

Greenwich House Pottery
Advisory Committee Meeting
April 15, 2026

Greenwich House Leadership Transition: LL

[Link to release](#)

Kiln + Heat Update

- Scheduling a final punch list walkthrough with contractors
- Complete special inspections for:
 - Smoke testing and Damper function verification
- Blaauw to complete a final site visit for:
 - Calibration and Training with GHP staff
- Once kilns are on:
 - Calibration firings
 - Messaging to open glaze room and reworking of firing shelves
 - Prioritizing work from fall and winter work in messaging

Registration

Spring Registration snapshot as of April 14(Opened March 9)

- Jones Street 77% full before second session 63% total
- Chelsea 82% full before second session 51% total
- Slipcasting moving to Barrow Street 2 classes running and shorter 6 week B session filling quickly in a third
- Total enrollment full term thus far, 72% capacity and 100% of budgeted goal.
- Total Jones+ Chelsea seats in weekly classes: 898 / 643 enrolled

Benchmarking Against Winter:

- Winter term was at 85% capacity at the end of term

Membership

- 4/1 members: 14 , /15 members: 17
- Adding option to rent top shelf for discount
- Open house yielded several new applications
- Exploring shifting registraion over to Shopify

Gallery

Renovations in the gallery to add Pot Shop Sales space and storage for Gallery furniture. Plan to move Liaisons into gallery as reception starting in late spring/ early summer

- Liaison move into Gallery
- Coordinator, Kaitlin, and Dustin share Office. Ryan office in Jones Slipcasting

Upcoming Events

- April 6 Janisse Gracia Residency started
- April 22 Earth Day event at Washington Square Park
- May 7 Exhibition opening A Form of Reverence curated by Derek Weisberg

- May 11 Taste
- May 19 Town Hall to be rescheduled to early June
- June 2 Ezra Shales Book Talk
- June 7 + 13 Clay on the Cobbles with the Meatpacking District
- June 27 Jones Street Festival
- Summer Term start July 6
- Potlucks? Help! Advisory committee help organize?

Follow up:

- Nixon departing. Luigi serving remainder of term
- New slab roller coming to Chelsea thanks to gift! Ordered. Manufacturing takes 10 weeks. Will be on site in Summer term
- Posted Coordinator position at Jones. Hiring to start in early June
- Facilities request form to launch with new staff member in summer term. Staff stress testing form
- Wren going to graduate school!
- Cleaning communication with staff and faculty. Class intros this week focused on shared studio responsibility
- Kiln Fire software update

TPA superlatives, student sponsored?

Teaching Assistants

From Larry: Reasons to be cheerful:

1. A big shout out to Ryan and Rudra (am I missing anyone?) for schlepping all that finished work from the shelves in the hallway into the gallery and the slip-casting studio.

Bummer if this was done “out of an abundance of caution” ahead of Monday’s construction if it turns out that it wasn’t actually needed, but its clear that people are going to extreme lengths to prevent yet more set-backs when they can.

2. Kudos to whomever made the clay the first week of the term. Its really nice to work with! What’s made the difference? Aging the clay for a week? Better pugging?

3. I’m hearing that in at least some classes, instructors are getting serious about cleaning instruction. I think Dustin even did a demo on it. Someone in his class related his instructions for cleaning splash-trays at the wheel; waste clay and slip goes into one of those small plastic cups but the cups never end up above the sink because they’re dumped directly into the appropriate bucket in the hallway. Splash pans, etc. are then cleaned in the sink with a minimum of crud in the sink. (Heavenly!)

4. While I’m on the topic of cleaning, the floors have never looked better. Consistently!

5. No one can replace Luc Hammond-Thomas, but people are excited about the person teaching his Wednesday morning class, even though she’s extremely different than Luc in many ways. Also, people

seem to be making better use of visual aids. Take a look at the white board on the 2nd floor wheel room!

6. Keep up the updates! They give people transparency by enumerating the things that need to happen before Blaauws are up and running routinely. This really helps to cut down on runaway expectations.

Jane: The most critical thing right now for all the old-timers who are waiting for Cone 10 at Jones is the lack of space for bisqueware. There is zero space in the glaze room and people are stacking it on class shelves because a) there isn't enough space; and b) because it's too precarious and breakage is happening on the official bisque shelves. Telling people that they should take this home is unrealistic for most (including me.) I know we are making progress towards the eventual C10 firings but in the interim, is there some other space we can use?

Also, several people mentioned to me that they would have been happy to volunteer for the Open House on Sunday if an email had gone out specifically asking for people earlier on. There used to be a whole contingent of people who would come out for the sales and such and help out. I feel like many would do so again if there was an attempt to reach out for that specific purpose (separate from Pottery Notes.)

Carol: Still requests for a white board or some place to request supplies/ clay/ washes/ glazes which need refilling; tools which need replacing, etc.

request for a video tutorial on how to register for classes from a frustrated long time (older) member who didn't get the class he wanted. <https://greenwichhouse.org/pottery/about/student-resources/how-to-use-sawyer/>

*Adding to registration emails going forward

There's a sense at Jones that Jones street has taken a back seat to Barrow; that Caitlin n Jenni have no presence at Jones; that there is no one with authority to make decisions at Jones. I see Dustin at Jones but I'm not sure many people really know what he does?

Barbara:

- Communication about the new slab rollers.
- There seem to be more-than-usual changes of instructors in classes and well as frequent subs in classes. People are commenting on this.

Sandi: Day 1 of spring semester, no stools at each wheel on the 3rd floor, and not enough buckets for all students.

We essentially have too many advanced students for the shelf space allocated (both for green ware, and bisque shelf space is waaay too small.

Lastly and most importantly, the clay is inconsistent, most often too "short" to work with.

When I tried to discuss with Ryan, I was told that is was part of our practice to work with a variety of consistencies.

Not an appropriate response!