

THE KILN CLUB OF WASHINGTON, DC

<https://www.kilnclubwdc.com>

BECOMING A JURIED MEMBER (January 2026)

Please Read ALL Materials Carefully

The goal of the Kiln Club Jury Process is to provide a clear and fair application process that ensures the best possible applicants are accepted into Scope Gallery. If an applicant needs help finding a sponsor, please notify the Kiln Club President, Membership Chair, or Scope Representative for a suggestion.

The Jury Process provides a Kiln Club Member the opportunity to work with a sponsor to help them develop their body of work and present it effectively for evaluation by a Jury Committee of the Kiln Club made up of Juried Members of the Board of officers. Subsequently as a Juried Member, the artist will be eligible to sell their work at Scope Gallery (<http://www.scopegallery.org>) in the Torpedo Factory Arts Center. Scope Gallery features themed shows that alternate monthly between The Kiln Club's Juried Members and the Ceramic Guild. Juried Members also act as representatives to the greater community, mentor future Kiln Club Members who wish to become Juried Members, fulfill Scope Gallery duties, and remain active in Kiln Club activities. Opportunities to become a Juried Member of the Kiln Club will be published in the Newsletter and on the Kiln Club's website.

Section 1: Sponsor and Applicant Roles and Responsibilities

A. Sponsor

1. A Sponsor must be an active Juried Member of the Kiln Club for a minimum of 2 years.
2. A Sponsor may only sponsor one Applicant per year.
3. The Sponsor is expected to mentor an applicant for several months and until completion of the jury process, allowing enough time to discuss craftsmanship, design, and aesthetics of the applicant's work to make sure it is ready to be shown and sold at Scope Gallery. The Sponsor may decide that some of the work of the Applicant is a good fit for Scope Gallery, but some is better suited for other venues such as craft fairs.
4. The Sponsor is responsible to provide the applicant with the Kiln Club's documents related to the process.¹ Sponsor and Applicant must read together all documents related to the Jury Process to understand what is required. This review should take place early in the process so the Applicant has an opportunity to address any problems the Sponsor may find. The Sponsor

¹ There are three documents: "Becoming a Juried Member," "Application Form," "Applicant Design and Aesthetic Guidelines."

should believe that the Applicant is committed to supporting the objectives and activities of the Kiln Club.

6. The Sponsor decides whether the Applicant is ready or not.

B. Applicant

1. Applicant must be a member of the Kiln Club for at least two years.
2. Applicant must have attended at least two Kiln Club meetings within the last 12 months prior to applying and have visited Scope Gallery.
3. Applicant must be willing to fulfill the responsibilities of a Juried Member. This includes working at least 2-3 days during Kiln Club months at Scope Gallery, and showing in at least 1 slow month; January/February, August/September.
4. Applicant must find a Sponsor who is an active Juried Member of the Kiln Club for at least 2 years. The Sponsor must be willing to either have personal knowledge of the Applicant and her/his work or work with the Applicant to get to know them. The Sponsor must judge that the quality of the work and the interest of the Applicant meet the standards the Kiln Club's Juried Members showing at Scope Gallery.
5. With the approval of the Sponsor, the Applicant communicates their readiness to be juried to the President of the Kiln Club.

C. Sponsor and Applicant

1. The Applicant and Sponsor choose 5 pieces representative of a full range of work currently produced by the Applicant. If working in more than one style or method of firing, select up to 3 pieces of each style the Applicant is anticipating showing at Scope.
2. The Applicant and Sponsor choose 8 digital images of work to display to the Committee to supplement the representative pieces. Professional photos are not required.
3. The Applicant and Sponsor must fill out the application form and send it to the President.
4. The Applicant and Sponsor must provide an artist statement and a general bio/resume of workshops, classes and experience in the ceramic world, i.e. selling work.

Section 2: The Jury Committee

- A. The Jury Committee determines the date, time and place to consider the Applicant's submissions.

- B. At the appointed time the Applicant delivers their pieces, bio and artist statement. The Sponsor introduces the Applicant and their work. Only the Sponsor may remain during the jury process but does not vote.
- C. The Jury Committee notifies the Sponsor of the committee's decision. The Sponsor will then notify the applicant and make sure their pots are returned. The Sponsor will receive a copy of the Jury Committee's evaluative observations, which identify strengths and weaknesses of the submitted pots. The Sponsor should provide this evaluation to the applicant.

