



MUDFLAT STUDIO

Annual Report 2019

**MUD
FLAT
STUDIO**

CREATIVITY CLAY COMMUNITY
48
YEARS 1971-2019



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INTRODUCTION

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear Mudflat friends,

A few highlights to share from 2019 are:

- Enrollment in Mudflat classes, workshops, and outreach programs continued to be stronger than ever with record numbers of participants for all 3 semesters.
- We offered a new series of free workshops each semester to our enrolled students: topics included “Glazed & Confused” and “Tech Talks.”
- We welcomed 3 new studio artists to Mudflat: Mariya Gazumyan and Doug Hansel, and Artist in Residence Clive Sithole. Studio artist Réme Gold became our newest board member. And our winter ceramic technical intern was Emma Brown (Bennington College, VT).
- Our eighth class of Tech Ed students graduated in December 2019 – congrats to John Duffy, Chris Frost, Sue Hamilton, and Rose Morris-Wright. And we kicked off another class with 3 students in September.
- We continued our “Mudflat Challenges” exhibitions, featuring work created by students and studio artists each semester. Themes in 2019 were “City/Country”, “Access” and “Paired Up”.
- We hosted our annual AIR exhibit, this year showcasing James Webb’s functional and sculptural work.
- We continued to provide programming with our community partners, including the Mystic Learning Center, The Welcome Project, Home Base, Teen Empowerment, Somerville Peace Camp, Boston Children’s School and Cambridge Health



Alliance. And we saw an increase in field trip visits to Mudflat by Girl Scout troops, birthday party celebrants, and corporate team building groups.

- We hosted our 6th annual Empty Bowls benefit for Food For Free. The Mudflat community made over 700 bowls; the event raised nearly \$15,000 for food rescue programs.
- Mudflat’s fundraising focus for 2019 was our Artist Residency Fund. We hosted a variety of exhibitions, Tuttle Talks, and workshops, featuring our 22 past resident artists. Our fall online auction of ceramic artwork donated by many nationally recognized artists contributed to reaching our goal of \$40,000 to support this program, specifically to provide a new stipend for housing assistance and to increase the material stipend offered to the artist in residence.
- We made physical improvements throughout our facility, including new flooring in our upstairs classrooms, acoustic improvements and new wall paint in our multi-purpose seminar room, 5 new pottery wheels purchased for our students to use, and additional classroom student shelving. Our solar panels became operational and we are began collecting our new SMART rebates. Installation was completed on our new soda kiln – firings will be scheduled for spring 2020.

We are especially proud of the community of people that make up Mudflat — their activities and contributions create a vibrant and welcoming environment for the creative pursuit of clay. Thank you for the part each of you has played — as a student, as an artist, as a contributor — in our successes this past year. We look forward to your continued involvement in the Mudflat community.

Lynn Gervens

Executive Director

ABOUT MUDFLAT STUDIO

Mudflat is a non-profit organization in Somerville, Massachusetts, offering classes, workshops, community programming, and events focusing on the ceramic arts. We foster an environment where students and artists can be creative, receive a rich and varied educational experience, and participate in a larger artistic community. Our goals are to share our passion for working with clay and to encourage our students to discover ways to express themselves with this responsive material, while creating functional, sculptural, and decorative work. Our strengths are that we focus on a single medium, we offer learning opportunities to all ages, and our students work in close proximity to professional studio artists. Mudflat is committed to maintaining an organizational culture of learning and respect, and a set of core values in all interactions among its students, faculty, studio artists, board, staff, funders, and neighbors. These interactions are welcoming, collaborative, collegial, supportive, and also fun!

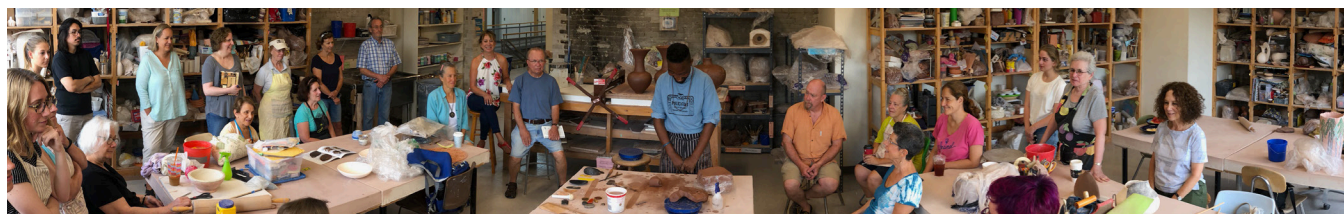
A nonprofit, 501(C)3 organization, Mudflat is funded by tuition, studio fees, and donations from students, artists, and community members, as well as the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and the Somerville Arts Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Mudflat also receives financial support from foundations, corporations, and individuals.

