



MUDFLAT STUDIO ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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INTRODUCTION

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear Mudflat friends,

Another year — more clay! A few highlights to share from 2017 are:

- The Mudflat Board of Directors kicked off our 46th year as a cultural non-profit organization with a visioning session for Mudflat. Our decision to focus on our community outreach programming in 2017 led to hiring Jenny Dworkin as our new Community Outreach Coordinator, and the expansion of programming to 4 new partners.
- Enrollment in Mudflat classes, workshops, and outreach programs continued to be stronger than ever with record numbers of participants for all 3 semesters (again!).
- We introduced new initiatives to better serve our students, including a monthly e-newsletter, a rotating bisque library of visiting artist demonstration pieces, and student-led monthly critique sessions.
- We welcomed 2 new studio artists to Mudflat: Trix Oakley and Artist in Residence Katie Fee. And we



worked with 3 ceramic technical interns: Ariane Curtin-Bowen (Bennington College, VT), Henry Robinson (Marlboro College, VT), and Elizabeth Whipple (Swarthmore College, PA).

- We continued our “Mudflat Challenges,” featuring work created by students and studio artists each semester. Themes in 2017 were “Conversation & Collaboration,” “Contained,” and “Let’s Eat!”
- We hosted our annual AIR exhibit, this year showcasing Martin McDermott’s sculptural work.
- We provided programming with new community partners, including the Mystic Learning Center, The Welcome Project, the Kennedy School, and Home Base.
- We hosted our 4th annual Empty Bowls benefit for Food For Free. The Mudflat community made over 700 bowls; the event raised over \$15,000.
- We made physical improvements throughout our building — Dyson hand dryers in all 4 bathrooms, a new refrigerator, replacement of the arch bricks in the 54 gas kiln, and new storage for larger sculptural work in the handbuilding classroom.

- Thanks to donors to our Building Fund, Mudflat was able to make a significant \$100,000 payment to our mortgage principle, reducing our payment schedule by 2.5 years and saving over \$250,000.
- Mudflat is grateful for 3 significant donations received in 2017. The MacNamara Foundation presented 9 new pottery wheels for our classrooms. Betsy Chabot and Doug Manley contributed funds for the creation of a new tile frieze mural for the Mudflat balcony. Artist Katherine Hackl was selected; installation is scheduled for summer 2018. A gift from the Boger Family Foundation is providing funding for new kiln equipment and 3 years of community programming support.

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.

MISSION

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 potters of all ages and abilities and promote excellence in the ceramic arts.
- Providing studio arrangements that encourage interaction 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.

HISTORY: GRACE PARKER AND EARLY STONEWARE PRODUCTION IN CHARLESTOWN

Isaac and Grace Parker, along with their son John, lived and maintained a pottery in Charlestown in the early 18th century. They appear in the public record of Massachusetts, and the daybook kept by John that survived and was reproduced in 1968 in Lura Woodside Watkins' study "New England Potters and Their Wares." The list is typical: 19 ½ dozen pudding pans, 22 dozen bowls, 21 dozen flat platters, and so on, produced in October of 1753. Most of the production was in red or buff earthenware, with some slip trailing. The clay was from the Mystic River clay beds, with some shipped in from Martha's Vineyard, and the finished product was shipped to ports along the eastern seaboard. Good clay and easy access to water transportation made Charlestown ideal for potters and it became a major center for pottery in the pre-revolutionary period. The Parker pottery was large and successful and had its own wharf, but was otherwise typical of the many establishments in the neighborhood.

The Parkers were succeeded by Josiah Harris, so the site became known as the Parker-Harris site. Recently, it has become well-known in archeological circles because of its specific location. While all the pottery sites of Charlestown lay under streets and

buildings over a wide area, the Parker-Harris site was in the way of a ramp to the new Central Artery and therefore was exposed, excavated, and recorded extensively. The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. has published a number of volumes on the digs in Charlestown; The Boston City Archaeologist holds material as does the state archives. So, in addition to some written records, there are now actually artifacts to compare. This material includes not only shards, but kiln furniture and kiln bricks. Some of this can be viewed online at www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc/mhcarchexhibitsonline/parkerharris.htm.

