

Ceramics

Department: Independent Living Skills

Priority: Elective

Overall purpose of class:

- Learn a new leisure skill while using hands and mind therapeutically
- To explore creative potential
- To have fun
- Increase hand flexibility

Number of classes held per week:

This extremely popular class is offered daily and twice a day, two days a week.

Optimum class time:

Doesn't matter

Instructor requirements:

1 with skilled aide (optional)

Number of students:

8 –space is limiting factor

Student ability range and limitations:

Everyone is eligible for this class.

Space and Equipment requirements:

- One good sized table. Covered very tightly with washable cotton canvas. (Clay doesn't stick to cotton) Canvas needs to be re-taped weekly.
- Clay: low fire white which works in electric kiln. Ground Up Bisque Ware is in the clay to lend stability.
- Glazes, Underglazes, oxides
- Kiln
- Assorted ceramic tools, rollers, boards, wire cutters for cutting clay, knives, forks and slip (clay and water), cookie cutters and a variety of texturing equipment..
- Chart showing glazes.
- Slip bucket for recycling
- Shelves for drying greenware, bisqueware
- Cupboard and plastic covering for damp projects.
- Rolling cart to transport projects to and from kiln.
- Place for finished pieces.
- Tape and marking pens for labeling.

Student Needs to be met from the perspective of the instructor:

- Self esteem
- Incorporation of both sides of body in a task
- Sequencing and memory
- Fun
- Opportunity to Use hands and mind therapeutically
- Social interaction
- Something to think about beyond disability

Typical Student Goals that lead to placement in the class:

Students request this class who want to:

- Try something new
- Learn to play again
- Self enhancement
- Artists
- Creative outlet
- Group projects for school or home
- Projects to help others

Suggested Lessons and Activities: Ceramic basics up to but not including throwing

- Soup bowl project-local charity that gives away soup in our bowls
- Heart-shapes made into pins to benefit the Center
- Center projects such as mosaic in entryway, fountain and other landscaping projects
- Vases
- Placques
- Bowls
- Dishes
- Adaptive equipment spreader, sectioned bowls,