Mudflat has offered the metropolitan Boston community a unique opportunity for clay work and play since 1971. Our mission is to promote and expand appreciation of and participation in the ceramic arts through classes, workshops, outreach programming and events for students of all ages, abilities, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Mudflat also provides a mix of studio rentals, which attract and support 38 accomplished clay artists. Together, the school and studio form a dynamic community centered on clay and a shared creative process.

VISION

Founded more than 45 years ago, Mudflat will grow into the future by:

- Offering a breadth and depth of high quality programs that improve the technical and creative skills of students of all ages and abilities and promote excellence in the ceramic arts.
- Providing studio arrangements that encourage interactions and collaborations among ceramic artists.
- Being recognized nationally for serving our local community.
- Attracting national artists, teachers, and donors.
- Being a respected member of the national ceramics community.



Above: Clive Sithole demo

HISTORY: SALT & SODA

Our new soda kiln at Mudflat is part of a long and local tradition. Salt glazing was developed in the Rhine Valley in Germany, sometime around 1400. At first it was used on earthenware, but as the technology for higher firing temperature developed it proved a valuable glaze for stoneware production. From that area it spread, becoming popular in England by the 17th century. The English potteries produced jugs, pitchers, basins and all kinds of utilitarian wares in salt glazed stoneware, its great durability being highly valued. While the American colonies, and our area in particular, produced a large amount of earthenware, much stoneware was imported and there was considerable effort expended on attempts to produce stoneware locally to compete with these imports. In Charlestown this was accomplished by Grace Hall Parker in the late 18th century. Salt glazed stoneware was created at the Parker kiln site prior to the Revolutionary War.

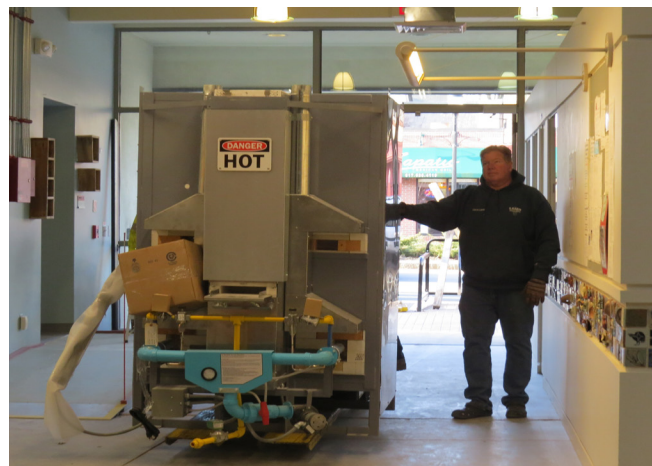
Salt glazing is very different from the standard gas firings we are used to at Mudflat. We are accustomed to applying a layer of glass forming material on the bisque ware, and then using high heat to melt the glass forming materials into a glaze. Salt falls into a different category — “atmospheric” glazing. The basic idea is that you introduce clouds of a gaseous form of sodium into the whole kiln, and the gas acts on the pots in the kiln, on raw clay, on slips, or even other glaze materials. Salt is sodium chloride, and a short description of what happens is that when the salt is added to the hot kiln, at around 1650 degrees Fahrenheit, the salt separates in sodium and chlorine gases. The sodium bonds with silica in the clay body to make the glaze, and the chlorine goes up the chimney, which is a problem, both environmentally and health-wise!

Traditional salt glazed wares are characterized by grey, tan or brown bodies, the body color resulting from the iron content of the clay. Sprigs or other forms of relief decoration catch the runny glaze and are very attractive. Oxides tend to burn out

due to the nature of the chemical action but cobalt works very well for decoration, and on a gray body is a really iconic treatment for salt glazed ware. Think of a classic German beer stein! The glaze has a characteristic “orange peel” texture and is often flashed by the vapors moving through the kiln. Jars, bottles, and jugs are often lined with an applied glaze because the salt vapor doesn’t enter into these forms very well.

SALT OR SODA?