There is one aspect of this site that is particularly interesting. Early American earthenware was in large demand, but still a good deal of stoneware was imported from England. In 1740, the Parkers expanded their production to include stoneware, the first New England pottery to attempt this. Isaac Parker petitioned the general court of Massachusetts for a patent to protect himself financially, and he traveled extensively trying to learn the secret of making stoneware. He met Anthony Duché of Philadelphia, an English-born Huguenot potter whose son Andrew became involved with the attempt to produce porcelain. Anthony's youngest son, James, contracted

with Isaac Parker. When Isaac realized that the local clay would not fire to stoneware temperatures he took out mortgages and loans to purchase clay from New York. Alas, while still preparing to make stoneware pottery, he died suddenly, leaving Grace with the task of managing the project.

Grace Parker renewed the patent that had been granted to Isaac, petitioning that she would "undertake and carry on the trade or mystery of making stoneware" and did finally succeed in producing salt fired stoneware in Charlestown. The patent gave her protection for 15 years. It will be no surprise to us at Mudflat that it was a woman who succeeded in this!

Her son John carried on until 1754. After Grace's death Josiah Harris took over the pottery. The pottery was destroyed by fire during the battle of Bunker Hill in 1775 and never rebuilt. It is said that the battle of Bunker Hill ended the ceramic activity in Charlestown; however, there are records of John Norton, the founder of Bennington Pottery being active in Charlestown before moving to Vermont, so something must have continued here.

MICHAEL SCANLON
Mudflat Board Member



WHEEL 1 CLASSROOM



HANDBUILDING CLASSROOM



WHEEL 2 CLASSROOM



KILN ROOM

INTRODUCTION



KITCHEN & BALCONY



SECOND FLOOR (DOORS TO STUDIOS)



FIRST FLOOR STUDIOS



MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM FOR EXHIBITIONS, WORKSHOPS, PRESENTATIONS, & GATHERINGS

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 2017, our core education program offered 28 adult classes, 8 children's classes, and 27-35 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,

and independent study options as well as 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 broad range 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.



2017 ENROLLMENT

- 997** Adults enrolled in classes
- 467** Adults enrolled in workshops
- 482** Adults attending presentations
- 76** Children enrolled in classes
- 230** Parents & children enrolled in workshops
- 119** Children participating in field trips
- 515** Community programming participants

2886 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

FACULTY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: GABRIELLE FOUGÈRE



Gab teaches beginning and intermediate hand-building classes and is Mudflat's Administrative Assistant. She has a particular interest in tiles, and also in planters— she is a serious gardner! She received her BFA in Ceramics from Massachusetts College of Art. She had entered intending to study Graphic Design and Illustration, but became interested in ceramics, eventually switching her major and focusing on hand-building.

After receiving her degree Gab started teaching in the Newton schools, and she also spent some years in administration at Wordsworth Books in Harvard Square. She had arranged workshops at Mudflat for her students and knew Lynn and the studio, so when an administrative position opened at Mudflat it was a good fit, allowing her to utilize her creativity, teaching experience, and administrative skills.

Gab's work is published in *Making and Installing Handmade Tiles* and *500 Tiles*, both by Lark Books.

FACULTY

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.



*“Once I discovered hand-building,
every time I'd walk down the corridor
to ceramics I felt like the sun came
out and the birds started to sing!”*

— Gabrielle Fougère

2017 FACULTY

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Noni Armony | Lisa Knebel |
| Cary Atsalis | Kate Kuligowski |
| Susan Bernstein | Toni Langerman |
| Jen DeAngelis | David LaPierre |
| Katie Fee | Marc Mancuso |
| Gabrielle Fougère | Martin McDermott |
| Jeanne Garrison | Meghan Morris |
| Mariya Gazumyan | Steve Murphy |
| Carmela Goguen-Fratus | Julie Peck |
| Michelle Green | Tracy Raymond |
| Leah Guerin | Elizabeth Rodriguez |
| Arthur Halvorsen | Melody Wolfe Thomas |
| Holly Herring | |

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 Koplou 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

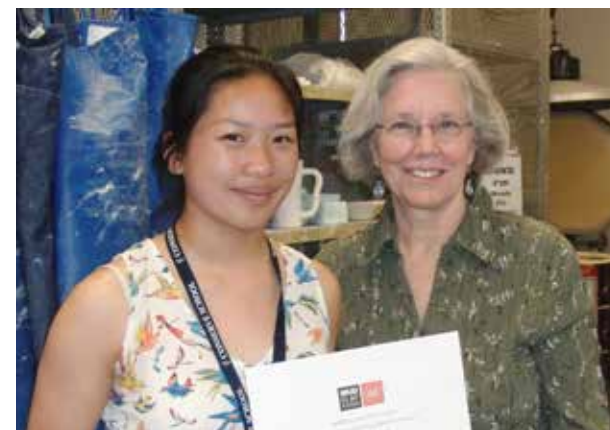
With initial donations from her family and friends, a new scholarship fund was established in 2014 in memory of Mudflat founder Ellen Schorr. Scholarships will be awarded to adult students who are seriously pursuing education in the ceramic arts.

