

Fired Up StudiosTM ***Member Newsletter***

Spring 2010

Holiday Sales Recap

This year's Holiday Preview Party was very successful. Attendance was up from last year, and we raised about \$1200 for Central Asia Institute without Silent Auction. Overall December sales were excellent showed an increase of about 30% over December 2008.

The People's Choice Award

Once again we asked our customers at the Holiday Preview Party to vote for their favorite work displayed in the Silent Auction. Cal Wilson won first place in the People's Choice Award, while Emily Davis and Jan Bilek tied for second place.

The Gallery Coupon Contest Winners

Jim Avant was the winner of our gallery coupon contest. Tying for second place were Mike Egan and Rita Farmer. We would like to thank everyone who handed out coupons to their friends and family. While the contest is over, we still have coupons available for you to distribute as you sell and promote your work at art fairs and other events.

Art Fair Listings

And speaking of art fairs.... For those of our members who are looking for events to sell their work check out www.midwestartfairs.com. Midwest Art Fairs, the magazine which lists art and crafts fairs, festivals and event events in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, and North and South Dakota, now has a web edition which features a continually updated list of event throughout the year. Access is subscription based, so visit their website for more information and pricing.

Closed for the Holidays

Fired Up Studios Office and Gallery will be closed on Sunday, April 04 for Easter. We will also be closed on Monday, May 31 for Memorial Day. The glaze firing for the week of Memorial Day will be moved back one day to accommodate the office closure. Please check our website for the firing schedule.

Congratulations!

Erin Grassl and her husband are expecting their second child this spring.

Judy Anderson got engaged on New Year's Eve. She and Rob are planning a summer wedding.

Studio Access

Members are allowed to let their adult friends join them in the studio for \$20 per person per day. There are Studio Access sheets available by the Clay Purchase Sheets to keep track of this time. This is not designed so you can teach a large group of friends how to make pottery, but rather to give you the opportunity to introduce 1 or 2 people to what you do at the studio.

Keeping Your Valuables Safe

Main Studio doors should remain locked before and after office hours unless there is a class going on. Remember to take your keys with you if you use the restroom so you don't accidentally get locked out. And lock the doors behind you when you enter and leave after hours.

We have lockers for you to use to keep your valuables (purse, bag, etc.) safe and out of sight. For members with private studios, do not leave bags and purses unattended in your studio space. If you aren't going to be in your space, put your valuables in a locker. It is very easy for a thief to rummage through those spaces if there are not a lot of people around.

If you see someone in the studio that you don't recognize or that looks suspicious, please greet them and ask if you can help them. If they are there for a legitimate reason, they will let you know. If they are looking for an easy target, you will scare them away.

Using the Last

If you use the last of something – Kleenex, table wipes in the Chat Area, paper towels, etc. – please let the monitor on duty know so we can put out more. If it is after hours, leave us a note or voicemail message so we can take care of it first thing the next day.

Kiln Schedule

If you are working on something with a deadline or trying to get work made for your shows this spring and summer, please give yourself enough time. Do not wait for the last minute to get your work fired. You can work at least two weeks ahead, you won't have to worry about our firing schedule.

You can check our kiln status on our website. Scheduled firings or listed on our Events Calendar, and we post the kiln status on Twitter. If you don't want to sign up for Twitter, you can also follow the feed on our website, under the "For Members" section. We post each week if we are firing or if it has been canceled and when the kiln is unloaded.

2010 Marketing

We are always working on ways to get the word out about Fired Up Studios. One of the best ways to get people in the door and interested is our Clay Date classes. We are looking at new ways to promote these classes especially online and are trying to find out how people find fun things to do.

So we are asking you, "Where do you go to find things to do?"

Please email us, call us, or stop by the office with your answer.

Wheel You Be Mine

Once again we will be offering special Clay Date classes for Valentine's Day. Similar to our normal Clay Dates, "Wheel You Be Mine" classes will also include chocolates and sparkling wine. Classes are available at 6 p.m., Fri, Sat and Sun, Feb 12 – 14. Please tell anyone you think might be interested.