clay Center, although my job is not yet finished. I did not imagine, when I started on the Board in March of 1991, that I would stay so long, have so much fun, work so hard, and be so grateful to so many people who participated in so many ways to make NCC a huge success. There will be multiple lists in the second volume of NCC's history, to be published later this year. In the meantime, this is a heartfelt thanks to each and all of you for your particular responsibilities for NCC's growth and development and high level of service to ceramics. Stick with us—it's going to be a great future.

Emily Galusha, director

exhibitions

Jamie Lang, exhibitions director and curator

“The 20th anniversary exhibition—*It Was 20 Years Ago Today*—was the highpoint of a year filled with other also terrific shows of pots and sculpture. The anniversary exhibition stood out, though, for its display of an amazing variety of objects, providing examples of almost the entire range of possible contemporary expression in clay, by excellent artists at early, middle, and late stages of their careers. The fact that all of these artists had exhibited at NCC in the past 20 years was impressive and a point of pride for everyone here. That they were only a sampling of artists shown here, in exhibitions that displayed their work to excellent advantage, was also a point of historical pride. And finally, we were able to acquire all of the pieces from the second ten years, to add to those from the first ten, to continue the development of the Center’s teaching collection.”

- 1/15 – 3/14 Gallery M ***Three Jerome Artists: Jane Gordon, Cynthia Levine, Roberta Massuch***
Recipients of emerging artist project grants awarded in 2009
Gallery A ***Fogelberg Studio Fellowship and Red Wing Collectors Society Award***
Artists: Rebecca Chappell, Roberta Massuch, Peter Jadoonath
Annual exhibition of work by recipients of grants to underwrite short-term studio residencies at NCC, and the recipient of the annual Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation award
- 3/13 – 4/11 Perkins Center for the Arts, Collingswood, NJ ***Exquisite Pots*** touring exhibition
- 3/26 – 6/6 Gallery M ***INsideOUT: Steven Heinemann, Anne Hironnelle, Yih-Wen Kuo, Virginia Scotchie***
Ceramic sculptures by four contemporary ceramic artists who create objects that enclose or disclose spaces created by traditional vessel shapes as well as more abstract forms.
- 3/26 – 5/2 Gallery A Project ***ArtHealthy***
Exhibition of clay work created by instructors and students in fall and winter partnerships with 55+ers at Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, Episcopal Homes, Ebenezer Ridges, Ebenezer Park Apartments, and the Martin Luther Campus (part of NCC’s Wallace Foundation initiative).
- 5/6 – 6/6 Gallery A Project ***ArtSmart***
Invitational group exhibition to showcase the clay work of selected Twin Cities high school ceramics teachers and their students
- 6/18 – 8/22 Galleries M & A ***Six McKnight Artists: Ursula Hargens, Maren Kloppmann, Yoko Sekino-Bové, Cary Esser, Ilena Finnoch, Elizabeth Smith***
Recipients of 2009 McKnight Fellowships, and 2008 and 2009 Residency Grants.
Catalogue published.
- 9/24 – 11/7 Galleries M & A ***It Was 20 Years Ago Today: The 20th Anniversary Exhibition***
A sampling of work from the past 20 years of exhibitions, including pots and sculpture from NCC’s first retrospective in 2000, as well as additional selections from the last ten years, by some 50 artists who were in NCC exhibitions since 2001. The selected artists exemplified the spectrum of age, career stage, location, and interests that were included in past shows.
We plan to publish a catalogue of the exhibition, along with specially commissioned essays and a history of the second ten years of NCC.
- 11/21 – 1/2 Gallery M ***‘tis a gift... 2010 Holiday Exhibition and Sale***
Gallery A Project ***Russ Orlando, Clay Performance***
Performance-based sculpture by a Detroit artist



Pictured above: Selected imagery from *It Was 20 Years Ago Today...* Clockwise from top left to bottom left: Paul McMullan, *Red Rabbit*, 2010, low-fire earthenware, slips, flocking; entrance to Gallery M; Chuck Aydlett, *Interface*, 2010, ceramic, underglaze pencil, glaze, china paint; corner in Gallery A; David East, *ideal bisection*, 2009, ceramic; corner of Gallery M. Photos by Peter Lee.



Gallery A

ArtHealthy

March 26 – May 1, 2010

Opening Reception: Friday, March 26, 6–8 pm

Ceramic work from partnerships in
The Wallace Foundation Excellence Award program

ArtSmart

May 6 – June 6, 2010

Opening Reception: Thursday, May 6, 5–7 pm

Invitational group exhibition showcasing ceramic work
of selected Twin Cities high school ceramics teachers and students



Pictured above counter-clockwise from top left to top right: entrance to Gallery M at the *3 Jerome Artists* exhibition; work by Yih-Wen Kuo as part of the *INSide-OUT* exhibition; work by Anne Hironelle as part of the *INSideOUT* exhibition; Russ Orlando, performance piece, 2010, performed during the Holiday Open House on November 22, 2010; Ilena Finnoch, *Freakshow Series*, 2010, earthenware, underglaze, glaze, installation, displayed during the *6 McKnight Artists* exhibition. Photos by Peter Lee; Outdoor banner for *ArtHealthy* and *ArtSmart* exhibitions.

