



## Procedures for selection to Selected 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 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:

Knowledge of ceramic material	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
Technical skills	Makers must demonstrate a mastery of the techniques they employ including plasterwork where moulds are used
Quality of work	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
Strong personal voice	The work should be clearly identifiable as the work of the maker and not derivative
Originality	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
Development	Makers' must demonstrate their potential and ability for development in the field of ceramics
Suitability	Council must feel that applicants' work can be effectively represented through the organisation's activities and reserve the right to make that decision

### Procedure for election to Selected Membership

#### **Deadlines for Stage 1 Applications: 15 January & 15 July**

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

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

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

The panel's decision is final and there is no feedback for unsuccessful applicants at Stage 1

Applicants must submit a completed application form:

1. Contact information: mailing address, telephone, email,
2. Current website and/or relevant social media platforms.
3. Artist's statement, a description of the work and inspirations (250 words max)
4. Technical notes - a description of how the work is made, techniques and materials used and firing temperatures (150 words max).
5. 6 digital images of high quality (300dpi and longest dimension of 1920 Pixels) in jpeg format. All files must be clearly labelled and numbers must correspond with image numbers on application form (Eg. SmithJohn1.jpeg)

All images should be photographed on a neutral or gradient background and images cropped accordingly so artwork is clearly visible.

6. An up to date CV including, relevant details of employment, education/qualifications, exhibitions, stockists, publications/articles/press, commissions/public collections, awards
7. An administration fee of £25 is payable with each application and is non-refundable.

## **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 [carolyngenders@gmail.com](mailto:carolyngenders@gmail.com).

## Rules and Benefits of Selected Membership

1. The selection of new Selected 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 selected as Selected Members 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 to Selected Membership must be resident in the United Kingdom or be UK 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. Selected Members including fellows 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. The gallery aims to show new Members’ work within two years of selection, 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 rotation during any given year.
7. Selected Members are entitled to have 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 Selected Members automatically have £5,000,000 Public and Product Liability Insurance cover for activities in the UK. You can read more about PPLI here: <http://www.craftpotters.com/public-product-liability-insurance/>
9. Selected members are considered full members of the CPA and, as shareholders, are entitled to stand for election as well as vote in CPA Council elections
10. Selected members are welcome to apply for full stands at the CPA-run events Oxford and York Ceramics Fairs in October