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HAND- BUILDING

Based on the work and techniques of Canadian artist, Sarah Pike

OVERVIEW

In this class, over the course of 6 weeks we will complete 5 assignments increasing in difficulty that build upon the new skills learned each week.

Week One

An introduction to clay. How to keep clay workable, how to adjust for different techniques. Stamp and roller making. Use of tools, slab roller, and refining processes.

Week Two

Use rollers and stamps from previous week to create a set of slab-built textured mugs.

Week Three

Make a matching slab-rolled container which adds value to the set of cups you made last week. Use pulling and molding techniques to create spouts, handles and feet for your vessel.

Week Four

Large Scale Piece. Create a tray, teapot, serving bowl or platter that incorporates all the skills you learned in week three.

Week Five

Design and create a final piece or set of any size which finishes the set you have created in the previous weeks. Salt and Pepper, Creamer, Saucers, Vases, etc. All projects must be on Bisque Shelf for firing by the weekend.

Week Six

Learn glazing and wax resist techniques. Begin any glazing. No more wet work. Finish in the last week.

SKILLS

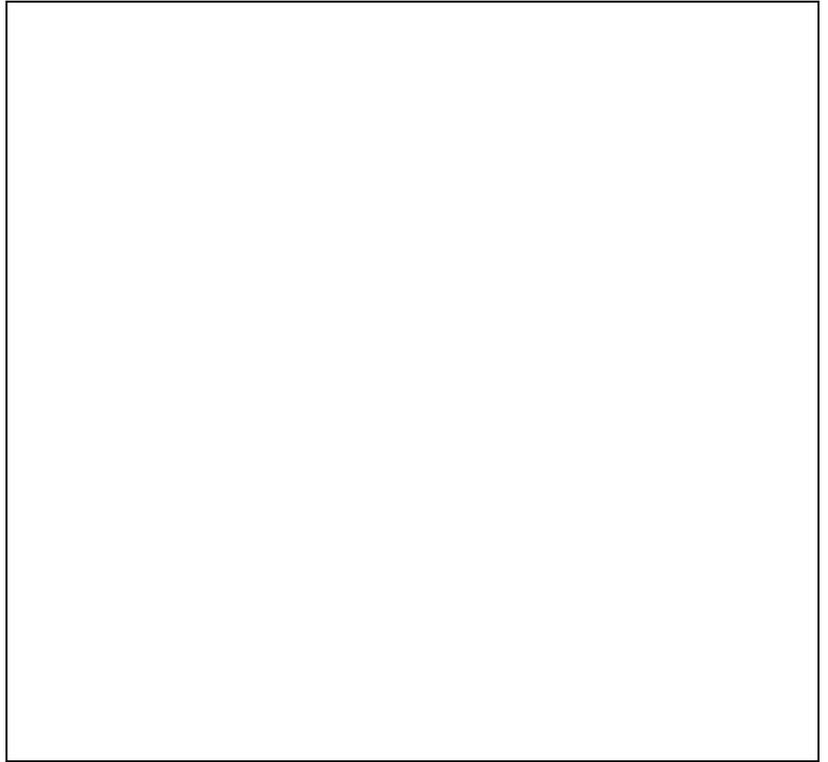
- Compressing
- Smoothing
- Stamping
- Cutting/Beveling
- Joining/Scoring/Slipping
- Design
- Refining
- Glazing and Decorating

Week One

Use boxes to write important realizations or to sketch ideas.



Create a Roller and some stamps to use on the projects ahead. Learn to pay attention to what the clay needs to be worked.



Week Two



Using the stamps and rollers you created, make a set of slab-rolled cups using the techniques shown in class. Practice pulling handles to decide which style you like best. Make sure they do not slump and that the positioning will be comfortable for the user.



Week Three



Play with straight walls, feet, knobs and handles as you create a vessel that adds value and context to the set of cups you just created. Make sure to incorporate your stamps and to begin observing how proportion affects each composition as well as how the pieces work together.

Week Four



This week, use your sweet skills to stamp and build a large-scale piece to add to the set of matching ceramic pieces you are creating. It must contain a handle or handles, feet, a lid, spout or any combination of these. They should be consistent from piece to piece.

Please briefly describe the theme of this set you are creating. What inspired it?

Week Six



In the space above, please write down your glaze formula.

During this week you will wax resist and glaze your bisque fired works. Make sure you understand how to wax and glaze each piece based on its size and shape. Please place completed work on the appropriate shelf for glaze firing. Your work will be available after the session break!

Congratulations!!! You have completed a very challenging course! I hope you will enjoy your work for many years to come.