2010 exhibition artists

162 individuals

(+ 26 in ArtHealthy)

(*italics = teaching collection*)

Martye Allen
Judith Altobell
Dan Anderson
Linda Arbuckle
Anna Ault
Chuck Aydlett
Mary Barringer
Megan Bergström
Margaret Bohls
Mary Jo Bole
Joe Boyle
Barry Braun
Bob Briscoe
William Brouillard
Lisa Buck
Nino Caruso
Kevin Caufield
John Chalke
Terry Chamberlain
Pang Chamona
Rebecca Chappell
Isaac Chauss
Eric Chlen
Victoria Christen
Linda Christianson
Sam Chung
Kelly Connole
Lane Connolly
Gary Crawford
William Daley
Malcolm Davis
Stephen DeStaebler
Andrea Leila Denecke
Barbara Diduk
Eddie Dominguez
Paul Dresang
Sarah Duvall
David S. East
Edward Eberle
Gary Erickson
Cary Esser
Pat Fair
Ann Fendorf
Ken Ferguson
Natalia Fernandes
Ilena Finocchi

Andrew Fisher
Jil Franke
Adam Froehling
Nancy Gallas
Edith Garcia
Arthur Gonzáles
Jane Gordon
Katharine Gotham
Nancy Hanily Dolan
Ursula Hargens
Chelsea Hedstrom
Angela Heida
Steven Heinemann
Mike Helke
Tony Hepburn
Lisa Himmelstrup
Chuck Hindes
Anne Hironnelle
Lucas Hites
Sarah Hjelmberg
Chelsi Hohenwald
Nina Hole
Laura Holte
Ayumi Horie
Satoru Hoshino
Cheryl & Bob Husby
Peter Jadoonath
Laura Johnson
Shirley Johnson
Randy Johnston
Jun Kaneko
Karen Karnes
Gail Kendall
Maren Kloppmann
Cindy Kolodziejski
Peter Konstantinides
Joseph Kress
Yih-Wen Kuo
Justin Kurth
Eva Kwong
Jamie Lang
Karen Leopold
Adriana Lere
Cynthia Levine
Beth Lo
Lee Love



Touring exhibition, *Exquisite Pots*, on display in Collinswood, NJ during the 2010 NCECA Conference.

Marian Lucas
Peter Lupori
Warren MacKenzie
Janet Mansfield
Tony Marsh
Andrew Martin
Roberta Massuch
Ashley Mattson
Connee Mayeron
Jan McKeachie Johnston
Paul McMullan
Jim Melchert
Matthew Metz
Ron Meyers
Kent Miller
Paul Moeller
Lynsey Moseman
Robin Murphy
Farraday Newsome
Alison Nieber
Mike Norman
Jeff Oestreich
Ken Olson
Judy Onofrio
Russ Orlando
Lawson Oyekan
Donovan Palmquist
J.J. Peet
Mark Pharis
Katie Pierce
Jeff Reich
Don Reitz
Angela Renee
Nick Renshaw
Mary Roettger

Annabeth Rosen
Monica Rudquist
Sarah Ryan
Irene Saito
Pete Scherzer
Tricia Schmidt
Randy Schutt
Virginia Scotchie
Yoko Sekino-Bové
Bronwyn Sherman
Tatsuzo Shimaoka
Deborah Sigel
Linda Sikora
Michael Simon
Sandy Simon
Elizabeth Smith
Forrest Snyder
Alyssa Steinke
Mic Stowell
Bryanna Sudman
Jan Suter
James Tanner
Steven Thurston
Robert Turner
Patti Warashina
Kurt Brian Webb
Chelsea Weisner
Laura Weiss
Janet Williams
Laura Windmuller
Natalie Wolf
Betty Woodman
Tetsuya Yamada
Lucy Yogerst
Eva Zeisel

Major support for the exhibitions program was provided by the following donors: Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts, Continental Clay Company, Jerome Foundation, Myron and Anita Kunin, McKnight Foundation, George and Frances Reid, and Windgate Charitable Foundation.

education and outreach

Sarah Millfelt, director of education and artists services

“In 2008 Northern Clay Center received a major grant from the Wallace Foundation to expand our programming directed at the 55 and over audience. The primary market for this **Wallace Excellence Award** (WEA) was intended to be boomers and beyond with a range of capacity, from independent and able-bodied to residents of nursing homes with limited personal capacities; the secondary market included the caregivers and organizers of activities for these various populations, and their families.

The diversity of our 2010 participants in this initiative far exceeded our original expectations, as did the enthusiastic response from everyone we contacted. We managed to forge new and to continue old partnerships with organizations that serve the full spectrum of the 55+ population—from care centers, nursing homes, and specialized adult day programs to living co-ops, retirement groups, university extension programs, community centers, and professional clubs. Each partnership was tailored to meet the needs of the organization, its program or care staff, the participating 55+ers, and volunteers. From social gatherings, tours, and visiting artist lectures to multi-week handbuilding and wheel-throwing classes that served persons 55+ and their grandkids and families, an additional 687 individuals were introduced to clay and the Center’s offerings. They responded with delight and interest and in some cases, a determination to keep coming back.”

From social gatherings, tours, and visiting artist lectures to multi-week handbuilding and wheel-throwing classes that served persons 55+ and their grandkids and families, an additional 687 individuals were introduced to clay and the Center’s offerings. They responded with delight and interest and in some cases, a determination to keep coming back.”



A participant in NCC’s partnership program with the University of Minnesota’s OSHER program.



Residents at Ebenezer Ridges in Burnsville participate in a weekly clay class, which is part of NCC’s Wallace Excellence Award initiative.

