



## Procedures for election to Elected Membership

Craft Potters Association of Great Britain

The aim of the CPA is to promote and encourage the creation of high quality ceramics. Applicants for Elected Membership are expected to be actively producing work for exhibitions and/or sale. Selection is undertaken by Members of Council and takes place twice a year as outlined below. Applicants must be resident in the United Kingdom or a British Citizen living in Continental Europe.

### Selection Criteria

All applications are assessed by the following criteria:

<b>Knowledge of ceramic material</b>	Makers must demonstrate a knowledge of, and sensitivity to, the ceramic materials they use and show an ability to make an appropriate choice of materials.
<b>Technical skills</b>	Makers must demonstrate a mastery of the techniques they employ including plasterwork where moulds are used.
<b>Quality of work</b>	Makers' work must be made to a high standard, be fully resolved, show integrity and be consistent in quality. Where materials other than clay are incorporated, these must show a sensitivity of choice and be sympathetic to the concept of the work.
<b>Strong personal voice</b>	The work should be clearly identifiable as the work of the maker and not derivative.
<b>Originality</b>	Makers' work must be original in concept and demonstrate creativity. It must show a strong sense of design and an awareness of the relationship between form and surface. If functional, it must be fit for purpose.
<b>Development</b>	Makers must demonstrate their potential and ability for development in the field of ceramics.
<b>Suitability</b>	Council must feel that applicants' work can be effectively represented through the organisation's activities and reserve the right to make that decision.

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### **Stage 1**

Applicants must submit:

1. Completed application form; including short descriptions, dimensions and wholesale price (price before gallery mark-up) for the pieces submitted in images (see below). Do not send more than six images.
2. Six digital images of high quality (ideally 300dpi) in jpeg format. All files must be clearly labelled with your name and please number each digital image sent with a corresponding number on your application form.
3. An up-to-date CV including, details of employment, education/qualifications, exhibitions, stockists, publications/articles/press, commissions/public collections and awards.
4. Artist's statement; a description of the work and inspirations (250 words max).
5. Technical notes - a description of how the work is made, techniques and materials used and firing temperatures (150 words max).
6. A current website address and any other presence online.
7. An administration fee of £25 is payable with each application and is not refundable.

The deadlines for Stage 1 applications are 15th January & 15th July.

Applications are then circulated by email to Council Members who vote for those they consider should be invited to Stage 2.

Applicants will be informed of the outcome of the 1st stage in early February and early August respectively.

Decisions to go forward to Stage 2 will be judged on the basis of the above Selection Criteria and submitted documentation.

The panel's decision is final and there is no feedback for unsuccessful applicants at this stage.

### **Stage 2**

Successful Stage 1 applicants are invited to submit six pieces of work made within the previous eighteen months for the following selection meeting (May or November). This gives the applicant a 3 to 4 month window in which to prepare.

Applicants are expected to make arrangements for the delivery and collection of their work at the Stage 2 selection meeting either by themselves or with the assistance of a third party. Requests for the deferment of assessment to the following meeting will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Applicants are notified of the Council's decision within two weeks of a scheduled Stage 2 meeting.

The Council's decision is final.

Individual feedback for unsuccessful applicants at Stage 2 is available. Please contact the Membership Secretary Carolyn Genders by email at [carolyngenders@gmail.com](mailto:carolyngenders@gmail.com).

## Rules and Benefits of Elected Membership

1. The election of new Elected Members is one of the primary functions of the CPA Council. At least four Council Members must be present to conduct a selection meeting. Any person wishing to become a Member must have the support of at least two thirds of those Council Members present and voting at the selection meeting. The Council may invite individuals or corporate bodies to become Members of the Association.
2. Individuals who fail to be elected as Elected Member may apply again after a period of one year has elapsed from the date of the selection meeting. Those wishing to reapply must submit images for consideration at the First Stage.
3. Persons applying for Elected Membership must be resident in Great Britain or be British Citizens and resident in Continental Europe. Persons moving abroad after becoming a Member of the Association may retain their Membership.
4. The Annual Membership fee is currently £114.
5. The annual Membership fee is renewable each year. Membership must be continuous and no benefits are allowed to those Members whose Membership subscription is in arrears. Membership fees may be made as a single payment or by Direct Debit at £9.50 per month. The Membership of those individuals who fail to pay their annual fee for one year is deemed to have lapsed. Lapsed Members who wish to re-join the Association must reapply through the normal application procedure.
6. Elected Members including fellows, which currently number around 350, are able to exhibit in the Contemporary Ceramics Centre. At any one time, the gallery aims to show work by around 60 Members. Displays comprise work by Members “on rotation” and pieces from gallery stock (work by Members who have previously sold well in the gallery). Additionally each month there are solo (or small group exhibitions) of Members’ work. The ‘Gallery’ Board decides on this exhibition programme up to two years in advance aiming to show a wide cross section of ceramic styles, but also necessarily taking commercial considerations into account. The rotation schedule is drawn up a year ahead. The gallery aims to show new Members’ work within two years of election, and to give as many Members as possible the opportunity to be shown. There will typically be around 40 Members who have their work included in a rotation during any given year.
7. Elected Members are entitled to have a free listing on the CPA website: [www.craftpotters.com](http://www.craftpotters.com). Please email [membership@craftpotters.com](mailto:membership@craftpotters.com) to have your work featured on the website.
8. As part of their Membership Elected Members automatically have £5m Public Liability Insurance cover for activities within the UK.
9. Elected Members are entitled to stand for election to the Council and to vote in such

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