



# CERAMICS CLASSES

## SUPPLY LIST

### DOUGHERTY ARTS SCHOOL

1110 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX 78704 . 512-974-4040

#### Clay Basics

Judith Simonds

A great all-level class where you can explore both wheel and hand-building techniques perfect for sculptural and small figurative work. Imprint and carve textures onto the clay, practice surface carving, and will be introduced to a variety of glazing techniques. Suggestions for projects will be provided.

**MINIMUM 6 STUDENTS, LIMIT 12 STUDENTS.**

#### SUPPLIES

Students must bring their own tools. Basic tools (buckets, sponges and bats) are available in the studio.

- Other supplies may be added as the course progresses, as suggested by the instructor.
- Please keep your receipts in case the class is cancelled or to return unused supplies.

#### SUPPLIES FOR FIRST DAY

- 25# bag of Raku clay (if hand building)
- 25# bag of Gruene Butter (if throwing)
- Pottery tool kit: sponge, wood knife, needle tool, trimming tool and cutting wire
- Fettling knife
- Serrated metal scraper
- Appropriate clothing
- Hand towel (saves hundreds of paper towels)
- plastic to cover work

#### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Appropriate clothing & closed-toe shoes
- Apron to protect your clothing
- Dust mask: protect from breathing in dust particles
- Glasses: protective eyewear
- Plastic, Nitrile or rubber gloves (no latex gloves due to allergies): when working with glazes

#### SUPPLY STORE(S)

The City of Austin can not recommend vendors.

We suggest an online search for art supply stores that are local and online.

#### ATTENDANCE & STUDIO ACCESS

- Program attendance is the responsibility of the participant. Failure to attend does not entitle a participant to a transfer or a refund. Make-ups are not available for absences. Fees will not be prorated for absences. See Enrollment Policies
- Due to safety, children, friends, and pets (except official, certified assistance animals) are not allowed.
- The studio/classroom is only open and available to registered students during their registered class time.
- The studio cannot be used without supervision.
- If you arrive early and another class (not your class) is in session, please do not enter the studio out of courtesy for students that have paid for their time in class. Questions about class times can be directed to the registration office, program specialist, class brochure or found online.
- If your class session has ended but you still have bisque ware that needs to be glazed, you can glaze it 1) by requesting permission from the program specialist and 2) your former instructor allows you to attend 1 class ONLY during next session to glaze. You may NOT attend another instructor's class to complete the work.

#### PERSONAL CAUTION & SAFETY

Food and drinks: Due to safety all drinks must be in a sealed container to prevent contamination. No food is allowed in the Clay Studio, food may be consumed in the lobby area or outside at the picnic table. All clay items produced, fired and glazed in the Dougherty Arts School are recommended for decorative purposes only and are NOT "food safe." Raku glazes are not "food safe."

#### PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Do not bring valuable items to class.  
Do not leave valuable items exposed in plain site in your vehicle. Keep handbag, backpack and supplies near your work area. The City of Austin, Parks and Recreation Department and Dougherty Arts Center staff are not responsible for lost or stolen items. Please report loss or theft to a staff member.



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#### STUDIO CLEAN UP

Please keep the studio clean and safe for everyone! Students are responsible for cleaning their area and common areas. **This includes sponging off and picking up debris on the wheels, splash pans, tables, extruder and slab roller.**

#### GLAZING AREA

- Clean up all spilled glaze from the tables, floor and buckets.
- Use wet sponge to ensure the removal of all glaze splashes or drips. Dried glaze/clay particles when airborne are unhealthy to breathe.
- Wash all utensils to avoid glaze contamination (brushes, buckets, tubs, mixing sticks, dipping tongs, etc.)
- Use gloves and goggles when glazing.

#### LAST 2 WEEKS OF CLASS

- The week before the last week of class is the last week to produce new thrown or hand built "wet" pieces. The last week of class is for finishing and trimming pieces only.
- The studio is cleaned out several times a year and all unclaimed work is discarded.

#### CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL

The studio / classroom environment contains potentially dangerous materials and equipment. DAC students, staff, instructors and contractors should not consume alcohol before or during class. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in all areas of the Dougherty Arts Center except the Julia C. Buttridge Gallery under special circumstances. Alcohol will only be available in the Gallery if the renter or organization **hosting the event** provides alcohol for consumption to the general public; has provided liability insurance and an alcohol license; and the Parks Department Director has given approval.