Ongoing **adult and children’s classes** showed mixed results in 2010: enrollment in adult classes was down, but enrollment for children increased by 11%. **Outreach programs** (apart from the Wallace project above) increased dramatically over 2009: 188 unique partnerships, a 38% increase over 2009, with 6,544 participants, a 23% increase over 2009. These numbers do not include the 2,000+ who went through NCC’s tents at the Uptown Art Fair. Eleven schools with which NCC has had ongoing partnerships secured their own monies to cover the entire costs of NCC-facilitated after-school and school day programs, attesting to their commitment to clay art education for their students.

The number of **workshops and lectures** stayed level with 2009, but enrollment increased 23% to 730. Guest lecturers and presenters included eight returning Regis Masters: Nino Caruso, Val Cushing, Bill Daley, Warren MacKenzie, John Mason, Ron Meyers, Jim Melchert, and Patti Warashina, who participated in two roundtable discussions at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts as part of the 20th anniversary celebrations. Other presenters included McKnight recipients Maren Kloppmann, Ursula Hargens, Cary Esser, Ryan Mitchell, Alex Hibbitt, and Jonas Arčikauskas. Rob Forbes and Mark Pharis, Virginia Scotchie, and William Carty (noted glaze chemist from Alfred University) also gave lectures, slide talks, and extended workshops.



Ric Cox demonstrating at the 2010 Holiday Open House.

Major funding for education and outreach programs was provided in 2010 by the Minnesota State Arts Board, Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, Greystone Foundation, COMPAS School Arts Fund, RBC Foundation-USA, St. Paul Public Schools—Arts for All, Travelers Arts and Diversity Employee Committee, and the Uptown Neighborhood Association. These funds were in addition to the Wallace Foundation grant, and special funding from the Minnesota State Arts Board Legacy Fund to expand the Wallace programming.

2010 instructors

85 individuals (including 7 non-artists*)

Mary Aguilar	Rafael Estrella	Andy Juelich	Claire O'Connor
Jonas Arcikauskas	Ann Fendorf	Maren Kloppmann	Kip O'Krongly
Michael Arnold	Britta Fithian-Zurn	Matthew Krousey	Mary Otremba-Olson
Megan Bergström Shanahan	Rob Forbes	John Layer	Elaine Palmer
Tiffany Besonen	Joel Froehle	Larissa Loden	Robyn Peterson
John Bogovich	Julia Galloway	Peter Lupori	Mark Pharis
Margaret Bohls	Emily Galusha*	Warren MacKenzie	Liz Quackenbush
William Carty*	Art Gannett	Tyler MacNeal	Brenda Quinn
Nino Caruso	Daniel Gardner	John Mason	Angela Renee
Kevin Caufield	Nick Giles-Lauer	Roberta Massuch	Michael Root*
Joe Christensen	Steve Godfrey	Tippy Mauraunt	Tamara Root*
Linda Christianson	Marty Gross	Kate Maury	Lindsay Rude
Eileen Cohen	Ursula Hargens	Jim Melchert	Virginia Scotchie
Elizabeth Coleman	Sarah Heimann	Anna Metcalfe	Sharon Shapiro*
William Cravis	Lauren Herzak-Bauman	Ron Meyers	Andy Shaw
Val Cushing	Alex Hibbitt	Katelin Miller	Sandy Simon
Mark Davison	Karin Holen	Molly Miller	Ginny Sims
William Daley	Bryan Hopkins	Ryan Mitchell	Audra Smith
Stephanie DeArmond	Franny Hyde	Paul Moeller	Sara Smoot
Leila Denecke	Lisa Ingemansen*	Nick Moen	David Swenson
Sara Eno	Roxanne Jackson	Emily Mohrbacher	Patti Warashina
Cary Esser	Peter Jadoonath	Aimee Munson	Betsy Williams
	Sarah Jaeger	Susan Obermeyer	Lucy Yogerst

artists services

Sarah Millfelt and Pete Scherzer, studio manager

artists grants

- Jerome Ceramic Artist Project Grants – three grants of \$6,000 each, to *Elizabeth Coleman*, *Roxanne Jackson*, and *Pete Scherzer*. Funded by the Jerome Foundation, St. Paul.
Selection panel: Cary Esser, Marko Fields, and Ursula Hargens
- McKnight Foundation Fellowships and Residency Grants – two \$25,000 fellowship awards to *Linda Christianson* and *Heather Nameth Bren*; four \$5,000 residency awards (plus free studio space and other funds) to *William Cravis* and *Kevin Snipes*, and *Rina Hongo* and *Naoto Nakada*. Funded by the McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis.
Selection panel: Bill Griffith, Liz Quackenbush, and Virginia Scotchie
- Fogelberg and Anonymous Potter Studio Fellowships – three awards of free private studio spaces, plus firing and materials allowances, to *Adam Gruetzmacher* and *Matt Krousey*, and *Matthew Jorgenson*. Fogelberg Studio Fellowships funded by Soup It Up.
Selection panel: Bob Briscoe, and staff members Jamie Lang, Sarah Millfelt, Irene Saito, and Pete Scherzer
- Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation Award – \$1,000 to an emerging potter, to *Kristin Pavelka* (selected through a nomination process). Funded by the eponymous endowed fund at NCC.

studio program

At the NCC annual meeting, Pete Scherzer reported on the major developments in the studio program. This included the usual list of new equipment, including major gifts from a special bequest from the late Jack Breese, a retired businessman and devoted potter. He also reported on the physical changes to the layout of the studios: replacing five standard common spaces with two more private studios, and introducing an additional nine spaces for advanced students.

