



Ceramics Studio Guidelines

By registering, you are agreeing to the terms outlined in these guidelines.

Ceramics Open Studio

- **Open Studio (OS) is not for production work.**
- **OS is not a ceramics class with guided instruction.**
- To register for OS, participants must have completed 2 multi-session ceramic classes at the Walters or have equivalent experience.
- Must be at least 16 years old.
- Open to current and previous students.

Ceramics Studio Expectations

- **Participants are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. If you use it, clean it and put it away.**
- OS sessions and class time includes clean-up.
- **Size Maximums: Length 12", Width 10", Height: 11.5".**
- **Works should not exceed 1/2" thickness all around.**
- Works exceeding these sizes will not be fired
- An OS Supervisor/Class Instructor will take attendance each session.

Purchasing Clay

- **No outside clay allowed. Participants must purchase clay at the Walters.**
- **Clay must be labeled with the participant's name with the DATE and YEAR at the time of purchase.**
- All clay must be taken home on the last day of your OS session/class. Any clay not labeled or left behind will be recycled by the Walters.
- The Walters sells Cone 6, medium temp clays.
- Storage space is available for participants.

Clay Bag Pricing

- \$25 per 1 bag of 25lbs Pat Horsley (CC75).
- \$25 per 1 bag of 25lbs G-Mix 6 (CC520).

Studio Safety

- **Sanding is not permitted inside the studio, please step outside the building.**
- Participants are not permitted to open, add or remove pieces from the kilns.
- For safety, wear rubber-soled, close-toe shoes, avoid wearing jewelry or clothing that could be caught in the wheel (necklaces, scarves, etc).
- Cubbies are located outside the classroom to store personal belongings.
- Turn off your wheel when you are not using it.

Etiquette

- **Please work harmoniously with others in the studio and be respectful of all individuals in this community space.**
- If you'd like to play music on the shared speakers, please check in with the other participants first.
- Treat others' work with respect. Do not move or unwrap work that is not yours.
- Always check the bottom of the piece to make sure it is your work.
- Please move your works through the studio on a timely basis. Regularly check the bisqueware and pick-up shelves.
- Bring problems to the attention of the Instructor/Supervisor immediately.
- Evaluation forms are available at the end of OS/class.

Equipment Use and Clean-Up

Clean your tools and workspace per the following guidelines:

- **Bats:** Only plates can remain on bats. All other work should be placed on wood boards. Bats should be scraped, washed thoroughly and placed back on the rack.
- **Canvases:** Spray water on the surface, use a scraper tool to remove any harden clay. Use a damp sponge to wipe off clay.
- **Extruder:** Clean inside and out. Dies and 'Z' brace must be cleaned and returned to their spot.

Equipment Use and Clean-Up *continued*

- **Molds:** Clean and return to proper shelf. Remove work from molds as soon as possible so they are available for others to use.
- **Slabroller:** Please use a canvas on both sides of slab. Use a scraper tool to remove any clay. Use a damp sponge to wipe off clay.
- **Tools:** Clean and put back where they belong. This includes tongs, whisks, stirring sticks, pitchers, sponges, brushes, etc.
- **Splash Pan:** Clean thoroughly and give a final rinse with a sponge that has been wrung out in clean water.
- **Wheels:** Turn off when not in use. Wipe down the control box, the white tabletop and around the edges. Place stool on top of wheel head. Place pedal on top of white tabletop. If you are in an evening OS session/class, unplug the wheel and leave the cord hanging on the stool.
- **Workspace:** Rinse all surfaces using a sponge that has been wrung out in clean water. All glaze spills/drips should be wiped before they dry and become airborne hazards.
- **Sponges:** Avoid scrubbing them on the canvas tables. Sponges should only be used to gently wipe off surfaces and tools. Wring out sponge in clean water. Return to their proper spots.
- **Water buckets:** Slowly pour clay water down the sink, leaving any clay chunks in the bucket. Use a rubber rib to scrape off clay chunks into the Clay Reclaim Buckets located under the sink. Use a sponge to clean your bucket. Rinse bucket thoroughly and return on the rack.

Clay Reclaim Buckets

- **Do not throw garbage in the clay reclaim buckets. Trash bins for non-clay items are available in each classroom and labeled.**
- Any clay scraps that are debris and glaze-free can be recycled in our Clay Reclaim buckets (under the sink in B40, under the wedging table in B30).

Storage

- **Label all your work with your name and date.**
- Clay bag storage is available in B40.
- Any works in progress can be stored on the shelves labeled "Open Studio" or under your class instructor's name.

Glazing

- **Do not glaze the bottom of your work.**
- Only underglazes can be used on the bottom.
- Use wax to cover the bottom of your bisqueware prior to dunking in glaze.
- Use a sponge to remove glaze residue at the bottom of your greenware or bisqueware.
- See Glazing Guidelines poster for more info.
- Outside glazes are allowed but must be approved by an OS Supervisor/Instructor.

Kiln Firing Schedule

- Kilns are fired when completely full. Expect 2-3 weeks for your work to be fired.
- Kilns are loaded Fridays, Saturdays, and unloaded Tuesdays.
- During busy weeks, we will fire as needed.
- Wide plates, platters and tall forms take up a lot of space and require more time for firing as we make space available.
- Special Requests: Leave a blue Kiln Fairy note (located in the Kiln Room) on top of your work. Subject to approval, must be discussed with OS Supervisor/Instructor first.

Work Pick-up

- **All glazed pieces will be in B30 for pick up during Open Studio hours.**
- Do not pick up work that is not yours. Always check the bottom to confirm it is yours.
- Ask the Supervisor/Instructor if you need help locating your work.
- All pieces will have the date they are removed from the kiln written on the bottom. Pieces not collected within 30 days of the date are considered abandoned and may be discarded.



Questions about the Ceramics Studio?

Please contact Julio Badel,
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[Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/Walters](https://www.hillsboro-oregon.gov/Walters)