What we have at Mudflat is actually a SODA kiln. What is that? Is soda an imitation, or a compromise? Here the chemistry gets very interesting, and more complex than the short version I gave above. If one is using salt, or soda, one also uses water, which plays an important role in the reaction. The salt, (or soda, or mixture of the two,) is dampened with water before being thrown into the kiln, or actually mixed in a solution and sprayed. The actual reaction in the kiln is that the sodium chloride (salt- 2NaCl) combines with the water, which at this temperature is steam (H_2O) and forms caustic soda (2NaOH) and hydrogen chloride, which goes up the chimney. But that isn’t the end of the reaction because the caustic soda then forms Na_2O - sodium oxide, and water (again.)



Delivery of Mudflat Soda Kiln

In a soda firing the reaction is simpler. The soda (Na_2CO_3 - sodium carbonate) separates into Na_2O -sodium oxide, and carbon dioxide. In both cases we end up with a cloud of sodium oxide in the kiln and other materials going up the chimney, so the difference between Salt and Soda involves only what we pump into the atmosphere, not what is on the pots. The part we keep in the kiln is the same, but we release carbon dioxide rather than hydrogen chloride.

Having achieved this cloud of sodium oxide in the kiln we maintain a temperature that keeps the clay body at full maturity (the temperature can vary according to the clay used) because the silica in the clay will be available for bonding with the sodium at the clay's mature temperature, whatever that is. Because the gases and heat flow through the kiln, the ware and, in particular, the slips can flash in interesting ways, and if coloring agents, oxides or even mixed glazes are used they will be affected in ways that are different from our other firings. Over the years Mudflat has run salt workshops at David Orser's kiln in Maine, where a number of glazes are used in the salt firing to create very beautiful effects. The range available now to modern potters is much broader and more colorful than the traditional ware. We should have an exciting time as we come to understand our new kiln and how our glazes perform in it

Michael Scanlon

Mudflat Board Member



Mudflat Bailey Soda Kiln



David Orser's salt kiln after a firing

FACILITY



Small Wheel Classroom



Handbuilding Classroom



Lombardi Way Underpass Mural, featuring our building



Kiln Room, electric kilns



Multi-purpose Room for Exhibitions, Workshops & Presentations



Front Studios



Main Wheel Classroom

STUDIO LIFE

COURSE OFFERINGS

Mudflat offers an exceptional range of courses at all levels, including wheel-throwing, handbuilding, sculpture and technical topics, during three semesters each year. Introductory courses are available every semester, along with a variety of special classes and workshops by resident instructors and guest artists. Our experienced faculty has a broad range of practical experience as well as formal training and education from ceramic arts programs at major universities.

In 2019, our core education program typically offered 27 adult classes, 6 children's classes, and 37 workshops during each 14-week semester. Classes covered all aspects of ceramics, including beginning through advanced levels of wheel-throwing and handbuilding as well as surface decoration, skill building, and technical studies. As a complement to the core classes, seminar classes, private lessons, independent study options and an adult summer semester were also available.

In addition to their class time, our students have free access to our facility during open lab times which amount to more than 60 hours per week. Such extensive access is not typically included at other pottery schools and is one reason why more than 70% of our students return each semester.

Workshops expose students to a variety of artists, styles, and techniques. These range from one-day introductory wheel sessions and "date night" workshops to weekend-long seminars with nationally known ceramic artists.

Our students come from 38 communities within the Greater Boston area. While the majority of our students are adults ages 24 to 60, all ages are represented, from children as young as 4 years through retirees.

2019 ENROLLMENT 3151 PARTICIPANTS



- 1078** Adults enrolled in classes
- 504** Adults enrolled in workshops
- 805** Adults attending presentations
- 104** Children enrolled in classes
- 184** Parents & children enrolled in workshops
- 255** Adults & children participating in field trips
- 221** Adults & children participating in community programs

Above: Student from a corporate workshop

FACULTY

2019 FACULTY

Noni Armony	Kate Kuligowski
Cary Atsalis	Toni Langerman
Susan Bernstein	David LaPierre
Jennifer DeAngelis	June Lee
Gabrielle Fougere	Marc Mancuso
Lynn Gervens	Steve Murphy
Jeanne Garrison	Julie Peck
Leah Guerin	Tracy Raymond
Arthur Halvorsen	Clive Sithole
Lisa Knebel	James Lee Webb

2019 COMMUNITY FACULTY

Jeanne Garrison	June Lee
Rebecca Gillette	Deb Minns
Arthur Halvorsen	Steve Murphy
Liz Hyde	Melanie Salisbury
Lisa Knebel	Rick Shaffer
Kate Kuligowski	Barbara Vail
	James Lee Webb

The instructors at Mudflat represent a broad spectrum of ceramic artists and educators who bring a range of approaches and sensibilities to the educational experience at Mudflat. Short bios and photos of all current faculty members can be found on our website.