One of the new private studios has been designated the Anonymous Potter Studio; it is a space subsidized by the sale of secondary market (used) pots. The first recipient of the AP Studio Fellowship was Matt Jorgenson. This is his story, as told by Pete.

“Matt applied for the fellowship at the end of his last semester studying ceramics at Kansas City Art Institute. When he found out he was selected, he had to figure out a way to move to Minneapolis right after graduation. He’s originally from Colorado, and has a friend from Colorado who drives a veggie bus all over the United States. (Apparently, this involves driving a converted school bus around the country, giving away produce, and promoting the benefits of eating vegetables.) This friend has a place in Minnesota, and offered to rent Matt the barn behind the house while Matt was looking for a place to live. It’s an unfinished building with no electricity or water. The walls were open and let in the sun, wind, rain, and squirrels. The squirrels developed a habit of burying black walnuts in his laundry, which ruined much of his wardrobe. Matt stayed for one month, found a place to rent, and found work to pay the rent.

So why am I talking about this?

Because I wanted to put a person behind the statistics. Stating that two private studios replaced five common spaces, and we received x number of applications for the Anonymous Potter Fellowship, only scratches the surface of what happened. The studio program is defined by the people using our studios and by their accomplishments. Matt is very talented, and obviously very resourceful. Despite this, I don’t think he would have been able to consider NCC as an option without the fellowship. We provided an opportunity that attracted a pool of very talented applicants, but we also benefit from them.”

Some of our Strategic Plan and Three Year Operating Plan objectives are listed here:

- Increase applicant numbers by 5%
- Maintain occupancy at a minimum of 90%
- Raise funding for partial underwriting of one non-grant artist space
- Improve the facility and increase the amount of available funding so that the best young ceramic artists compete for acceptance
- Achieve a lively mix of strong working artists, actively using the space

The actions we took helped us accomplish all of these objectives for 2010.”



Ursula Hargens demonstrating on the wheel during her 2010 McKnight Fellowship workshop.



2010 Fogelberg Fellowship recipient, Adam Gruetzmacher, throwing in his studio.

2010 studio artists

61 individuals

Cary Esser
Sara Fenlason
Kathleen Fitzgerald
Joel Froehle
Katharine Gotham
Patricia Haynes
Lois Ann Helgeson
Franny Hyde
Andy Juelich
Julie Kinney
Matt Krousey

Jim Kultala
Cynthia Levine
Joanie Lieberman
Lee Love
Monica Marcella
Roberta Massuch
Marta Matray
Kate Maury
Emily Merhar
Maureen Messer
Anna Metcalfe

Pauline Mitchell
Kathy Mommsen
Stuart Munson
Susan Obermeyer
Claire O'Connor
Jordan Olsen
Mary Otremba-Olson
Robyn Peterson
Angela Renee
Jason Rojas
Kathryn Rosebear

Lyndsay Rude
Jack Rumpel
Suzanna Schlesinger Altman
Chris Scott
Katie Sherman
Aaron Sober
David Swenson
Julia Timm
Matthew Van Dusen
Mary Ann Wark
Holly Williams

sales gallery and American Pottery Festival

Karen McPherson, sales gallery manager

“The 2010 American Pottery Festival marked the beginning of a year of 20th anniversary special programming. APF artists from the past 11 years were invited to send work again, and 85 of 110 did so. Of those, 35 attended the event, participated in workshops and panel conversations, presented image talks, visited with collectors and students, and generally shared in the delight of being with other people who have a passion for ceramics. Malcolm Davis closed the APF with a funny, inspiring, and moving lecture about his life and his work as a potter.



The APF was started in 1999 to replace an annual benefit auction that had become increasingly unproductive and felt increasingly irrelevant to any direct pursuit of the Center’s mission. In contrast, the Festival supports artists through the sale (at full price) of their work and brings a lot of people together to look at pots, think about pots, learn about pots, and talk about pots. It also provides our primarily regional audience a chance to see a wide range of work by (mostly) newer potters from outside the region.

I was relatively new to the staff, and was thrown into the preparations for the Festival well after the train had left the station. The moment when all seemed worthwhile came during the Saturday after-hours barbecue. As I watched artists and collectors and volunteers and board members and staff talk about pots and food and ideas, all mixed together, I realized that this was what it was all about.”

The year in the sales gallery was also about starting to reverse the decline in sales of the past couple of years, and earning the most revenue from the APF in the event’s history. NCC sold pots and sculpture by 134 artists from across the country, with the majority from the Upper Midwest region.



2010 American Pottery Festival pictured from top left to bottom right: Gallery M entrance; Linda Christianson and Julia Galloway giving a workshop; artists, collectors, volunteers, and staff at the backyard barbecue.

