



**TOLEDO
POTTERS'
GUILD**

**5403 Elmer Drive
Toledo, OH 43615-2948
419-535-6937**

About the Guild

The Toledo Potter's Guild (TPG) was founded in 1951 under the suggestion of the internationally recognized ceramics and glass artist Harvey Littleton, who was then the ceramic instructor at the Toledo Museum of Art. Early in its history the Guild maintained studio facilities in the Old West End prior to becoming a resident organization of the Toledo Botanical Garden (TBG). TBG is now under the management of the Lucas County Metroparks. Throughout the years, TPG has provided a working studio for members, educated the public about ceramics, and held sales, workshops and classes.

The goal of the Toledo Potters' Guild is the education of its members and the general public. To meet its goal, the Guild has undertaken several ongoing objectives:

1. To foster an appreciation and understanding of ceramic arts in the general public by presenting exhibitions, workshops, classes and sale of members' works.
2. To support and provide for members' artistic and professional development through workshops, exhibitions and educational programs.
3. To provide a fully functioning studio for members and for the public via classes.

Membership Requirements

There are three categories of membership: **ACTIVE**, **PROVISIONAL**, and **SUPPORTING**. Applications for membership in the Guild are accepted two times a year – March and September. Application and submitted work (see below) must be **submitted before or on the second Monday of March or September**. Applicants are expected to have basic knowledge of the methods of working clay in pottery or sculpture.

Active: Applicants who have majored in ceramics in school, or have worked in ceramics for an extended period of time, are most often accepted as active members based primarily on good craftsmanship. The working knowledge, refined skill and, in particular, craftsmanship, of these members permits them to participate in Guild exhibitions and sales.

Note: Active members who plan on remaining inactive for a while, but wish to retain their current membership

status, should always maintain at least a supporting membership for re-admittance to their prior status.

Failure to do so would result in expiration of membership.

Provisional: Applicants who have only basic skills and lack a minimum level of craftsmanship in their ceramics are accepted as provisional members. This status allows individuals to improve their skills and knowledge of working in clay. Provisional members have most often completed only a few classes in ceramics, and often lack the knowledge of clay, glazing, firing, and skills working in clay. Provisional members are not permitted to participate in Guild exhibitions or sales. Provisional members may have their work reviewed at any time for possible advancement to Active membership status as their craftsmanship and skills improve.

Supporting: The Supporting category is for individuals who strongly support the goal and objectives of the Guild. However, they cannot use the studio facilities, participate in Guild sales or exhibitions, or vote. They can attend Guild meetings.

All applicants for membership must submit 5 examples of their work and a completed application form to the Guild Executive Board for review. Actual pieces of finished work is greatly recommended and preferred over images. The review will determine the applicant's membership status at time of entrance into the Guild. Membership applications are reviewed in early March and September of each calendar year.

Dues & Fees

Dues are \$130.00 annually for Active and Provisional members, and \$30.00 for Supporting members. New members must also pay an initiation fee of \$20.00. New members will pay a pro-rated Toledo Potters' Guild dues. Membership dues for the calendar year are due no later than March 1 of that year.

Activities

The Guild studio at TBG is maintained by the Guild to promote pottery and clay sculpture as fine craft and art. It is a place for members to work and a classroom for students of the Guild. While storage space is not always available, upon initial entry as a member, these members may be asked to transport their work until that shelf space becomes available. The space will be allotted according to the date the application is received. Members may use the studio at any time of the day,

except when classes are in session or special activities occur at the Garden. Access to the studio is easiest during the hours that the Garden is open to the public. Members who use the Guild Studios (Buildings #5 & #6) are expected to perform ongoing tasks in the maintenance, cleaning and operation of the studio.

The Guild schedules a monthly meeting the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. -- except July and August when no meetings are held. Unless one is a supporting member, attendance to at least one meeting a year is minimal to maintain membership. The meeting focuses on designated subjects, including educational programs, planning sessions for Guild sales and exhibits, business and Guild maintenance, workshops and exhibit openings. Executive Board meetings are held once a month and are open to the general membership.

The Guild also participates in activities held the Toledo Botanical Garden, and in the TBG Resident Organization Program. TBG has offered the Guild a unique opportunity in having invited it to participate in the Resident Organization Program, which provides the studio building, access to meeting and exhibition space, administrative assistance and public exposure for the Guild.

A membership application is enclosed. Additional information on the Guild and its activities is available by contacting the Guild at 419-535-6937, or www.toledopottersguild.org, or by writing to THE TOLEDO POTTERS' GUILD, 5403 Elmer Drive, Toledo, OH 43615.



TOLEDO
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Membership Application Form

Name: _____ Date: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Text? yes or no E-mail: _____

Please answer the following questions as comprehensively as possible:

1. Education in ceramic - years of experience, art degrees, number of courses at TPG, or college, museum, workshops, or other (explain):
2. Please indicate your experience with studio equipment, i.e. kilns, wheels, extruder, clay mixers, etc.
3. What are your reasons for seeking membership in the Potters' Guild?
4. Do you plan to use the Guild studio? Yes No
Time of studio use (please circle) Daytime Evening
Weekends
Frequency of studio use (please circle) Daily Weekly
Occasionally
5. Would you require use of any of the following:

Shelf space _____ Wheels _____ Slab roller _____
Extruder _____
Electric Kiln _____ Raku kiln _____ Gas kiln _____ Glaze
mixing _____

6. Approximately how many hours can you donate to the Guild for various activities, i.e. workshops, committees, building maintenance, Botanical Garden events, sales events, etc.

7. Have you ever exhibited your pottery? Yes No

If yes, where and when:

Toledo Potters' Guild, Toledo Botanical Garden, 5403 Elmer Dr., Toledo, OH 43615
Phone No.: (419) 535-6937 **Website: www.toledopottersguild.org**

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