

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Mary Headrick (mheadrick@crafthouston.org)
Houston Center for Contemporary Craft
713.529.4848 x.107

Nourish: ClayHouston Membership Exhibition
on view February 6 – April 26, 2015, at Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

Nourish: ClayHouston Membership Exhibition**February 6 – April 26, 2015**

Artist Hall at Houston Center for Contemporary Craft
4848 Main Street, Houston, TX 77002

Opening Reception**Friday, February 6, 5:30 – 8:00 PM**

The opening will also feature Dining and Discourse: A Discussion in Three Courses in the Main Gallery and one day, late in the afternoon. . . in the Front Gallery. Current resident artists' studios will be open to the public.

Hours & Admission

Open Tuesday - Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM, and Sunday, 12 – 5 PM

Spring/Summer Hours: Closed on Easter Sunday, July 4th and Sundays, July 4th – Labor Day.

Admission is free

(HOUSTON, TX) December 10, 2014 – This spring, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) presents *Nourish: ClayHouston Membership Exhibition*, a juried group exhibition and exploration of the concept of *nourishment* through the medium of clay.

The word *nourish* implies an act of caring, promoting or fostering life, growth, health, ideas and much more. *Nourishment* can represent a variety of concepts and ideas—anything that acts as food for the soul. But at its core, an act of nourishment depends on a connection between one being and another. This connection and symbiotic relationship can be played out in many different ways, yielding a diverse range of outcomes.

The 13 artists featured in the exhibition express what the concept of *nourishment* means to them through a variety of processes and forms. They employ hand building, wheel-thrown techniques and slip casting to construct both functional and sculptural objects. Surface treatments range from *raku* to wood firing, *terra sigillata*, mason stains and vitreous glazes. Whether utilizing an installation-based format or creating a decorative vessel, each artist uniquely expresses his or her personal interpretation of the concept through the endless possibilities of clay.

Nourish: ClayHouston Membership Exhibition was juried by Dan Hammett, Chair and Professor of Ceramic Art at the University of Dallas.

Featured Artists

Mary Aldrich
Andy Bally
Virginia Bally
Caroline Carey
Elizabeth DeLyria
Marcia Erickson
Judith Freeman
Joyce Joe
Lisa Kelley
Michelle Matthews
Tom Perry
Anne Steacy
Jo Zider

Founded in 2004, ClayHouston is a dynamic organization of ceramic artists: potters, sculptors, educators, students and people who simply love working with clay. ClayHouston members work to cultivate interest in the ceramic arts in the Houston metropolitan area and the southeast region of Texas. The organization plays an active role in the Houston community by creating exhibits, symposia, festivals, sales and educational experiences that showcase ceramic arts and ceramic artists. For more information, visit www.clayhouston.org.

Dan Hammett has been at the University of Dallas, Irving, since 1974, where he is currently a full professor and chair of the Ceramic Art Department. He has produced architectural ceramic-shell lighting, large-scale monolithic ceramic sculpture, as well as functional ceramics; participated in national and international exhibits and workshops; conducted field studies to museums in the U.S., Italy, Greece, Crete and China; received grants, awards and commissions; and developed and served as consultant/project manager for the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts' award-winning PBS-style film series. Hammett received a BA in education from Northeastern State University of Oklahoma, a BFA from The University of Kansas, and an MFA in ceramic art from The State University of New York College of Ceramics at Alfred.

About Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) is a nonprofit arts organization founded to advance education about the process, product and history of craft. HCCC serves as an important cultural and educational resource for Houston and the Southwest—one of the few venues in the country dedicated exclusively to craft at the highest level. The organization provides exhibition, sales and studio spaces to support the work of local and national artists and offers mission-related educational programs in schools and underserved communities. Visitors enjoy viewing innovative exhibitions, visiting artist studios, strolling through the Craft Garden, creating their own crafts in monthly HANDS-ON HOUSTON events, and shopping for one-of-a-kind gifts and home décor in the Asher Gallery.

Located in the Museum District at 4848 Main Street, HCCC is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM, and Sunday, 12 – 5 PM. **Spring/Summer Hours: Closed Easter Sunday, July 4th, and on Sundays, July 4th – Labor Day.** Admission is free. Free parking is available directly behind the facility, off Rosedale and Travis Street. HCCC is three blocks south of Wheeler Ave. MetroRail station on Main Street.

HCCC is funded in part by grants from The Brown Foundation; Houston Endowment, Inc.; Texas Commission on the Arts; the National Endowment for the Arts; the Kinder Foundation; the Morgan Foundation; Windgate Charitable Foundation; and the Wortham Foundation.

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft is funded by grants from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance and is a participant of the Capacity Building Initiative.

For more information, call 713.529.4848 or visit www.crafthouston.org. Follow HCCC on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram @CraftHouston.

###