2010 sales gallery and American Pottery Festival artists

134 individuals

(Italics signify APF; (B) indicates both gallery and APF artist)

Shannon Adams
Jennifer Allen
Martye Allen
Judith Altobell
Donna Anderegg
Stanley Mace Andersen
Dan Anderson
Chuck Aydlett
Posey Bacopoulos
Mary Barringer
Chris Baskin
Peter Beasecker
Megan Bergstrom
Nicholas Bivins
Margaret Bohls
Birdie Boone
Wayne Branum
Andy Brayman
Bob Briscoe
Bill Brouillard (B)
Mary Louise Carter
Kevin Caufield
Becky Chappell
Victoria Christen
Joseph Christensen
Linda Christianson
Sam Chung
Naomi Cleary
Blair Clemo
Steven Colby
Michael Connelly (B)
Bernadette Curran
Malcolm Davis
Charity Davis-Woodard
Leila Denecke
Josh DeWeese (B)
Paul Dresang (B)
Kowkie Durst
Sanam Emami (B)
Gary Erickson
Paul Eshelman
Marty Fielding
Jil Franke
Emily Free Wilson
Julia Galloway
Willem Gebben
Steve Godfrey (B)
Bill Gossman
Katharine Gotham
Silvie Granatelli
Ryan Greenheck
James Grittner

Richard Gruchalla & Carrin Rosetti
Ursula Hargens
Louise Harter
Sarah Heimann
Steven Hill
Butch Holden
Bryan Hopkins
Ayumi Horie
Bob & Cheryl Husby
Mike Jabbur
Marlene Jack
Sarah Jaeger (B)
Eric Jensen (B)
Shirley Johnson
Randy Johnston
Matt Kelleher
Gail Kendall
Kristen Kieffer
Maren Kloppmann (B)
Gib Krohn
Ben Krupka
Steven Young Lee
Forrest Lesch-Middelton
Simon Levin
Suze Lindsay
Lee Love
Elizabeth Lurie
Warren MacKenzie (B)
Tim Marcotte
Ruth Martin
Laura McCaul
Missy McCormick
Jan McKeachie Johnston (B)
Kent McLaughlin
Alleghany Meadows
Ron Meyers (B)
Sequoia Miller
Lisa Naples
Jeffrey Nichols
Mike Norman
Jeffrey Noska
Jeff Oestreich (B)
Lisa Orr
Jess Parker
Aysha Peltz
Mark Pharis
David Pier
Joseph Pintz
Liz Quackenbush
Brenda Quinn
Kari Radasch
Alison Reintjes

Davie Reneau
Elizabeth Robinson
S. C. Rolf (B)
Monica Rudquist
Hide Sadohara
Irene Saito
Pete Scherzer (B)
Deborah Schwartzkopf
Johanna Severson
Laurie Shaman
Ellen Shankin
Mark Shapiro
Sandra Daulton Shaughnessy
Andy Shaw
Jane Shellenbarger
Sandy Simon
McKenzie Smith
Aaron Sober
Chuck Solberg
Albion Stafford
Will Swanson (B)
Munemitsu Taguchi (B)
Shoko Teruyama (B)
Christy Wert
Geoffrey Wheeler
Betsy Williams
Tara Wilson
Michael Wisner (B)
Rosalie Wynkoop
Liz Zlot Summerfield



The end of Malcolm Davis' lecture at the 2010 American Pottery Festival.

administration and numbers

Emily Galusha, director

2010 marked the beginning of the search for the successor to the director position at NCC. This process helped to clarify the key responsibilities of the NCC director, to help guide and inform that search. The Board concluded that the director must

- look to the future, scanning inside and out for ideas, synthesizing and envisioning possibilities
- prepare for and lead change, while managing in the moment
- balance the desired with the possible
- make tough choices and decisions.

