

Ceramics Studio Etiquette

We suggest wearing comfortable, washable clothes and closed toed shoes. Aprons are available. Studio users under 18 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Clean Up

*Allow 20-30 minutes for clean-up at the end of your work session. Please be thorough.

Clean-up is a part of the clay experience. **Inhalation of all clay materials especially silica can damage your lungs.** Wet washing is always recommended for smaller particles.

- <u>Wedging Table</u>- scrape off and thoroughly clean the table with a damp sponge after every use. Check the floor for clay scraps and dust.
- Wheel and Surrounding Workspace- use clean water to sponge all areas; sponge and wipe down after slip has been emptied into the slip bucket next to the sink. Please check for trimming scraps or water on the floor.
- Glaze Area and Buckets- be sure to clean the glaze residue off paddles, whisks and around the buckets.
- <u>Magic Carpets</u>- rinse the carpet in the sink after use. Glaze left on the carpet can transfer to other pieces.
- <u>Tables and Floor</u>- wipe down the entire work area with a sponge after use and sweep/mop clay debris.
- <u>Tools</u>- studio equipment must be cleaned and returned to its proper place after every use.
- Sponges- please rinse out sponges before putting away.

Works in Progress

- Works in progress can dry on your designated class shelf (if in a class) or on your open studio shelf (if a member).
- Avoid touching anyone's pieces without their permission. If something needs to be moved, please notify a staff member.
- Lockers are available to members based on availability. To be assigned a locker, please ask a staff member.
- Mark all work with your initials or an identifying mark before placing it on the greenware cart.

 Do not use wedging boards to dry your pieces. Boards for drying are located in between the lockers.



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Contamination

- Outside clay is not allowed in the studio.
- To avoid contamination of clay and glazes, check labels on wedging tables and glaze buckets. If contamination occurs, it is very important to let a staff member know immediately.

Glazing

- Stir glazes thoroughly before use.
- Do not leave glaze buckets open.
- Do not add water to glazes. If the glaze is too thin or thick, please inform a staff member.
- Make sure the bottoms of pieces are free of glaze.
- Kiln shelves are expensive! To avoid your piece sticking to a kiln shelf, leave a quarter of an inch from the bottom of your piece glaze free.
- Do not use a "runny combo" when glazing. "Runny combos" are any glaze tile with a yellow sticker on it.
- Pieces that are not properly cleaned might receive a Red Card. This means more cleaning is needed before it can go through the kiln.

Kilns

- Kilns are off-limits to Members and Students.
- Only staff members may load and unload kilns.
- All finished work must be taken home as soon as possible.
- Firings occur for adult classes and open studio users when the appropriate bisque or glaze carts are full and the kilns are ready for another load.
- Members and students may choose either high fire gas or electric for their Cone 10 glaze.
- For the gas kiln, please limit your pieces to half a shelf per kiln load.
- For the electric kiln, please limit your pieces to one shelf per kiln load.

- If using underglaze, place your piece on the greenware cart to go through the firing again.
- Work that has been on the carts for more than a month is moved to the limbo shelf across from the slab roller. If not claimed, it will be donated.
- Private kiln firings are available for purchase. Talk to a staff member to schedule.



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Security

- Evening students may remain in the studio after class is over.
- The last student, member or instructor to leave the studio must turn off all lights and make sure all doors are closed.

When in doubt... Just ask!

The staff at the Art Association is available in the studio, gallery or third floor offices during business hours. Classes and Private Lessons/Events are available for formal instruction by appointment.

We thank you for your cooperation in making this a clean, welcoming and safe space. We trust you will enjoy your time at the Art Association Ceramics Studio. Your feedback and suggestions are always welcome.

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