



As in previous years, the NMPCA will hold an exhibition of member work. It is our annual Celebration of Clay show that brings a variety of clay work from members throughout the state. As in previous years, this is a show to present members' best work without apprehension of jury exclusion. This article is the first notification to NMPCA members to begin thinking about preparing for the show.

Our theme for this year's show is **Conversations in Clay**. Members can submit their own work singly or partner with another clay artist, either an NMPCA member or not. The two pieces can be submitted as one conversation. Other possibilities for participation include an artist submitting a single piece as a conversation starter with verbal or visual cues to guide the viewer. Or, two artists collaborate on a single piece that represents their complete conversation.

Possibilities are endless:

Mutual admiration, embracing, competition, debate,
Yin-Yang, color hue, elements of a story, large and small, thin and wide,
black and white, young and old,
whatever type of paired expression comes to mind.

For your inspiration, we show these conversations recently overheard on claystudiotour.com. Here are two NMPCA artists *directly engaged with their work, one type of a clay conversation*.



Darla Graf Thompson, **A Sudden Thought**, for which she wrote a poem by the same name.



Layne Vickers Smith in a portrait with her piece, Frida the Kahlo Fish. Photo by Elaine Weaver-Spalek.

This is the first of several ideas for Conversations in Clay we'll be sharing with you prior to the July 14th deadline.

COC Timetable

Call for Entries published	March 1, 2015
Call for Entries deadline	July 14, 2015
Publicity Photos Due	Aug. 1, 2015
People's Choice Photos due	August 8, 2015
Deliver work to central collection	August 5-8, 2015
Deliver work to Fuller Lodge and set up show	August 11, 2015
Award Jurying	August 14, 2015
Opening Reception	Friday, August 14, 5-7 pm
Show Open during regular Fuller Lodge hours	August 14 - September 19, 2015

Juror Awards: As is customary at our Celebration of Clay shows, a jury will select pieces to receive special attention and monetary awards.

Demonstrations: We would like to have demonstrations of clay methods in the Fuller Lodge Art Center studio concurrent with this show. If you have an idea of a demonstration, please contact the show committee at COC@nmpotters.org.

Please start thinking of how to translate either a treasured existing work or a create a new piece with an inspiring dialogue for the show.

We encourage you to comment on this post to give us your ideas and thoughts...maybe you have an example of a conversation?

To see a slide show of past Celebration of Clay shows, see www.celebrationofclay.com

Gloria Gilmore-House and Judy Nelson-Moore
Celebration of Clay Committee

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