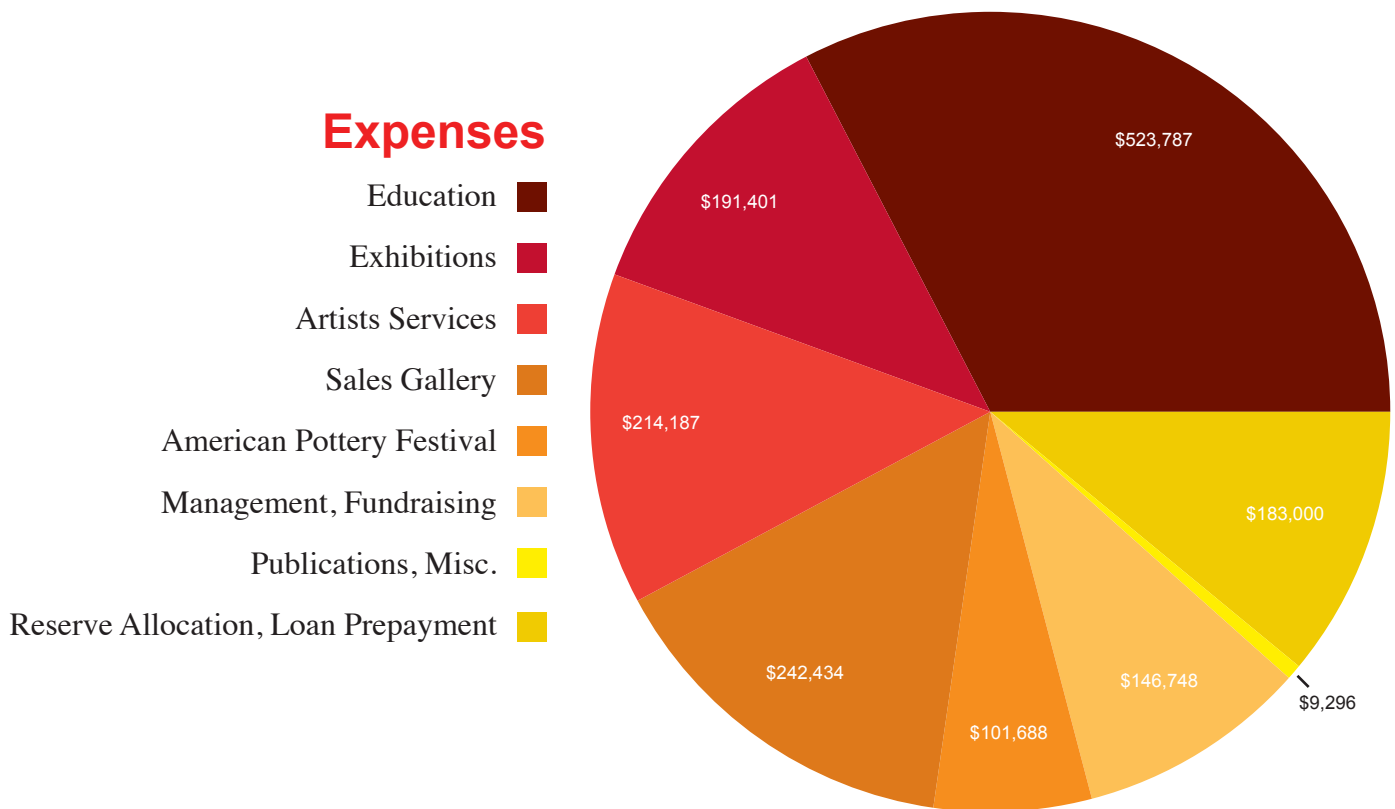
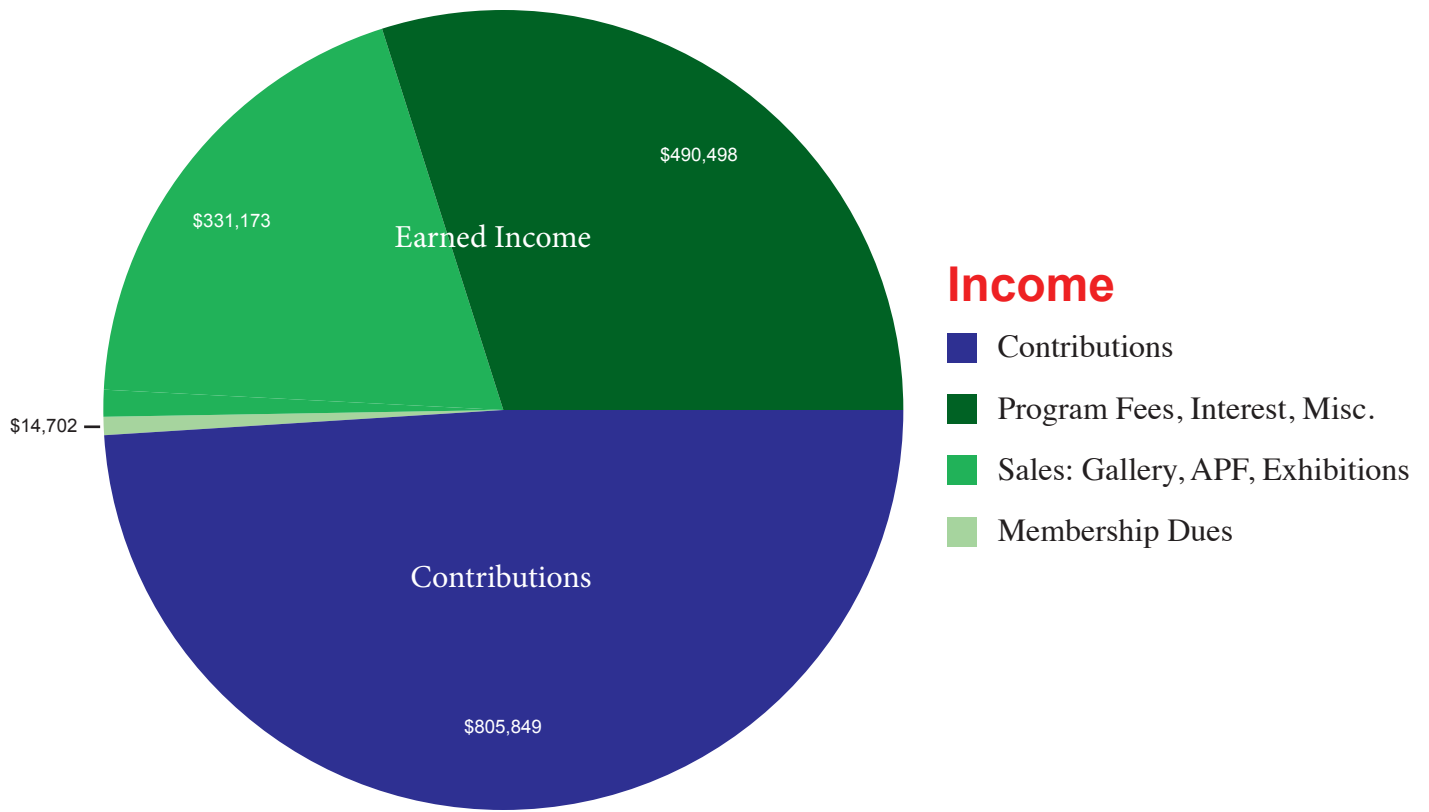
The transition schedule was announced in the 2010 fall newsletter, and as noted earlier in this report, the Board has announced its selection of Sarah Millfelt, NCC's deputy director, as the new director. Sarah will begin in her new role in October. A press release about the decision can be found on the website at <http://www.northernclaycenter.org/userFiles/pdfs/pressreleases/Director%20Press%20Release.pdf>. The 2011 annual report will have additional information about the process and the selection. Until then, however, everyone at NCC congratulates Sarah on her promotion and wishes her continued success in her new role at the Center.