Leah came to Mudflat after being a public school art teacher. She uses this experience with her students at Mudflat where she currently teaches kids hand building and adult beginning wheel throwing. The community at Mudflat not only inspires her but working with beginning students and having to focus on technique has made Leah a more proficient potter. Leah's work is predominantly wheel thrown cone 6 porcelain that she inlays with whimsical illustrations. Her work is inspired by children's literature, portraiture and spending time outdoors. She has BFA in Art Education and Ceramics and an MAE from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Leah's work has been shown at exhibits and in galleries nationally, and has been used to serve food and coffee to people with great taste everywhere.

LEAH GUERIN



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Above: Mugs by Leah Guerin

SCHOLARSHIPS

An important goal for Mudflat is to keep our tuition affordable. We provide financial support to our students through four scholarship funds, which are supported by generous contributions from individuals and by revenues from our Open Studio pottery raffles. One hundred percent of contributions to any of our scholarship funds provide direct financial support to students enrolled in Mudflat classes and workshops.

JOHN MCCOOEY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Partial scholarships for any adult class are available each semester to adult students needing financial assistance through the John McCooey Fund, established in 1998 in memory of this long-time Mudflat student.

ELEE KOPLOW SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In 2004 Mudflat established a scholarship fund to benefit children and their families. The Elee Koplów Scholarship Fund, in memory of this long-time Mudflat artist and teacher, provides support for children, teen, and parent & child classes.



ELLEN SCHORR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

With initial donations from her family and friends, a new scholarship fund was established in 2014 in memory of Mudflat founder Ellen Schorr. Scholarships are awarded to adult students who are seriously pursuing education in the ceramic arts.

JUDITH FUCHEL-MAHLER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Our newest scholarship fund was established in 2016 by family members to honor Judith Fuchel-Mahler. Scholarships are awarded to adult students who are studying handbuilding and sculpture in the ceramic arts.

“EXCELLENCE IN CERAMICS” AWARD

Mudflat was pleased to present the 5th annual “Excellence in Ceramics” certificate and \$500 cash award to graduating Somerville High School student Nabila Anandira, in a public ceremony in May 2019.



Left: Students from Arthur Halvorsen's Beginning Wheel Class with their Mudflat challenge project **Above:** Nabila Anandira & Lynn Gervens

WORKSHOPS

2019 WORKSHOPS

- Visiting Artist: Deborah Schwartzkopf
- Visiting Artist: Katie Fee
- Visiting Artist: Meghan Sullivan
- Salt Firing with David Orser
- Mosaic workshops with Gabrielle Fougere
- Parent/child handbuilding workshops with Kate Kuligowski
- Parent/child wheelthrowing workshops with Lisa Knebel
- Adult introductory handbuilding workshops with Gabrielle Fougère
- Adult introductory wheel throwing workshops with Lisa Knebel
- Date night workshops with Arthur Halvorsen & Kate Kuligowski
- February & April Vacation Play with Clay kids workshops with Kate Kuligowski
- Visiting Zulu Potters demonstration with Jabu Nala, Thembi Nala, Ncamcile Nala, & Phumzile Mahlaba



Top to bottom: Meghan Sullivan, Ruchika Madan , Deborah Schwartzkopf (left), Phumzile Mahlaba (right)

STUDIO ARTISTS

Thirty-eight ceramic artists work in private or semi-private studios at Mudflat, producing a wide variety of functional and sculptural work. Some studio artists are former students, others are graduates of university degree programs specializing in ceramic arts. Most are full-time ceramic artists who exhibit and sell their work locally and nationally. Many have been awarded fellowships and residencies at renowned craft centers – including fellowship awards from the Somerville Arts Council, the Massachusetts

Cultural Council, and the Boston Foundation's Brother Thomas Fund. The interactions between our artists and our students are an important asset and they offer sources of artistic and technical information, inspiration and community.

Mudflat's studio artist program offers studio spaces at a range of prices for 2 artist categories: Resident Artists and Associate Artists.



Resident Artists are professional clay artists who have the technical skill and experience to fire their own work in the studio kilns. Studios for Resident Artists are private individual spaces or shared studios with 1 or 2 other artists. Monthly rent ranges from \$250-\$380 per artist.