- No alcohol may be taken from the gallery into the studio, classroom or other areas of the Dougherty Arts Center.
- Students should not drink alcohol at the reception and return to the classroom. If alcohol is consumed the student will be asked to leave and no refunds will be given.

#### EQUIPMENT & CHEMICALS

The Clay studio consists of several working tables (with under table storage) and a wedging table; 12 electric wheels; a slab roller, pug mill, hump molds, bats, shelving, basic tools, kilns; and stains and glazes.

**Electric Wheels:** 12 electric wheels; variable speed foot pedal.

**Firing & Kilns:** The clay studio does not have the capacity to allow outside pieces or production work. Our studio has:

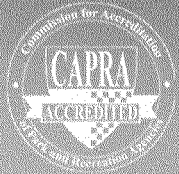
- Two electric kilns that are used for bisque firing and cone 06
- One gas kiln for cone 10 glaze firing only
- One gas raku kiln used for raku firing only
- Only trained staff load, unload and fire kilns.

**Wax:** A hot wax skillet is provided in the studio.

- Do not set skillet above 200 degrees.
- If the wax starts smoking, please turn it off immediately.
- Do not leave the wax unattended – Be responsible and assist everyone by making sure it is turned off at the end of class.
- Students welcome to purchase cold wax resist if needed.

#### GLAZE & CLAY

- An approved list of chemicals and clay bodies is posted in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) Notebook available in the clay studio. MSDS contain the makeup chemicals used and safety information.
- Glazes, stains, overglazes and underglazes are mixed and maintained by the Studio Technician.
- No outside clay bodies, glazes, stains, overglazes, underglazes or other chemicals are allowed without prior approval of the Studio Technician and the Arts School Administration. All requests must be in writing and include a copy of the SDS.
- Glaze problems: Pinholes, cracking and excessive glaze thickness near the wax areas are considered a problem. If the glaze is not appropriate for firing, it will not be fired and will be returned to the glaze shelf for correction.
- Each instructor should examine all glazed ware to prevent student work from being rejected.
- Studio technician will not remove glaze before firing.



Dear DAC Customer:

This letter is to serve as official notification from the City of Austin, as per TCEQ requirements, to parents and other customers of the Dougherty Arts Center (DAC) about the presence of an old landfill under and adjacent to the DAC. There has been no change in the conditions of the Dougherty Arts Center building or the landfill; we are simply providing information so that you can make informed decisions.

The landfill lies under the majority of the building and extends under the lawn to the east of the building. The landfill has been thoroughly investigated for the safety of everyone involved. The City's Investigation and Evaluation Team included staff from the Health and Human Services Department, Watershed Protection and Development Review Department as well as outside environmental experts. The investigation has not identified an exposure risk to users of the DAC but we want parents and other customers to be aware of the situation and to know that the assessment is ongoing.

The City discovered this previously unknown landfill during the initial construction of Butler Park in April of 2006 and took immediate action by cordoning off the contaminated area and starting its investigation. Health risks from old landfills such as this would primarily be from direct contact with the buried materials or from landfill gases such as methane or carbon monoxide.

The results of the investigation indicated:

- The landfill materials appear to be over 75 years old and relatively benign. The only identifiable materials are glass bottles, ceramic pieces and pieces of metal.
- The materials are covered by a layer of soil that ranges from 8 inches to 6 feet in depth.
- **No methane gas nor carbon monoxide have been found in ten years of monitoring.**
- Based on initial testing, the primary contaminant of concern is the elevated lead levels within the buried materials. These elevated lead levels have not been identified in the surface soil where they would pose a health risk. We have contained the contaminated areas.

Per EPA and TCEQ directives, the City of Austin will continue to monitor the situation with the use of methane, natural gas, and carbon monoxide detectors both in the building and at bore holes drilled through the foundation to check gas levels below the building. The playground area and the gas monitors are checked by daily inspections and by quarterly visits from the Parks and Recreation Safety Officer who has also contributed to the safety measures taken.

We will remain vigilant in our efforts to manage this issue. We believe that the DAC and its surrounding parkland are safe but we want to be sure all interested parties are aware of the situation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call:

Laura Esparza, Division Manager, Museums and Cultural Programs Division, 512-974-4001.  
Guiniviere Webb, Manager, Dougherty Arts Center, 512-974-4019.  
Mary Ann Vaca-Lambert, Supervisor, Dougherty Arts Center, 512-974-4037.

Sincerely,

Laura Esparza, Division Manager,  
Museums and Cultural Programs Division