JUDITH FUCHEL-MAHLER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

“EXCELLENCE IN CERAMICS” AWARD

Mudflat was pleased to present the 3rd annual “Excellence in Ceramics” certificate and \$500 cash award to graduating Somerville High School student Rosalie Jacobs, in a public ceremony in May 2017.



LEFT: Vase by Gabrielle Fougère

RIGHT: (top) Students in wheelthrowing class; (bottom) “Excellence in Ceramics” winner Rosalie Jacobs and Lynn Gervens

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 and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. 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 a range of studio spaces at a variety 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 \$245-\$372 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 \$239 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.



STUDIO ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: ARTHUR HALVORSEN



Throughout my life I have always been attracted to things, people, and places that are over the top. The lavish and the excess feed my creative soul, which I take and interpret into my studio practice. My work evolves through creative repetition; making the same form over and over, drawing the same images of flora or fauna, tweaking them with sprinkles of spontaneity.

A pop of color here, an action line there. The pleasure is in the process, in working in contradiction of the ordinary. Vivienne Westwood once said "I'm not trying to do something different, I'm trying to do the same thing but in a different way." This quote resonates with me. I'm not trying to reinvent platters, cups or cake stands, but to make pieces infused with my own flavor. I am putting my bold mark on the world. My pieces embody fun and joy. Nothing succeeds like excess and so I decorate over the top; layering patterns with images, creating my own worlds, with lots of color.

2017 STUDIO ARTISTS

Noni Armony	Anne Hodgson
Kyriakos Atsalis	Lisa Knebel
Susan Bernstein	Kurt Kuss
Mary Black	Chiyoko Lee
Melissa Bland	Emily Lober
Lynn Cannici	Chlöe Marr-Fuller
Sarah Chapman	Martin McDermott
Angela Cunningham	Trix Oakley
Holly Curcio	Jane Proctor
Jennifer DeAngelis	Tracy Raymond
Katie Fee	Elaine Reily
Debra Fleury	Tilla Rodemann
Gabrielle Fougère	Eric Schwarzenbach
Howard Gerstein	Zach Shaw
Lynn Gervens	Alice Templeton
Réme Gold	Kyla Toomey
Lisa Graf	Corinna Tuckey
Ellen Grund	Joanne Weinstock
Katherine Hackl	Josh Weinstock
Arthur Halvorsen	
Elise Hauenstein	

PAGE LEFT: Sculpture by Debra Fleury

RIGHT: King and Queen vases by Arthur Halvorsen

New artists in 2017: Katie Fee & Trix Oakley



WORKSHOP SPOTLIGHT: TOMOO HAMADA & SIMON LEACH

Tomoo Hamada and Simon Leach, two accomplished ceramic artists with distinct family legacies, presented a one-day workshop at Mudflat on June 1, 2017. Both artists demonstrated a variety of their wheel thrown forms and decorating techniques. They each spoke about their families' important role in the history of studio pottery, how this has influenced them and also been a point of departure in their own work and studio practice.

Tomoo Hamada is the son of Shinsaku Hamada and grandson of Shoji Hamada, a founder of the Mingei Movement (folk craft) in Mashiko, Japan and the most well-known folk art ceramist of the 20th century. Although Tomoo uses traditional methods, his work is distinctively different from that of his father and grandfather.

Simon Leach is the son of David Leach and grandson of Bernard Leach. Growing up surrounded by a family of potters, he draws on those early influences as well as Japanese and Korean art, but makes work that is influenced by his surroundings and what is personal to him.

More than 60 people attended this workshop. Special thanks to Minori Thorpe for her underwriting support for this workshop, to Koichiro Isaka for his translation skills for Tomoo, and to Steve Murphy and Mike Roche, who worked as assistants to Tomoo and Simon throughout the day-long event.



WORKSHOPS & TALKS

In 2017, Mudflat hosted a wide variety of workshops, designed to expose students to a broad range 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.