Associate Artists are serious clay students looking for more access, privacy, and shelf space. There are 2 large group studios of approximately 300 square feet, each shared by six artists. These studios are equipped with a shelving unit for each artist plus a central shared work table and shared pottery wheel in each studio room. Associate Artists' work is fired by Mudflat technicians. Monthly rent is \$244 per artist.

Both Resident Artists and Associate Artists have 24-hour studio availability, and use of other studio and classroom equipment. The monthly rent does not include clay materials, glazes or firings, but clay, glazes and firings may be purchased through Mudflat for additional fees. A committee reviews all applications based on the following criteria: Applicant's level of professionalism, artistic quality of work, and commitment to the Mudflat community.

Above: Mudflat Studio Artist, Susan Bernstein

2019 STUDIO ARTISTS

Noni Armony
Kyriakos Atsalis
Susan Bernstein
Melissa Bland
Lynn Cannici
Sarah Chapman
Angela Cunningham
Holly Curcio
Jennifer DeAngelis
Debra Fleury
Gabrielle Fougère
Mariya Gazumyan
Howard Gerstein
Lynn Gervens
Réme Gold
Lisa Graf
Ellen Grund
Katherine Hackl
Arthur Halvorsen
Doug Hansel

Elise Hauenstein
Anne Hodgson
Lisa Knebel
Kurt Kuss
Chiyoko Lee
Chloe Marr-Fuller
Trix Oakley
Jane Proctor
Tracy Raymond
Elaine Reily
Tilla Rodemann
Melanie Salisbury
Eric Schwarzenbach
Zach Shaw
Clive Sithole
Alice Templeton
Kyla Toomey
Corinna Tuckey
James Lee Webb
Erik Wilson



New artists in 2019:
*Clive Sithole, Mariya
Gazumyan & Doug Hansel*

Erik came to Mudflat as a student in January of 2015 because he was drawn to all the possibilities that clay offered. As his first semester was ending, Mudflat offered a 4 day master class with Phil Rogers, whose work Erik admired. He enrolled, and considers that to have been an important experience for him. Erik was a member of the technical education program at Mudflat from 2017 to 2018, and also started wood firing during this period, doing a two week masterclass at the wood kiln at The Sharon Arts Center with Randy Johnson and Ken Matsuzaki. He was included in the 2018 "State Of Clay" exhibition at Lexington Arts and Craft Society. In the summer of 2018 he sublet a studio, and subsequently made the commitment to become a studio artist at Mudflat. Erik says that "Mudflat gave me the opportunity, community and mentorship to really flourish."

Erik is a member of the board of directors at Mudflat, currently one of our 2 Vice-Presidents, is a member of Mudflat's kiln firing team, and posts to Instagram @wilsonerikb.

ERIK WILSON



STUDIO ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Above: Plate by Erik Wilson

TUTTLE TALKS

Mudflat hosts “Tuttle Talks” each semester. In 2019 these free evening presentations included:

- Mudflat AIRs on Red Lodge
- Deborah Swartzkopf
- Meghan Sullivan
- Cathy Lu
- Dan Molyneux
- Clive Sithole



TECHNICAL EDUCATION

For students who have the time and desire to increase their knowledge and experience, Mudflat offers a one-year intensive technical education program. Students can learn the technical side of ceramics, including clay and glaze chemistry, kiln work, and studio maintenance, while deepening their relationship with the studio. Graduates of the program are eligible to join Mudflat’s technical team.



Left: Cary Atsalis with Tech Ed students **Above right:** James Lee Webb giving a Tuttle Talk

OUTREACH & COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT

Mudflat's commitment to Community Outreach is a commitment to equity, so that more and more people may participate in and appreciate the ceramic arts. Mudflat lives this mission by building bridges with those who might not normally have the opportunity to access our programming.

To achieve our goal, we pursue robust collaborations with area organizations. Therefore, much of our upfront focus goes into educating potential partners and introducing them to the benefits and pleasures of clay classes for their members.

2019 marks the 3rd year since we committed to expand Community Outreach, and we can proudly point to our ever-growing roster of alliances with stakeholders throughout eastern Massachusetts. Our packed schedule of programs showcases repeat engagement as well as new impact.

