



Happy New Year from La Mano!

We had a great turn-out for our Holiday Party and raised \$1232.56 through our raffle that will go to children in need specifically in the Pottery Department at Children's Aid Society.

The raffle winners are:

**8 Week La Mano Pottery Course** – Julia Macklin  
**One Body Talk Session with Danica Holoviak** – Sylvia Hordosch  
**Cupcakes from City Cakes** – Elaine Hamnett and Cristina Lombardo  
**Dinner for 2 at Crema** – Julia Macklin  
**Case of wine from Merchants** – George Kroenert  
**Dinner for 2 at Molly's Pub** – Cristina Lombardo  
**Stiggly's tea and goodies sac by Sacha Jones** – Mike Doniger  
**Barney's Scented Candle** – Scott Sosebee  
**Starbuck's Card \$25 value** – Linda Eaton

Congratulations to all who participated and thanks to those who donated our prizes! We hope you will patronize those businesses who generously contributed.

With the beginning of this new year, we are happy to announce that we have purchased a new kiln! We are so excited to be able to accommodate even more pots in our kiln room We pride ourselves in our ability to keep up with the firing demands in a busy studio and know we can do even more with our new kiln.

Special thanks to **Richard Stauffacher** and **Bob Pesce** who helped to bring the new kiln into our basement studio piece by piece from the sidewalk delivery.

Yours in Mud,  
 Diane, Julie, & Peggy

## Weekend Classes at La Mano

We still have space in our Saturday Handbuilding class which meets from noon to 2 and also in our Parent/Child Wheel class, that begins in February, on Sundays from 10-12. Sign up now at [lamanopottery.com](http://lamanopottery.com). Below is our current schedule.

### Class Schedule

#### Wheel | Winter 2011

Day	Dates	Time	Notes
Monday	1/10-2/28	6-8 pm	8 weeks, \$300
Tuesday AM	1/4-2/22	10:30am-12:30pm	8 weeks, \$300
Tuesday	1/4-2/22	7-9pm	8 weeks, \$300
Wednesday	1/5-2/23	7-9pm	8 weeks, \$300
Thursday	1/6-2/24	7-9pm	8 weeks, \$300
Saturday	1/8-2/26	10:30am-12:30pm	8 weeks, \$300
Sunday	1/9-2/27	6-8pm	8 weeks, \$300

#### Handbuilding | Winter 2011

Day	Dates	Time	Notes
Tuesday	1/11-3/1	7-9pm	8 weeks, \$300
Wednesday	1/12-3/2	7-9pm	8 weeks, \$300
Thursday	1/13-3/3	7-9pm	8 weeks, \$300
Friday	1/14-3/4	4-6pm	8 weeks, \$300
Saturday	1/22-3/12	noon-2pm	8 weeks, \$300

#### Kids' Pottery Classes

##### Handbuilding | ages 7 and up

Day	Dates	Time	Notes
Thursday	11/11-1/20	3:45-5pm	8 weeks, \$250 (No classes on 11/25, 12/23, 12/30)
Thursday	1/27-3/17	3:45-5pm	8 weeks, \$250

##### Wheel | ages 12 and up

Days	Dates	Time	Notes
Tuesday	11/16-1/18	3:30-5:30pm	8 weeks, \$300, Limited to 5 students (No class 12/21 & 12/28)
Wednesday	12/8-2/9	4-6pm	8 weeks, \$300, Limited to 5 students (No class 12/22 & 12/29)
Tuesday	1/25-3/15	3:30-5:30pm	8 weeks, \$300, Limited to 5 students

##### Parent/Child Wheel | ages 12 and up

Days	Dates	Time	Notes
Sunday	2/6-3/13	10am-noon	6 weeks, \$425 for parent & child

##### Sunday One-Day Workshops | ages 5 and up

Day	Date	Time	Notes
Sunday	January 23	10:30am-noon	\$50 per child (\$75 for two siblings)
Sunday	March 6	10:30am-noon	\$50 per child (\$75 for two siblings)
Sunday	April 10	10:30am-noon	\$50 per child (\$75 for two siblings)
Sunday	May 15	10:30am-noon	\$50 per child (\$75 for two siblings)

### Potter of the Month

**Peggy Clarke's** pottery is in the gallery for the month of January. Peggy, as many of you know, is one of the three owners of La Mano. She is highly skilled and hands-on in the many facets of the business and is teaching a class at the studio this semester. She uses many techniques and different types of firings with her pottery and shows her work upstate, as well as in NYC. We hope you have a chance to stop by and view her fish-themed wall hanging on the wall at the entrance to the studio. The pottery was raku-fired and is quite exquisite.



**Danica Holoviak** will be the Potter of the Month for February. We will feature her in the next newsletter, but we wanted you to be able to save the date for the artist's reception on **February 12th, from 7-9pm**, where you will get a full viewing of her art which will intertwine her interests in the fiber arts and ceramics.



### Potter's Tip of the Month

What is a glaze?

"Defined in simplest terms, glaze is liquid glass subjected to heat." (from *The Potter's Studio Glaze & Clay Handbook* by **Jeff Zamek**). Glazes are made up of a varying combination three main ingredients found in raw materials (and mixed with colorants) that when heated to extreme temperatures will almost magically melt and adhere to your pot and create a gorgeous work of art. The three ingredients are silica (the glass former which has an extremely high melting point), flux (lowers the fusion point of silica), and refractory elements (which give increased hardness and viscosity). Mixing the chemicals together with precision and finding the correct glazes for a specific body of clay involves a tremendous knowledge of chemistry and math.

There are so many variables even once one finds the right recipes such as: the length of time the glaze chemicals have been ground, the thickness of application, the reaction between the glaze and the clay body, the kiln atmosphere, and the rate of rise and fall of the temperatures in the kiln. This does not even include the specific properties of each ceramic material used in the process of making your piece and how particular chemicals will react with another known type of glaze.

Glazing a pot with more than one glaze is risky if you are not familiar with the chemicals involved in the recipes and how they may react with each other. Even with the use of test tiles in the studio, there is no promise that your pot will look exactly like what you see from the tests.

What can the potter do?

Always scraping the sides of the glaze bucket with a spatula to get all the collected clumps of dried glaze and then mixing up the glaze with a whisk until creamy and smooth helps (called slating). Also, apply the glaze evenly. If you think your glaze is too thick or too thin, ask a studio assistant on duty for help! Also, make sure your pot has been wiped clean of dust before you glaze.