In the meantime, life and finances and planning and operations marched on. Given the state of the economy, NCC once again went into a fiscal and program year assuming, if not the worst then the not-very-good concerning both expenses and income. We were gratified when both income and expenses came in better than anticipated. On the income side, because more studios were occupied than projected and resident artists were very active, studio license revenue was higher than budgeted, as was kiln fee revenue. Sales of pottery and other artwork were higher in the exhibitions program, the sales gallery, and the APF. And finally, individual gifts were up, largely due to special 20th anniversary gifts.

Total expenses were lower than budgeted. Expenses for utilities, travel, supplies, and instructors came in roughly \$105,000 under budget for a variety of reasons (such as lower gas rates, less expensive airfares and hotels, a budgeting anomaly, and fewer classes). Some expense items were deferred to 2010; since most of those were to be funded by restricted grants, the impact on the bottom line was minimal. A few other items came in over budget: artists commissions were higher as a result of higher sales; employee compensation was higher as a result of bonuses paid to staff at the end of the year.

Of particular note is that NCC paid over \$421,000 to individual ceramic artists in teaching fees, grants, and sales commissions (not including the value of subsidized studio spaces, which in 2010 totaled \$10,560). This brings our total to almost \$5.2 million that has been paid to individual artists since 1994.

The net result of this performance was that NCC was able to add to building, operating, and program reserves, and finish the year with net income of about \$25,000 in unrestricted funds. A portion of those additions to reserves was projected as part of a three-year grant from the Bush Foundation, for operating support and to build necessary reserves for the future. Earned income paid for almost 59% of operating expenses for the year.



people

The members of the Board of Directors, and the other volunteers listed below, contributed anywhere from five hours to hundreds of hours of ideas, energy, time, talent, and sheer hard work. The extraordinary record of programming accomplished in 2010 would not have been possible without them. We thank them each and all. The NCC staff, as has been true throughout the history of the organization, put in long hours of smart and hard work, to pull off more good programs and respond more effectively to our constituents, than anyone would think possible.

Board of Directors

(served all or part of 2010)

Robert Walsh, chair	Noriko Gamblin	Bruce Lilly
Lynne Alpert	Nancy Hanily-Dolan	Al Naylor
Dan Avchen	Sally Wheaton Hushcha	Mark Pharis
Phil Burke	Pat Jacobsen	Jim Ridenour
Sheldon Chester	Peter Kirihara	Rick Scott
Linda Coffey	Rebecca Lawrence	TCody Turnquist
Debra Cohen	Mark Lellman	Ellen Watters

volunteers

(120 people, plus board members)

Graziella Allen	Kay Erickson	Monica Mathews	Jack Rumpel
Kristen Andersen	Susan Feigenbaum	Marta Matray	Brenda Ryan
Marie Anderson	Chip Felling	Tippy Maurant	Janelle Schnatt
Marion Angelica	Ann Fendorf	Kate Maury	Sue Schweitzer
Mike Arnold	Kathleen Fitzgerald	Don McNeil	Herbie Sewell
Jerry Beltt	Gretchen Gildner	Rebecca McPeek	Janet Shapiro
Sue Bergan	Katharine Gotham	Emily Merhar	Audra Smith
Lois Berman	Larry Gravitz	Larry Millfelt	Kate Smith
Andrew Bhagyam	Elena Griges	Pauline Mitchell	Phil Smith
Natalie Bordignon	Beth Harrington	Paul Moeller	Gary Steinman
Karen Brown	Bette Hart	Kathy Mommsen	Lynne Albee Strauss
Lisa Brown	Patricia Haynes	Tony Mommsen	David Swenson
Austen Browne	Elfrida Hintz	Aaron Monson	Laura Thyne
Evelyn Browne	Kristine Hites	Jim Mulfinger	Julia Timm
Marshall Browne	Karin Holen	Ashley Nelson	Julie Turnbull
Malcolm Burleigh	Erin Holt	Mel North	Doug Vukson-Van Beek
Kevin Caufield	Maia Homstad	Claire O'Connor	Caitlin Warner
Alex Chinn	Franny Hyde	Kip O'Krongly	Alexandra Waters
Maureen Cox	Elizabeth Jacobson	Patti Olson	Bob Wick
Ric Cox	Matthew Jorgensen	Mary Otremba-Olson	Colleen Wier
Craig Crandall	Meghan Karschnia	Robyn Peterson	Laura Windmuller
Doug Cunningham	Cynthia Levine	Shannon Peterson	Lucy Yogerst
Goldyne Cunningham	Joanie Lieberman	Dede Philips	Judy Yourman
Mark Davison	Nicholas Livingston	Sue Ridenour	Sara Zuk
Leila Denecke	Danielle Louden	Sam Robertson	
Joe Duffy	Romola Madsen	Maya Rose	
Marian Eisner	Ruth Martin	Lindsay Rude	

staff

(with current titles)

Emily Galusha, director

Kasey Bullerman (to November)