Essential to our success is embedding our programming in other organizations' annual line-ups. An example of this is our relationship with Mystic Learning Center, a key player in serving the residents of Somerville's public housing. This year is the third year running that Mudflat has held four events with

MLC. Mudflat is now part of the culture at MLC and vice versa. In fact, some of you have joined us at our gallery reception that we host every March for MLC.

In addition, we have broadened our reach to include more points of contact with area high schools' ceramics program, residential advocacy groups, neighborhood scout troops, and summer camps for underserved youth. We also have extended our offerings to organizations' leadership for team-building.

As our schedule grew, we held an information session and enlisted many more Mudflat members to teach. Our established protocols matched up new recruits with experienced teachers so we could maintain our high standard of instruction. By the end of 2019, we had added eight new faculty members.

In 2020, we invite more Mudflat members to join in Community Outreach and to support Mudflat in fulfilling our mission of commitment to equity.

Jenny Dworkin

Community Outreach Coordinator



Left: Participants at an MLC Workshop **Right:** Becca Gillette and Kate Kuligowski with a group from the Mystic Learning Center

OUTREACH PROGRAMMING

Mudflat has a long history of special outreach programs and events that demonstrate our ongoing commitment to enhance and encourage the vital and creative development of ceramic arts in the greater Boston area.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT MUDFLAT

As a complement to our core program of classes and workshops, Mudflat offers opportunities for school, youth and corporate groups to visit our facility for a hands-on experience working with clay. These classes and field trip visits are led by Mudflat faculty and incorporate age-appropriate clay working techniques in handbuilding and wheelthrowing skills. Participants create and decorate clay pieces; all work is fired in Mudflat kilns to produce a finished product. Typical programs include an ongoing weekly class for 4th to 6th graders from a neighborhood charter school, a weekly class for at-risk high school students, one-time field trips for Girl Scouts working towards a pottery merit badge, and corporate team-building workshops.

EDUCATIONAL OFF-SITE PROGRAMS

Mudflat's instructors travel to local organizations and programs to bring clay-making to kids, teens, families, and seniors. These programs focus on handbuilding skills, using slabs and coils to create functional and sculptural pieces that are decorated with texture and underglaze colors. All work is brought back to Mudflat for firing in our kilns, and returned to the participants. Typical programs include one-time workshops at local preschools for 3-5 year olds, ongoing weekly afterschool classes at elementary schools, and monthly programs at senior centers.

FUNDING

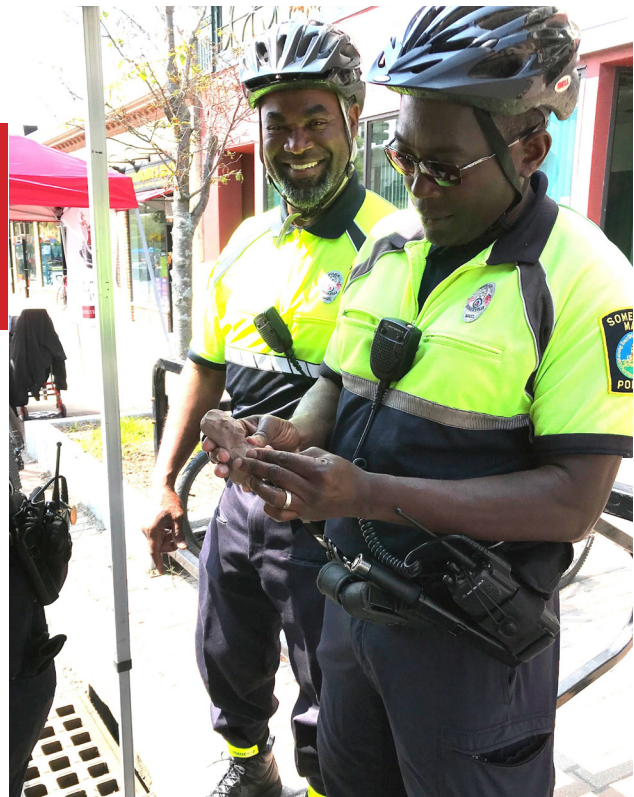
To ensure that Mudflat can provide opportunities to groups with limited financial resources and provide a valuable artistic experience for all ages, many of these programs are supported by contributions from individuals and foundations to Mudflat's Community Outreach Program Fund, and proceeds from Mudflat fundraising events. We also receive financial support for specific programs from the Somerville Arts Council, the Somerville School Department, and the Somerville Council on Aging.