- Visiting artist workshop with Ronan Peterson
- Visiting artist workshop with Chandra DeBuse
- Visiting artist workshop with Tomoo Hamada and Simon Leach
- Visiting artist workshop with Martha Grover
- Ceramic Mural Design workshop with Katherine Hackl
- Salt Firing workshop with David Orser
- Surface Decoration workshop with Arthur Halvorsen
- Mosaic workshops with Gabrielle Fougère
- Parent and child handbuilding workshops with Kate Kuligowski

- Parent and child wheelthrowing workshops with Lisa Knebel
- Adult introductory handbuilding workshops with Gabrielle Fougère
- Adult introductory wheelthrowing workshops with Lisa Knebel
- Date Night workshops with Kate Kuligowski and Arthur Halvorsen

Mudflat also hosts “Tuttle Talks” each semester. In 2017 these free Friday evening presentations included:

- Katherine Hackl, ceramic murals
- Chandra DeBuse, visiting artist
- Lynn Gervens, NCECA recap
- Katie Fee, AIR presentation
- Martha Grover, visiting artist

PAGE LEFT, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Martha Grover, Ronan Peterson, Chandra DeBuse, Simon Leach and Tomoo Hamada
RIGHT: Class of 2017–18 Tech Ed students: Nahid Shafa, Emilie Goldfinger, Rebecca Smith, Josh Hill

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 learn the technical side of ceramics, including clay and glaze chemistry, kiln work and studio maintenance, and deepen their relationship with the studio. Graduates of the program are certified to fire Mudflat’s kilns as part of the studio’s technical team. It also provides the studio with a cadre of certified technicians to execute studio firings and technical tasks to support the school programs.





OUTREACH & COMMUNITY

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 and youth 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 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 which are then 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 to 5 year olds, ongoing weekly afterschool classes at elementary schools in Somerville and Medford for 1st to 3rd and 4th to 6th graders, and monthly programs at two 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.

NEW COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES IN 2017

The Mudflat Board of Directors kicked off our 46th year with a visioning session to identify areas for future development. A decision to focus on our community outreach programming in 2017 led to the hiring of Jenny Dworkin as our Community Outreach Coordinator and expansion of this programming.

Jenny focused on developing new associations and strengthening previous partnerships. Holding true to our mission, she sought out communities that might not normally have access to our classes. She organized both on-site and off-site workshops for these groups, accommodating their respective needs. Mudflat members led these groups through handbuilding and wheelthrowing projects. The results produced concentric circles of benefits, starting with the immediate delight of participants and expanding to the growing reputation of Mudflat's welcoming and inclusive environment.

We made a special effort to bring our organizations on-site for workshops and exhibitions. We also engaged more Mudflat artists to lead the workshops. Overall, the feedback has been stellar with every teacher and organization eager to participate again.

NEW COMMUNITY OUTREACH IN 2017:

- 10 workshops
- 127 participants
- Ages from 5 to 60
- 6 teachers
- 7 languages
- 5 pizza pies!

FEEDBACK FROM NEW COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

“Mudflat Pottery and Mystic Learning Center — the best kind of collaboration! When low income children, teens, and families get to experience the wonders of building with clay, and get to visit Mudflat for an art reception, now that's perfect!”

— **Florence Bergmann,**
Executive Director, Mystic Learning Center

“Mudflat's teachers coach and encourage these immigrant families to bring their own native intelligence and cultural flair to their ceramic creations. This helps foster community, pride,

and happiness among the participants who have come from Central America, Brazil, Haiti, Morocco, Bangladesh and other distant places.”

— **Gillian Burleson,**
Education Coordinator, The Welcome Project

“Mudflat workshops provide an intimate setting for the survivors to join together for a creative shared experience while also honoring their individual experiences in working with the clay. These workshops are a valuable 're-engaging with life' opportunity.”

— **Samantha Hohl,**
Family Outreach Coordinator, Home Base

“Teaching community outreach workshops has been such a privilege. It is amazing to see how clay can provide comfort, creative outlets, skill building, and joy during these sessions. While every group is different, and every class is different, clay brings us all together from all backgrounds and all walks of life. It is wonderful to share the experience of working with clay.”

— **Kate Kuligowski,**
Mudflat teacher and artist



2017 OUTREACH

- Full Circle High School weekly classes
- Somerville Public Schools weekly afterschool programs at Healey and East Somerville Community schools
- The Mystic Learning Center workshops for elementary students, teens and families
- The Welcome Project workshop for immigrant families
- Boston Children’s School summer program
- Prospect Hill Academy weekly afterschool classes



515 Outreach Program Participants in 2017

Sometimes we have 8 families speaking 7 different languages in one classroom, and yet, the program works. When different people come together in a space prepped by Mudflat, something beautiful happens. Individuals with wildly different backgrounds end up cheering on one another to express themselves through clay, supporting one another’s individuality while all together creating something new.”

