



CLAY, MINDFULNESS AND MEMORY MARCH 25-28, 2020 IN RICHMOND, VA

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**PRELIMINARY RELEASE-
NCECA COMES TO RICHMOND
IN MARCH 2020 FOR
IMMEDIATE CIRCULATION**

**NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION FOR THE CERAMIC ARTS (NCECA) CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS
AVAILABLE TO RICHMOND, VIRGINIA REGION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS**

54th Annual NCECA Conference to be held March 25-28, 2020 in Richmond, Virginia

Richmond, VA: The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) will host *MULTIVALENT: Clay, Mindfulness and Memory*, the organization's 54th annual conference, March 25-28, 2020 in the Greater Richmond Convention Center. NCECA is excited to offer day pass scholarship opportunities to Richmond region high school students and their teachers to attend the conference and learn about historical, technical, aesthetic, and recent career developments in the ceramic arts and education.

Students attending schools located in the Richmond metro region who are currently enrolled in grades 9-12 are eligible to apply for day pass scholarships dedicated to the memories of Val Cushing, Bill Bracker, and Valeri Sandoe, each of whom was an influential member of the ceramic art community through their teaching, creative practice, and support to the field. Scholarship recipients will be given the opportunity to attend the 2020 NCECA Conference for free thanks to the generous support of donations from Anne Bracker of Lawrence, Kansas based Bracker's Good Earth Clay, the family of Valeri Sandoe of the Indianapolis, Indiana based AMACO/brent, and Dick Wukich, professor emeritus at Slippery Rock University.

The 2020 conference theme, *MULTIVALENT: Clay, Mindfulness and Memory* will explore the ways that ceramic art's past, locally and globally engage us with diverse cultures and legacies of creative innovations. The primary material of ceramic art, clay, connects human experience from our home communities to distant places and times long past. The conference will engage regional, national and international artists, thinkers, curators, educators, and students to produce an array of exhibitions and experiences that build on, celebrate, and critically consider ceramic art's contemporary visions and diverse legacies. NCECA anticipates more than 5,000 attendees will be drawn to the region for the conference, including artists, students, teachers, collectors, and enthusiasts. Special experiences for high school aged students and educators include Make-in, a studio environment within the Greater Richmond Convention Center hosting workshops on the afternoons of Wednesday, March 27-Friday March 29, featuring artists including Malcolm Mobutu-Smith, Gerald Brown and Mike Tavares of the Clay Siblings Project. There will also be a National K-12 Ceramics Exhibition as well as more than 100 hours of lectures, panels, and artists' demonstrations.

These scholarships were created to commemorate the generosity and spirit of those who have supported creation, teaching and learning through ceramic art. NCECA hopes that by creating this free access to teens and their teachers in its conference regions, young people and educators will gain insight into the field and gain exposure to pathways that lead to creative, business, and teaching careers related to ceramic art. Programming includes artists' demonstrations, lectures, panels, discussions, hands-on activities, and a Resource Hall where more than 100 schools and as many businesses will be gathered to promote their programs, products, and services to the field.

Scholarship day passes will be granted to teachers bringing six or more students to the conference from schools within a 60-mile radius of the Greater Richmond Convention Center.

School groups will be responsible for their own transportation and any food expenses. Requests for scholarship day-passes may be sent before March 4, 2020 via email to Jacqueline Hardy jacqueline@nceca.net. Messages should include the following:

Name and contact information of the teacher including cell phone and email address

Name and address of the school

First and last names of students in the group

Day for which the passes are requested (NCECA recommends Thursday, March 26 or Friday, March 27, 2020)

Requests made after March 4, 2020 will be accommodated during Onsite Conference Registration, which opens at the Greater Richmond Convention Center beginning Tuesday afternoon, March 24, 2020. Teachers and school groups should be aware that processing Onsite Registrations may take some time when the group arrives, and advance preparation of the information requested above in a Word file or Excel spreadsheet will facilitate this process.

NCECA'S MISSION

The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts advances creation, teaching and learning through clay in the contemporary world. Ceramic art connects us to physical and cognitive experiences that foster environments of cultural equity, diversity, access, and inclusion.

LEARN MORE ABOUT NCECA

NCECA, the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, is a dynamic membership organization that fosters global education and appreciation for the ceramic arts. NCECA's programs, exhibitions, and public events promote and improve the ceramic arts through education, community building, research and creative inspiration. NCECA offers programs, events, and publications to support its membership of artists, educators, students, individual and organizational patrons, gallerists, curators, and providers of ceramic arts products and services. For more information, visit www.nceca.net.