Left: Students at a family HomeBase Workshop **Right:** Students at the Mystic Learning Center

800 Outreach Program Participants in 2019

- Mystic Learning Center, Somerville — family, preteen & teen workshops
- The Welcome Project, Somerville — family workshop
- East Somerville Community School, Somerville/afterschool — grades K-2
- Kennedy School enrichment — grades K-2
- Cambridge Health Alliance senior classes
- HomeBase Veteran's Programs — family and adult workshops
- Teen Empowerment workshops
- Somerville Peace Camp
- Boston Children's School summer program
- East Somerville Main Streets "Carnaval"



"In each workshop, there is always someone who I can tell is having more than just the regular amount of fun. Most people use my workshops to unwind, tap into something creative, and even get a little silly. This alone is worth the while. But there is always someone who experiences a deeper connection with their art, someone who I can tell is truly saying, 'This is me. Here I am!' To me, this is pure magic."

BECCA GILLETTE



COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

Top: Somerville Police working with clay at Carnaval event

CHALLENGE EXHIBITIONS

The “Mudflat Challenge” began in 2016, as an opportunity for all members of our community to create artwork in clay around a particular theme each semester. Our exhibitions in 2019 included : “City/Country” (winter 2018), “Access” (spring 2018) and “Paired Up” (fall 2018). Awards for exceptional pieces are given in 4 categories: well-crafted, experimental, conceptual, and juror’s choice.

For exhibitions in 2019, a total of 60 entries created by 82 artists were submitted. They were made by beginning students as well as professional ceramic artists; they were handbuilt and wheelthrown, functional and sculptural. The artist statements have been humorous, poignant and personal — and emphasized the risks that these artists took to make and present work that clearly was very meaningful. It makes us proud of our organization that we have a place and a space for creating and exhibiting work that allows for diversity of artistic expression.

An article profiling the Mudflat Challenges, authored by Mudflatter Stephanie Schorow, was featured in the January 2018 *Ceramics Monthly* magazine.



Top: Sue Hamilton & Lisa Kennedy with their piece for the “Paired Up” Exhibition **Bottom left:** James Lee Webb giving a juror’s lecture at the reception of “City/Country” show **Bottom right:** Noni Armony, “City & Country”

GALLERY

In 1998 Mudflat Gallery, a year-round retail store in Porter Square Cambridge, opened to showcase the work of Mudflat artists, faculty and students.

This 350 square foot space is in a glass arcade in the busy Porter Square shopping center, and is adjacent to another local craft co-op, Sign of the Dove. In 2019, 45 Mudflat artists were represented at Mudflat Gallery, with annual sales of over \$90,000.



OPEN STUDIO & SALES

Mudflat's Open Studio and Sales, held every May and December, showcase the work of studio artists, faculty, and students, and provide an opportunity for friends, family, and the community to visit the studios and school. Up to 96 Mudflat artists participate in each of these events, showing an exceptional variety of functional and sculptural claywork, all produced at Mudflat. Our May sale coincides with Somerville Open Studios, a city-wide art event. Over 2,900 pots were sold in our 2019 Open Studio and Sale events.

Open Studio events are also fundraising opportunities for Mudflat. Over \$10,750 was raised for our new Artist Residency Fund from sales of donated cups and one-of-a-kind pots. Mudflat artists also donated their pottery for two raffles benefitting Mudflat's Scholarship Funds, yielding \$5,885. The 2019 Open Studio events were both our highest grossing sales ever, for the 3rd straight year in a row!

2019 EVENTS

- 2019 Mudflat T-shirt fundraiser
- 4th annual clothing drive to benefit Second Chances
- 6th annual Empty Bowls event to benefit Food for Free
- NCECA conference (Minneapolis, MN)
- Somerville Open Studios (SOS) weekend
- Holiday open studio & pottery sale
- ArtBeat festival
- *Art is in the AIR* online auction
- *Huckleberries at Red Lodge* exhibition
- David Orser: *40 Years of Clay (So Far)* exhibition
- James Lee Webb: *Bacon Wrapped Art* exhibition
- Mudflat Challenge exhibitions
 - #10 - *City/Country*
 - #11 - *Access*
 - #12 - *Paired Up*

Above: Opening night of "Art is in the AIR" Auction

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

RESIDENCY OVERVIEW

In 1996 Mudflat began offering a one-year residency position to clay artists. This highly competitive program provides a private studio space at no cost with access to Mudflat's facility and opportunities for the resident to teach and sell their work. The position provides the artist with a stipend for materials, and at the end of the year the artist is given an exhibition to showcase their work. While pursuing their artwork in a creatively and financially supportive environment, these artists also make significant contributions to Mudflat as teachers and mentors.