Elizabeth Coleman, sales gallery coordinator

Jessie Fan, bookkeeper

Lauren Herzak-Bauman (to June), sales gallery assistant

Matt Krousey, sales gallery and exhibitions assistant

Jamie Lang, exhibitions director and curator

Kip O'Krongly, materials and glaze technician

Karen McPherson (beginning June), sales gallery manager

Molly Miller (to June), sales gallery manager

Sarah Millfelt, deputy director and education and artists grants director

Aimee Munson, education and WEA marketing manager [to June 2011]

Christian Novak, information and development coordinator

Jason Rogers (beginning August), sales gallery assistant

Irene Saito, assistant studio manager

Pete Scherzer, studio manager

David Swenson, building maintenance

Jennifer Tatsuda, business manager



Clockwise from top right to mid-left: Sally Wheaton Hushcha setting up for the 20th Anniversary Birthday Bash; Emily Galusha, Jim Melchert, and Val Cushing at the 2010 Regis Masters Reunion; Nino Caruso and Patti Warashina at the 2010 Regis Masters Reunion; artists, staff, and volunteers at the 2010 *American Pottery Festival* Oktoberfest Party; 2010 *American Pottery Festival* volunteers, Jim Mulfinger and Lucy Yogerst.

institutional donors

These institutions provided support for general operations as well as for specific projects and programs. In some instances, they have been providing such support for the Clay Center, as well as sister arts organizations in the region, for decades. Their steady support has been based on the understanding of the importance of the arts to a culture and a vibrant economy, to attract educated talented people to come to and stay in an often-inhospitable climate. Their support has made arts participation and creation possible and accessible for a wide and diverse population. We thank them each and all.



Supporting ideas.
Sharing solutions.
Expanding opportunities.

Northern Clay Center is a fiscal year 2010 recipient of an operating support grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. This activity is funded, in part, by the arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the Legacy Amendment vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.



Anonymous
Elmer L. and Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation
Arts for All – St. Paul Public Schools
BNSF Foundation
Boss Foundation
Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts
The Bush Foundation
Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation
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Continental Clay Company
David A. Wilson Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
General Mills Foundation
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Jerome Foundation
R. C. Lilly Foundation
The McKnight Foundation
Minnesota State Arts Board, Arts in Education Fund
Peregrine Capital Management, Inc.
Piper Jaffray
Printing Enterprises, Inc.
RBC Foundation USA
R. E. Swager Family Foundation
Red Wing Collectors Society Foundation
River Road Foundation
Soup It Up For Kids, Inc.
Harriet and Edson Spencer Foundation
Target
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Travelers Arts and Diversity Employee Committee
United Arts, a Fund of COMPAS
US Bank Foundation
The Wallace Foundation
Windgate Charitable Foundation
The Wine Company

NORTHERN CLAY CENTER

20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

09.09.10 – 11.06.11

20 years of

- commitment to mission — the advancement of the ceramic arts
- consistency of programs — exhibitions, education, artists' services
- ability to anticipate, adapt to changes in the field & constituent demand

A year to look back on

- the people and the medium of the last 20 years & before
- the journey from 1990 to 2010

A year to look forward to

- the next generation of artists & craftspeople, ideas & forms
- the transition to new leadership & new times

Objectives for the year: to celebrate in high style

- the people who made the Clay Center's first twenty years a tremendous success – artists, teachers, students, staff, board, volunteers, collectors, members, donors, users of good pots, staff of partner organizations, & more
- the objects, learning, & creative process at the core of Center programs
- the future of ceramics & Northern Clay Center



NORTHERN CLAY CENTER



Major events and projects



2010 AMERICAN POTTERY FESTIVAL
09.09-12.2010

New pots by over 80 returning guest artists in an annual fundraiser & salute to potters, pots & the people who love both + slide shows, lectures, parties, sale



IT WAS 20 YEARS AGO TODAY...: The 20th anniversary exhibition
09.25-11.07.2010

Pots & sculpture sampled from 20 years of exhibitions + catalogue & volume 2 of NCC history



GALA BIRTHDAY PARTY & REGIS MASTERS REUNION
10.15-17.2010

10.15—Reception for Regis Masters and food-wine tasting benefit
10.16—Gala Birthday Party
10.17—Regis Reunion Roundtable



A LIFE IN POTS: Michael Simon Retrospective
CLASSMATES: Wayne Branum, Randy Johnston, Mark Pharis, Sandy Simon
03.12-05.01.2011

Retrospective exhibition of pots from 30 years of making by esteemed American potter + exhibition of new work by fellow potters selected by Simon + conversation, catalogue



EXPLORING POTS AND PLACE IN JAPAN
05.2011

10-day tour of traditional pottery kilns & sites of outstanding contemporary art & architecture; co-sponsored by the Japan America Society of Minnesota



2011 ARTISTS OF NCC / 20th Anniversary Edition
07.16-08.28.2011

Alumni Reunion / Community Open House / Repurposed Pot Sale
07.16.2011

Community celebration of artists & others involved over the past 20 years + family activities + the first Repurposed Pot Sale, to support studio fellowships for emerging clay artists



NEW MILLENNIUM JAPANESE CERAMICS: Rejecting Labels & Embracing Clay
09.23-11.06.2011

Exhibition of sculpture by younger, emerging Japanese sculptors who work outside the tradition of functional Japanese ceramics + artist residencies, lectures, catalogue