

~~~~~

**Letter from Skeff Thomas, President**

To the NCECA membership-

On behalf of the Board of Directors I extend an autumn greeting to all of you. As summer experiences are winding down and the academic year gets into full swing I hope you have had fulfilling and productive time traveling, doing research, being in the studio or with family and friends.

The NCECA Board of Directors is set to meet in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania October 8 -11, 2008 for conducting board business and continued advance planning for the 2010 conference. As well, final preparations for the Shared Journeys symposium are coming together, and to those that are able to participate in this opportunity, either in attendance or through pod-casts, your efforts will be rewarded. Program's Director Joe Molinaro, and Shoji Satake and his colleagues from West Virginia University along with the Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute have put together a fantastic program that represents NCECA in a global capacity.

As I stated earlier in the summer, NCECA has undertaken an ambitious goal of updating the branding and marketing strategies as well as the communication network for the membership and the council. Morgan O'Brien, Executive Director, and Richard Burkett, Communications Director have been spearheading this initiative with the aid of a hard working task force. A new website will soon be active, and I encourage you to keep an eye out for the launching of this new digital introduction to NCECA and all it has to offer you, the membership.

Another important initiative the board undertook this summer was an examination of the governing documents of the council including the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws and Constitution. When Morgan O'Brien, Executive Director, joined the NCECA staff he came with expertise in not-for-profit board governance models and leadership. A task force charged with reviewing these governance documents convened this summer, and has forwarded recommended changes to the board for consideration during the fall board meeting. The NCECA membership will need to be engaged in this process and will have the opportunity to comment on any proposed changes prior to the conference when they will be presented to the membership for adoption.

At NCECA many wonderful initiatives are being pursued to enhance the importance of membership in the council and all that it has to offer the community of artists, scholars, gallery owners, curators, collectors that has come to be known as the NCECA family.

Skeff Thomas

~~~~~

Letter from Morgan O'Brien, Executive Director

Dear Fellow Members,

In the months since the conference in Pittsburgh, we have been focusing on advancing initiatives in key areas intended to add value to NCECA membership and make NCECA services easier to use and understand. Projects we are working on include:

- The new NCECA Web site will launch while in mid October. Initial capabilities will include member enrollment and renewal, and the ability to process Emerging Artists Nominations and 2010 Concurrent Independent Exhibition Proposals online. There will also be new, relevant content, including slide shows of members' work.
- A new Membership Database will make member enrollment simpler and easier. It will also allow us to create a searchable online resource directory. Need a crystalline glaze demonstrator in the Southeast? Do you consult on minimizing studio carbon footprints? The NCECA online resource directory is the place to be.
- We are introducing new benefits for NCECA members, including discounts on ceramics materials and supplies; discounts for travel, shipping and office supplies; and local and regional NCECA events around the country.

These are only our first steps. Our goal is to make NCECA relevant to members 365 days a year, not just during the week of the annual conference. Stay tuned over the next two months for announcements and details!

Best regards,
Morgan O'Brien

~~~~~

## **NCECA Exhibitions Update**

### **2009 NCECA Biennial**

Thank you to all the artists who submitted work for the 2009 NCECA Clay National Biennial Exhibition. The nearly 850 entries exhibit material mastery and innovation in technique while offering diverse perspectives and connections with both the long tradition of ceramics as well as contemporary culture. I look forward to facilitating the jury process with Chris Staley, Jeanne Quinn and Christy Johnson at the end of September. Best of luck to all who entered.

### **2009 Regional Student Juried Exhibition**

Now is the time for students in Arizona, New Mexico, California, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska to be completing and documenting their work to enter the Regional Student Juried Exhibition to be held at the Tempe Arts Center. The deadline for entry is **October 1, 2008**. Our jurors, Michaelene Walsh and Geoffrey Wheeler are awaiting your entries.

[Link to entry details](#)

### **2009 Concurrent, Independent Exhibitions**

All CIE proposals have been juried and selected proposals have been sited in the Phoenix area. Thank you for your energy, expertise and hard work in bringing such high quality proposals to our process. If your proposal was selected and sited, you should be working closely with your venue to bring your exhibition to life. If your exhibition was selected through the NCECA proposal process and you sited your own exhibition, be sure to contact our On-Site Conference Co-Liaisons, Peter Held [peter.held@asu.edu](mailto:peter.held@asu.edu) or Susan Beiner [susan.beiner@asu.edu](mailto:susan.beiner@asu.edu) , so you have the opportunity to be included in our promotional materials.

### **2010 Concurrent Independent Exhibitions**

November 17, 2008 is the deadline for submitting a CIE proposal for the 2010 Philadelphia conference. As the competition for space is fierce in Philadelphia, please work to insure your concept is relevant, fresh and of the highest quality. We are planning for fewer exhibitions due to space limitations, but desire to bring the best of the best ceramic art to this sophisticated urban East Coast audience.

[Link to preparation information](#)