MUDFLAT AIRS

2019-2020	Clive Sithole
2018-2019	James Lee Webb
2017-2018	Katie Fee
2016-2017	Martin McDermott
2015-2016	Mike Roche
2014-2015	Rachel Eng
2013-2014	Kyla Toomey
2012-2013	Dan Molyneux
2011-2012	Holly Curcio
2010-2011	Lisa Graf
2009-2010	Debra Fleury
2008-2009	Deborah Schwartzkopf
2007-2008	Cathy Lu
2006-2007	Nicole Peters
2005-2006	Ryan Takaba
2004-2005	Angela Cunningham
2003-2004	Monica Ripley
2002-2003	Gabriel Penfield
2001-2002	Meghan Sullivan
2000-2001	Ruchika Madan
1999-2000	Karsten Kunert
1998-1999	Randy Fein
1996-1997	David Orser



Above top: Clive Sithole in his studio **Above bottom:** Clive Sithole demonstrating to his class

2019/2020: CLIVE SITHOLE

AIR SPOTLIGHT

Clive comes to us from South Africa. He was born in Soweto to an artistic family, but spent formative years with his family in the Kingdom of Lesotho, a mountainous rural country of farmers and herders. This inspired Clive's imagery of cattle and horns which is prominent in his work. He also had the opportunity to observe traditional potters at work. In 1997 Clive moved to Durban and started working at the Bartel Artists' Trust Center, where he became focused on the work of Nesta Nala and Zulu hand coiled wares. His first solo exhibition "Journey of a Herdboy" was held in 2001. He continues to work with the daughters of Nesta Nala, Jabulile and Thembile, coming to Mudflat with them in 2018 for a one day workshop.

Clive's work has developed through the years he has been in Durban. He has received public commissions and his work is in museums. He is also an experienced and dedicated educator. Through the effort of Susan Bernstein, Clive came to Mudflat for a year as an artist-in-residence. Clive was ready to focus on a body of work based on the sculptural forms that he had started exploring. He was also intrigued to have the extended time to teach in depth. He has become a wonderful part of our community. He says that "the experience has been amazing for me, not just the opportunity to create, but the spirit of the people here, they have been so generous and welcoming."



Above: A piece made by Clive during a workshop

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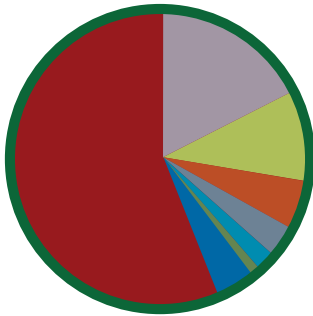
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For list of Faculty see page 11

FINANCE

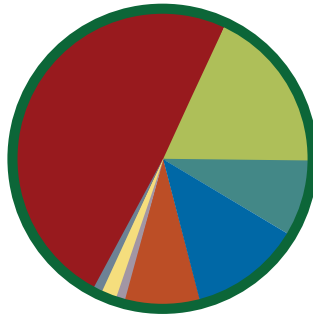
INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR 2019

Income



- 55% Class Tuition, Program Support and Membership**
- 16% Pottery Sales and Gallery**
- 5% Clay Sales, Tool Sales, Firing Fees**
- 6% Fundraising Events and Donations**
- 2% Facility Rental**
- 1% Grants**
- 5% Investment Income**

Expenses



- 48% Staff**
- 19% Facility**
- 7% Capital Improvements**
- 13% Pottery Sales and Gallery**
- 9% Program Services**
- 1% Consultants**
- 2% Other**
- 1% Fundraising and Publicity**

JOSH WEINSTOCK

TREASURER'S REPORT

We are happy to report that Mudflat Studio continues to function on a very sound financial footing. In 2019 Mudflat had a total income of \$1,207,573 and expenses of \$1,004,342. Capital improvement expenses this year included the purchase of five new pottery wheels, acoustic mitigation in our multipurpose seminar room, and new flooring in two classrooms. Our solar panels became operational in August 2019, and we are now receiving SMART rebates from our electric company. The distribution of income sources and our areas of expense are represented by the graphs here. These are based on figures that have been submitted to our auditors for final review. More detailed information is available on request.

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*Thank you to the many individuals & foundations
who supported Mudflat in 2019!*

Above: *Monster* by Steve Murphy



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