



The American Ceramic Society journals celebrate the International Year of Glass

By John C. Mauro

Glass is such an integral and ubiquitous part of our lives—in our homes, our vehicles, our computers, our phones—that life would be unrecognizable without this most lustrous and versatile of materials. Our world is connected by glass optical fibers through which we communicate at the speed of light, by glass touchscreens that form the interface between humanity and the internet, by glass windows through which we view the outside world, and by glass vials that can store critical life-saving vaccines and medicine.

In recognition of the vital importance of glass in the development of contemporary civilization and the many future opportunities of glass to address critical global challenges, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2022 to be the International Year of Glass (IYOG). The goals of the IYOG are to celebrate the essential role of glass in our society, in the past and in the future, and to promote glass education around the world.

The idea for the IYOG was conceived in 2016 by L. David Pye, past president of The American Ceramic Society and founding editor-in-chief of the *International Journal of Applied Glass Science*. Joining forces with leaders from the International Commission on Glass (ICG), Pye led a successful multiyear campaign to translate his vision into reality.

ACerS has several activities planned to celebrate the IYOG, including a special issue of the *International Journal of Applied Glass Science* and a National Day of Glass, taking place on April 5–7 in Washington, D.C., as well as special programming at the Annual Meeting of the Glass & Optical Materials Division (GOMD) on May 22–26, 2022, in Baltimore, Md.

As part of the IYOG celebrations, ACerS is presenting the series “Glass: Then and Now,” which highlights ACerS journal articles that have played historically critical roles in advancing glass science and technology, as well as recently published articles that are setting future directions for the field. With more than a century in print, *Journal of the American Ceramic Society* has published many of the most

important and influential articles in the history of glass science. Today, *Journal of the American Ceramic Society* and *International Journal of Applied Glass Science* continue to set the standard of excellence for publications in glass science and engineering.

The articles in the “Glass: Then and Now” series were compiled by Jincheng Du and John Mauro (editors, *Journal of the American Ceramic Society*), Mario Affatigato (editor-in-chief, *International Journal of Applied Glass Science*), and Bill Fahrenholtz (editor-in-chief, *Journal of the American Ceramic Society*).

Each month, we will be highlighting articles from different areas of glass science in the online blog *Ceramic Tech Today*.

January: Optical fibers and photonics

February: Glass toughness and mechanical properties

March: Chemically strengthened glass

April: Bioactive glasses

May: Glass durability and reactions with water

June: Glass for nuclear waste disposal

July: Viscosity and fictive temperature

August: Glass relaxation

September: Molecular dynamics simulations

October: Glass topology and artificial intelligence

November: Glass-ceramics

December: Glass under pressure

In each of these areas, we will feature groundbreaking articles from the past that have transformed our thinking about glass, as well as recently published articles that are defining the current state-of-the-art understanding of glass and the paving the way for the future. With this “Glass: Then and Now” series, we celebrate the long heritage of pioneering articles published in ACerS journals, which continues today, stronger than ever.

The complete list of articles can be found at <https://ceramics.org/gtan> or by visiting the Topical Collections webpage on ACerS Publication Central at <https://bit.ly/ACerSTopicalCollections>. The articles in each topic will be made free-to-read in the month they are highlighted.

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