

Super Mini-conference



by Deb Lobban



Super Mini-conference lived up to it's name!

Our inaugural Mini-conference (October 24 and 25, 2009) went off without a hitch!



Congratulations and a big thank-you to the people who arranged and ran the weekend. Jae Wright initiated, formulated and guided this very successful first-time-ever event! She worked for months to make this a success and it paid off in spades!

Together with Kinga Buday, Lise St-Germain and Vicki Thompson, they were all on hand to provide support and help to our teachers, Lydia Caine and Wendy Rinehart.

Lydia Caine began the proceedings on Saturday, leading her students in the creation of Wood Nymph in Paperclay and Aves' Apoxie Sculpt. Lydia offered us a jam-packed day! Students learned how to manipulate Apoxie Sculpt to create this wonderfully whimsical figure. The head was sculpted over a miniature skull and attached to a wire & mesh armature. Mounted on a dowel or wonderful piece of driftwood, students also learned how to use Lydia's hand & foot jigs, covering them with Apoxie Sculpt. The second portion of the workshop created a wig, dress & embellishments for the figure, incorporating interesting and diverse items such as wire, glass, leaves, lace and cheesecloth.





Sunday, Wendy Lynne Rinehart taught us to create an Aztec Gold Gourd Figure. Wendy showed us how to sculpt a head and hands with polymer clay, and attach them to wires which became the arms. Students then proceeded to paint, glue & embellish their own unique gourd and figure. Wendy brought feathers, leather and beaded adornments, which we added to our gourd. This figure was inspired by Kate Church's magical little faces, and we all had such a great time!

Both days, the students brought pot-luck dishes, which were scrumptious and varied. Well done to all of our chefs!



Raffles were many and varied as well, and there were some very lucky ladies! But the dramatic moment came when Pat Smith won her attendance at the 2010 Conference in Mississauga! Congratulations... and I know her friends are in the process of bribing her for inclusion in the workshops! Everyone had a wonderful time, making the figures, sharing the wonderful dishes, and making new friends! In the process, we made over \$600 for the CDAA.



Well done, everyone!!!!