~~~~~

Student Initiative Update

Thank you to all of the NCECA student members who responded to our questionnaire. Because of your time and suggestions new initiatives are underway! Please feel free to continue to contact Jessica Orlowski, Student-Director-at-Large at seraphim205@yahoo.com with any future inspirations or questions!

~~~~~

### **The Doctors are in!**

Once again, The Glaze Doctors and The Clay Doctors will be in attendance at the 2009 NCECA conference, to be held in Phoenix, Arizona on April 8-11, 2009. Both panels will feature the same four members: Janet DeBoos, Bill Carty, John Neely and moderator Pete Pinnell. In order to better prepare, the panel is accepting questions in advance of the conference, as well as from the floor during the conference sessions. If you have a question about either clays or glazes, you can reach the panel by sending your questions (along with images and recipes, if applicable) to the following email addresses:

[claydoctors@nceca.net](mailto:claydoctors@nceca.net)

[glazedoctors@nceca.net](mailto:glazedoctors@nceca.net)

Please include your contact information so that a panel member can reach you if further information is needed. Answers will be presented at the conference, and may also be published in the 2009 NCECA Journal.

~~~~~

Green Task Force Update

NCECA has been a forum for innovation and change in the field of ceramics for decades, and now is the time for us as artists and educators to once again embrace change. NCECA's Green Task Force (GTF) is working to help us facilitate this change both in our own studios, schools, and at the conference/office as well.

We understand that it is not feasible to make ceramics green, but it is possible to make changes in our studio practices that can minimize our environmental impact. The GTF is dedicated to helping NCECA's membership understand these problems, and how to tackle them. By the 2009 conference in Phoenix, we will have an addition to our website that will allow all of us to share ideas about what we do to minimize our impact on the environment.

The Green Task Force is a dedicated group of artists and educators that have the future of clay in their sights. The GTF will be bringing the membership tools and information. Therefore, we encourage all NCECA members interested in being part of this initiative to become involved as we make an effort to discover new ways to work in sympathy with our planet. We promise to keep you, our members, informed of the GTF efforts to accomplish our collective goals of helping NCECA go green.

Upcoming Events

All Fired Up - Why Clay?

October 3 - November 30, 2008 Westchester County, NY

www.allfiredup.info

NCECA Shared Journeys:

Chinese/American Ceramic Art & Education

October 22 - November 2, 2008

This exciting symposium is being held in Jingdezhen, China!

SOLD OUT

SOFA Chicago

November 7-9, 2008

www.sofaexpo.com

NCECA 2009, 43rd Annual Conference

"Ceramic Interface: From Dawn to Digital"

Phoenix, Arizona

April 8-11, 2009

"Continental Divide"

Mid September, 2009 - November 2009

NCECA/Arvada Center Joint Exhibition

Investigate the similarities and disparity between ceramic vessels and sculptures from the region housing the Continental Divide geographic feature. Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico

Details coming soon.

NCECA 2010, 44th Annual Conference

"Independence"

Philadelphia, PA

March 31-April 3, 2010

Announcements/Calls for Entries

2009 Regional Student Juried Exhibition - DEADLINE October 1, 2008.

NCECA 2009 Biennial Exhibition - DEADLINE was September 6, 2008.

2009 Emerging Artists Nominations - Deadline November 7, 2008.

Open date coming soon.

2009 Regina Brown Undergraduate Student Fellowship Nominations - Deadline November 17, 2009. Open date pending.

2009 NCECA Graduate Student Fellowship Nominations - Deadline November 17, 2009. Open date pending.

2010 Concurrent, Independent Exhibition Proposals for Philadelphia - Deadline November 17, 2008. Open date coming soon.

2010 Program Proposals for Philadelphia - No Open or Deadline dates as of yet.

NCECA 2010 Invitational Exhibition - No Open or Deadline dates as of yet.

Contact Information

NCECA Office

phone: 866-266-2322

[Forward email](#)

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to kate@nceca.net by kate@nceca.net.

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

NCECA | 77 Erie Village Square, Suite 280 | Erie | CO | 80516-6996

Email Marketing by