— Jenny Dworkin

- Columbus School, Medford, afterschool club
- STEAM fair at the Kennedy School, Somerville
- Cambridge Homes, drop-in classes for resident seniors
- Cambridge Health Alliance, drop-in classes for seniors
- Home Base veterans program (Mass General Hospital/Red Sox Foundation) workshops: 5 workshops that focused on families, women veterans, couples, mothers & daughters, and a wives of veterans suicide survivor’s group
- Massachusetts Cultural Council’s “EBT Card to Culture” reduced tuition program
- One-time field trip visits to Mudflat from 3 private children’s birthday groups, 3 private adult groups, 2 Girl Scout troops, Wayside Youth group, Campus Academy High School, Farr Academy, Luminarium Dance Company, and Hubspot
- Visits from East Somerville Community School, Maine College of Art, UMass Dartmouth, Arlington Center for the Arts, Artisan’s Asylum, Brattleboro Clay Works, Community Kiln

OUTREACH STAFF SPOTLIGHT: JENNY DWORKIN



“Community Outreach succeeds when both those outside and inside the community find common ground and learn from one another,” explains Mudflat’s Community Outreach Director, Jenny Dworkin. Our successful 2017 agenda of building programmatic alliances between Mudflat and widely divergent community groups is a testament to the success of that philosophy.

A CORO fellow in public affairs and a holder of an MBA, Jenny is an experienced professional in the arts economy. As a student at Mudflat, she gained an understanding of the inclusive spirit of Mudflat and started to volunteer with special events. After being at home with her children for a while, she returned to Mudflat, stepping into the community outreach position. Combining her rigorous business acumen with a deep commitment to Mudflat’s mission, Jenny has helped to expand our programming to reach new populations. In this past year, we have launched partnerships with housing projects, teen groups, immigrant aid societies, and post 9-11 veterans organizations.

PAGE LEFT: Mudflat workshop at the Welcome Project
ABOVE: STEAM fair at the Kennedy School, Somerville



CHALLENGE EXHIBITIONS

Beginning in winter semester 2016, we organized the "Mudflat Challenge"; an opportunity for members of our community to come together around a theme to create artwork in clay. Now in its second year, students, studio artists, faculty and staff made work that addressed a particular theme: "Conversation & Collaboration" (winter 2017), "Contained" (spring 2017) and "Let's Eat!" (fall 2016). An exhibition at the end of each semester celebrates the work that has been created. Our current Artist in Residence awards pieces that are exceptional in 4 categories: well-crafted, experimental, conceptual, and juror's choice.

For each of the exhibitions about 50 pieces 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 created a place and a space for creating and exhibiting work that feels safe and welcoming to people for their artistic expression.

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 2016, 47 Mudflat artists were represented at Mudflat Gallery, with annual sales of over \$85,000.



ABOVE: Mudflat Gallery

ABOVE, RIGHT: Ceramic works donated to the Equipment Fund for the Holiday sale in December



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 2,500 pots were sold in our 2017 Open Studio and Sale events.

Open Studio events are also fundraising opportunities for Mudflat. Many of the artists donate one-of-a-kind pots and champagne cups to support Mudflat funds. The May sale raised \$3,329 for the Mudflat Building Fund; the Holiday sale in December raised \$7,126 for our new Equipment Fund! Artists also donated their pottery for two raffles benefitting Mudflat's Scholarship Funds, yielding \$5,396 total.

2017 EVENTS

- Chocolate Tasting Fun-Raiser!
- 2017 Mudflat T-Shirt fundraiser
- 4th Annual Empty Bowls fundraiser for Food for Free
- Clothing Drive to benefit Second Chances
- NCECA/Portland Oregon
- Somerville Open Studios (SOS) weekend
- Holiday Open Studio & Pottery Sale
- ArtBeat Festival
- East Somerville Main Streets' "Carnaval" festival and "Foodie Crawl"
- Mudflat Challenge exhibitions:
 - #4 - "Conversation & Collaboration"
 - #5 - "Contained"
 - #6 - "Let's Eat!"

