



Clay Expressions
Artist: Jerrold Matisak



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Grade Level:
K-Adult, After School

About the Artist:

Jerrold has been working with clay for over 25 years. He has a B.S. in Art with a minor in Education. He has worked with a variety of age groups from elementary through adult education at the community college level. From 1977-1984 Jerrold sold his work nationally as a studio potter in Monmouth. His current focus in clay is wood fired hand built sculpture and wheel thrown pottery. Jerrold's enthusiasm and robust joy of life is a great asset to any classroom and his love for clay and its potential for personal expression is infectious.

Objectives:

- To encourage students to develop creative self-expression
- To help students learn successful techniques for constructing pinch, coil, slab and sculptural forms
- To show students that the pursuit of craftsmanship can be fun and positive results encourage that pursuit
- To help staff become familiar and comfortable working with clay, ordering materials, glazing, and firing kilns
- To provide a safe environment that promotes self-esteem and self-confidence

Activities:

- Jerrold will teach age-appropriate projects where students complete individual works from simple to complex.
- The youngest groups (K-1) will complete a project suited to them: knee bowls, tiles, textured bowls etc.
- Grades 2-3 will also complete an age appropriate project: face masks (from their own faces), vases and tiles.
- Grades 4-6 will complete a project using sculptural techniques: abstract sculpture, window tiles using various textures and shapes, textured vases, balloon bowls etc.
- A variety of the artist's work is available for display during the residency.
- Jerrold is able to integrate the residency project with other aspects of the curriculum.
- The artist would like to meet at least once with each class to create a piece, again to glaze the piece, and possibly a third time to hand back the pieces and discuss and critique them.

Workshop Size Limits:

- No more than 30 students

Special Equipment:

Each student will use 1 – 2 lbs. of clay per project. Clay costs about \$7.50 for a 25 lb. bag. Other special equipment and materials include a kiln, glazes, paintbrushes, and sponges.

Space Needed:

- Classroom setting with tables, chairs and access to water

Connections to the Curriculum:

- History, art history, art, social studies, design and language arts