Section 3: The Outcome

A. If Applicant is not Successful.

- 1. If the Jury Committee has not accepted the applicant at this time, the Sponsor and applicant should discuss with the applicant the Board's critical observations and reasons for not being accepted. This discussion should provide a valuable learning experience for both the applicant and the Sponsor.
- 2. The applicant should be encouraged to work on the aspects noted by the Jury Committee and encouraged to apply during the next jurying session.

B. If Applicant is Successful.

- 1. If the Jury Committee approves the applicant, the Sponsor will continue to be a source of information and advice for the applicant during the upcoming year.
- 2. The Sponsor should attend the first Kiln Club members' meeting following the jurying process to introduce the newly Juried Member and provide a brief biographical sketch. The Sponsor also should remind the newly Juried Member to attend this meeting, and to bring the pots considered by the Jury Committee.
- 3. The Sponsor is responsible for training—or for arranging for someone to train—the newly Juried Member prior to showing at Scope. Training must be completed before the newly Juried Member can sit alone at Scope. Training includes how to prepare their work for showing (such as creating pricing labels in Scope's format, creating an inventory list, understanding how many pieces to display at one time, the monthly themes for the current year, etc.).
- 4. Training also addresses sitting at Scope such as:
 - a. procedures for opening and closing the gallery;
 - b. using the Square inventory system;
 - c. greeting customers and being knowledgeable to discuss other artists' work with customers;
 - d. how to safely wrap purchased pieces;
 - e. review Policies and Procedures notebook.

5. The Sponsor will advise the Scope Gallery Scheduler (currently Laura Nichols) once training is complete and the new Juried Member may be accepted in the next available show.

Applicant Design and Aesthetic Guidelines

ALL CERAMIC PIECES

Must be produced using clay that is fired in a kiln.

Bases/feet should be clean, smooth and absent kiln debris.

Rims should be smooth without nicks or defects and comfortable to use.

Glaze runs should be smoothly ground.

FUNCTIONAL WARE

Spouts should pour well.

Lids should fit.

Handles should be adequate for use.

Thrown walls should be of even thickness.

Weight should follow form and function.

Pieces must not have cracks, “S” cracks, or be chipped.

HANDBUILT PIECES

Should have well joined seams.

Edges must be smooth.

AESTHETIC GUIDELINES

Proportionality – the relation of parts to each other and to the whole

Integration of form, function and surface decoration

Completeness - the ability of the piece to stand on its own

Cohesiveness of body of work

Engaging composition showing personality, energy, life expressed by the piece showing the ceramist's unique voice and hand.

BASIC POLICY

Work submitted must be handmade and original to the ceramicist. If commercial textures or decals are used, they should be part of a broader artistic expression, well incorporated and not the primary character of the piece. Similarly, if commercial molds are used, they should be a small part of the piece's overall impression.

January 2026

THE KILN CLUB
JURIED MEMBER APPLICATION FORM

NAME OF SPONSOR:
NAME OF APPLICANT:
ADDRESS:
MOBILE:
E-MAIL:

Please list the dates of two Kiln Club meetings you have attended in the last twelve months:

Please have your sponsor sign the following statement:

I have personal knowledge of this applicant and think the quality of his/her work meets the standards of the Kiln Club. I also believe this candidate is committed to supporting the objectives of the organization. Additionally, I agree to act as his/her mentor during the first year of Juried Membership.

Sponsor signature: _____

All Juried Members are expected to support the objectives and participate in the activities of the Club and Scope Gallery. Please indicate which areas are of particular interest to you:

Board

President (must be a juried member)
Vice President (must be a juried member)
Membership Chair
Scope Representatives (must be juried members)
Programs and /or Workshops Committee
Treasurer
Newsletter Editor/publisher and Corresponding Secretary
Recording Secretary

Committees and individuals not on the board

KC Instagram account manager
Hospitality
Website Manager
Liaison to the Torpedo Factory Website
TFAC Representative
Outside Sales Chair

Publicity for outside sales

Marketing and Publicity

Creative Crafts Council Representative

(Scope has other officers that include members of the Ceramic Guild who are the other group making up the artists for the gallery)