

Introduction to Ceramics and Wheel Throwing

Presented by Fred Ventura, Ph.D.

Thursdays 7-9 PM • September 8th - October 13th

Trilogy Art Studio

This is a studio class in which projects are presented and demonstrated by the instructor stressing the properties of the material and the necessary steps required for a successful completion of the assigned forms. Projects are completed by the students in the studio setting. This basic introductory course assumes that the student has had no previous experience with the ceramics medium and so emphasizes skills development from the most rudimentary skills of handbuilding through eventual development of techniques and control required by the potter's wheel.

Materials Provided: 100 lbs. of clay to share, 2 types of glazes and tools to use during class time.



Basic Tool Kit \$12.00

This is the typical pottery starter kit that has the most popular tools used for throwing and hand building techniques. This tool set is appropriate for anyone beginning to work with clay. It includes a loop tool for removing clay, a ribbon tool for cutting, slicing and shaping, a needle tool to cut clay strips or holes and to make designs or place objects, a potters rib for shaping and smoothing, a modeling tool for cutting, smoothing, contouring and decorating, a smooth scraper for shaping and trimming, a sponge and a wire clay cutter for slicing clay or trimming pots and other objects.

Projects

25 lb Bag of Clay \$12.00

There are a variety of projects that are appropriate for introductory ceramics classes. Some of the projects involve hand-building and others will involve using the wheel. Students should pick and choose the projects that interest them and during classtime we will work together to complete the projects.

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| 1. Pinch Pot | 5. Napkin Rings | 9. Box with Lid |
| 2. Soap Dish | 6. Small Bowl | 10. Medium Bowl |
| 3. Candle Holder | 7. Thrown Cylinder 7" | 11. Vase |
| 4. Tile Coaster | 8. Birdhouse | 12. Bottle |

Hand-building Skills

For hand-built the emphasis will be on uniform thickness, secure attachments and overall design.

Throwing Skills

Throwing pots at the wheel is a complex set of skills. Initially the most critical is centering. Opening is important and lifting focuses on uniformity of walls and over all structure. Shaping involves more subtle manipulation and the final steps are trimming and refining with any design elements. Hand-building skills may also come into play if throw pots are enhanced with lids, handles or other additions.

Contact Information

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