



BALTIMORE CLAYWORKS CELEBRATES ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY!

Baltimore, Maryland - June 30, 2015 - Baltimore Clayworks celebrates its **35th anniversary** this year with special events, programs and crowd-funding. On June 9, 1980, the organization opened its doors to the public and has since offered and expanded clay programming in Baltimore. In celebratory fashion, Clayworks has launched a campaign, **\$35,000 in 35 Days** via indiegogo.com to encourage contributions through the community to help sustain the organization's programming and operations throughout the year and enable future plans to come to fruition.

It is with the support, guidance and accomplishments of all those that have been a part of Clayworks' rich history that enables the organization to reach new audiences, connect to new participants and partners, continue our quality programming and begin new initiatives that will ensure that Clayworks remains a leader in ceramics and community arts. By partnering with organizations already imbedded in the life of the neighborhoods and developing art-making programs that meet the interests of the community, Baltimore Clayworks has successfully worked with broad and diverse groups of residents in Baltimore for over three decades.

"We're surrounded by a close-knit community of makers, supporters, collectors and patrons. They are the people who keep the organization going - the reason we exist - to serve and support a community of ceramic art and artists. This is an exciting year and we're fortunate to have the opportunity to celebrate with all those who are part of Clayworks' history - whether they are new to

clay or have been with us for 35 years. That's what I love about Clayworks, the people at all levels are creative and committed to connecting clay and community!" says Sarah McCann, Executive Director.

The **\$35,000 in 35 Days** is an important appeal - these funds will directly support the work being done in Mt. Washington and our partner sites, such as **Clay For All!** satellite studios, Jubilee Arts, Tuerk House and the Zeta Center for Healthy and Active Aging. Clayworks partners with over 30 community sites each year and reaches over 15,000 people through classes, events, initiatives, and exhibitions.

Friday, July 10, 6-8PM, a celebratory **35th birthday party** will mark the last day of the anniversary fundraising campaign - which also coincides with the opening reception of the next set of exhibitions: Lormina Salter Fellow, Jeremy Wallace will be in the Main Gallery; work by Susan Beiner in the Solo Gallery; Korean Onggi Jar Potters in the Community Arts Gallery; and Margie and Tom Pozefsky Fellow, Missy Steele in the Project Space. This event is free and open to the public.

This fall, September 5-October 3, Clayworks will host its **35th Anniversary Show**. Juried by co-founder and former executive director, Deborah Bedwell, it will showcase the work of past and present resident artists, students and those who have exhibited work throughout Clayworks' rich history. The opening reception for this monumental exhibition is Friday, September 4, 6-8PM and is free and open to the public.

To give Baltimore Clayworks a 35th birthday gift, visit <http://igg.me/at/clayworks35> to give online, call Clayworks to give over the phone, or send your contribution in the mail to Baltimore Clayworks, 5707 Smith Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21209.

Baltimore Clayworks is a not-for-profit ceramic art center located in the Mt. Washington neighborhood in northwest Baltimore. Founded in 1980, Clayworks is housed in two reclaimed and renovated buildings located across the street from one another. This organization offers classes, artists' spaces, exhibitions, and programs throughout the community. Hours are 10AM - 5PM, Monday through Friday, 12-5PM Saturday and Sunday. For more information call Baltimore Clayworks at 410-578-1919 or visit our website, www.baltimoreclayworks.org. 5707 Smith Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, 21209.

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