

Greenwich House Pottery  
Advisory Committee Meeting  
December 17, 2025

## **Agenda**

### **Kiln + Heat Update**

Emails sent to community on December 9

- Thank you Diane for leading the way on hot beverages and hand warmers in the studio during the last week
- Staff moved all cone 6 glazes to the third floor with the hoist on Sunday for extended glazing hours in a heated space this week.
- Daily updates from project team. There is forward momentum every day. Currently finalizing punch list and getting those items uploaded into DOB portal

### **Deck Project Update :**

- Debris cleared and shed removed on Monday December 8

### **Registration**

Winter Registration snapshot as of December 15

- Jones Street 82% full before second session
- Chelsea 75% full before second session
- Altered a few classes in both studios- broke up several full-term classes into half term at Jones, and converted a few half term classes to full term at Chelsea
- Slipcasting moving to Barrow Street
- Total enrollment full term thus far, 71% capacity and 70% of budgeted goal.
- Larger budget goal this term due to fewer holidays and no delayed start date
- Total Jones+ Chelsea seats in weekly classes: 850 in the winter term. 843 in the fall.

### **Financial Aid update**

\$4100 redeemed

20/43 applicants who received awards redeemed the aid

### **Membership**

- November 1 handbuilding-only start
- 4 pottery wheels arrived on Monday. 2 more scheduled to arrive in the early new year.
- 15 members in the month of December
- 9 more registered for January
- Social Media pushes planned

**Make-up classes follow up:** project on hold until early new year due to scheduling conflicts with student volunteer

### **Upcoming Events**

- Quarterly staff meeting this afternoon with whole staff
- Classes start January 5
- Christian Moses Residency January 5

- Yage Wang, Lie Low January 08, 2026 05:00pm

## Open Discussion / Q&A

Sharing all concerns directly with admin staff.

Town Hall Scheduling

Mutual Concerns (Repeated Across Multiple Committee Members)

### 1. Studio Cleanliness (ALL members)

- Classrooms left dirty after classes and open studios.
- Ware boards, shelves, wedging tables, and surfaces not cleaned.
- Students leaving personal items/tools clogging shelves.
- General disorder in all studios.
- Need for clearer, stronger enforcement of cleaning expectations for students, faculty, and staff.

### 2. Inconsistent Faculty Enforcement (ALL members)

- Newer instructors not communicating or enforcing studio rules.
- Need for faculty to actively enforce clean up during last 10 minutes of class.
- Pottery Notes alone are insufficient; faculty must reinforce verbally.

### 3. End-of-Term Wet Clay Production (Barbara, Carol)

- Students continuing to make wet work late in the term.
- Adds strain to firing schedules and contributes to backlog.
- Indicates unclear or unenforced rules around end-of-term expectations.

### 4. Kiln Loading & Firing Backlog (Barbara, Carol)

- Perceived inconsistency in kiln-loading order and priority.
- kiln being out of service with no updates.
- Backlog limiting shelf space for new work.

### 5. Communication Issues (Barbara, Carol, Jane)

- Lack of updates on equipment down-time (kiln repairs, ConEd issues).
- Perception that “no one is minding the store” during staff absences.
- Reliance on email results in inconsistent awareness of procedures.
- Need for hard-copy or more visible communication tools.

### 6. Need for Stronger Community Culture of Responsibility (ALL members)

- Students assume techs/cleaning staff are responsible for tidying.
- Community-wide habits contributing to persistent mess.
- Liaisons and techs need support in holding students accountable.

7. Desire from Chelsea students to use Jones Spray booth, lustre firing. Or have spray booth at Chelsea.  
(Liz and Barbara)

Individual Concerns (Unique to Each Person)

Barbara

- Specific issues in the Slipcasting Studio:
  - New instructors not trained in studio rules.
- Ongoing challenges from construction noise and lack of heat.
- Chelsea: Classroom shelves overloaded with personal items throughout the term.

Carol

- Concern about potential tech misuse of kiln space for personal work.
- Questions about air filter noise, timers, and maintenance schedules.
- Concern that late-term new work / last wet clay day unenforced
- Desire for clear postings for kiln unloading schedules.

Jane

- Recommends reintroducing faculty cubbies for important weekly notes.
- Suggests structured end-of-term cleaning tasks per class.
- Emphasizes need for consistent messaging throughout term, not only at start.

November follow up topics to revisit in January

From Barbara:

- Suggestion about faculty bio pages and improving their location on our webstie.
- Suggestion to reach out to our Mindwell neighbors at Chelsea. \*Evidently a great deal ha been done, though I will also reach out myself.
- Storage of personal belongings on class shelves in Chelsea. It's a problem.

From Jane:

- Suggested creating a resource page for specialty firing opportunities (wood, raku, etc.) on the GHP website's "Current Students" section, regularly updated with info and transportation options for interested students and faculty. \*Love this- and would love some help sourcing some of that information.
- Requested reinstating Alumina Wax and the old Black Copper Wash in classrooms. \*I shared with Ryan and Dustin for internal discussion.
- It is my understanding that the new gas kilns when operational will be firing much cleaner than our former kilns. This is generally good, of course, but maybe not so desirable for the shino fans. A suggestion was made that maybe we could offer specialty firings using QQ for those who would aim for more carbon trapping. I know we haven't really seen full operational results yet but I think this might be a nice offering to consider a couple of times per semester if there is an interest.

From Liz

- Princeton Museum <https://artmuseum.princeton.edu/> is open after being closed for 5 years for a major and fantastic renovation, and I was wondering if GH might want to organize a trip there- they have an extensive ceramics collection including Toshiko Takaezu who was Princeton faculty. The museum is right on the campus and there are indoor and outdoor exhibits. \* shared this with Caroline who teaches our Out on the Town class. We are planning an Out OF Town series as well.

From Nixon:

- Proposing a tour of The Watermill Center in the Hamptons for the "Out of Town" series. They have an amazing collection of ceramics, sculpture, and artifacts, ranging from ancient to contemporary, that would be incredibly inspiring and informative for attendees.