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, and at the end of the year the artist is given an exhibition of his or her 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

- 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

2017/18 AIR PROFILE: KATIE FEE

I am inspired by the entwining relationships between land, people, and time. Growing up on a farm, we watched fields rotate from mucky dirt patch, to plowed garden, then blankets of green, and back again, at the mercy of our own tools. We also saw land change beyond our control; creek beds annually rise and recede by rainfall, and their casual path carves soil along the way, dictating the wealth of each plotted field. I'm fascinated by the cycles through which weather, tectonics, and life create, deform, and deconstruct the earth.

My clay work is based in my perception of the conversation between agriculture and environment. My process revolves around exploration of distortion and change in clay. Pots begin by cutting apart wheel-thrown cylinders and discs with mottled cords, then repairing using slip and wire. The steps vary according to the composition and state of clay. When finished, my pots are functional and adventurous.

My pots are not intended to imitate nature, but I do hope to achieve a similar sense of motion and physical exchange that vast surfaces of the earth represent. My aim is to create an engaging form, encouraging the user to investigate and explore the piece.

To see examples of Katie's work, visit www.katiefee.com

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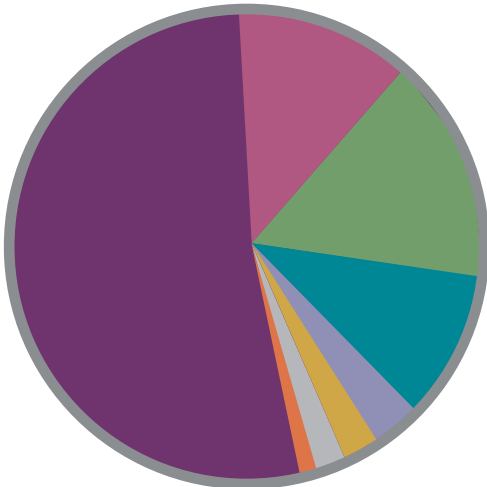
Mai Dewees
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 Jessica Mitchell
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 Michael Scanlon
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For list of Faculty see page 8.



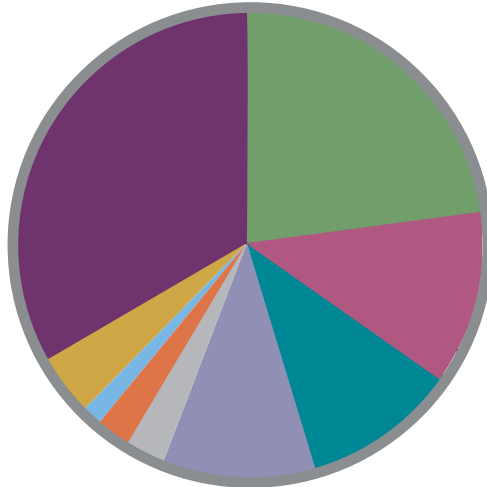
FINANCE

2017 INCOME



- 54.4% Class Tuition, Program Support and Membership
- 15.9% Pottery Sales and Gallery
- 10.0% Studio Fees
- 9.7% Fundraising Events and Donations
- 4.8% Clay, Tool Sales, and Firing Fees
- 2.4% Investment Income
- 1.9% Facility Rentals
- .8% Grants

2017 EXPENSES



- 32.7% Payroll
- 28.8% Facility
- 11.8% Pottery Sales and Gallery
- 10.6% Program Services
- 10.4% Instructors
- 2.3% Capital Improvements
- 1.2% Consultants
- 1.0% Fundraising & Publicity
- 1.2% Other

2017 TREASURER REPORT: JOSH WEINSTOCK

We are happy to report that Mudflat Studio continues to function on a very sound financial footing. In 2017 Mudflat had a total income of \$1,152,687 and expenses of \$987,195. Our expense numbers include an additional payment of \$100,000 to our mortgage principle, reducing our payment schedule by 2.5 years and saving over \$250,000. 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.

LEFT: Faculty Kyriakos Atsalis demonstrates during wheelthrowing class

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GOVERNMENT

East Somerville Main Streets
 Massachusetts Cultural Council
 Somerville Public School Department



THIS PAGE: (1) Pottery wheel delivery; (2) T-shirt fundraiser

FRONT COVER, CLOCKWISE: (1) Mudflat building exterior; (2) Bowl by Katie Fee

BACK COVER, CLOCKWISE: (1) Mug by Tilla Rodemann, (2) Class of 2017–18 Tech Ed students: Nahid Shafa, Emilie Goldfinger, Rebecca Smith, Josh Hill; (3) Throwing for Empty Bowls fundraiser; (4) Sculpture by Lisa Graf

