

# Ceramics Open Studio Program Information

The ceramics open studio program is a registered, self-directed option for accessing our ceramics facility. Participants will register for a block of weekly time (or times) for one 2-3 month session at a time. Participants must meet the minimum pre-requisite of 2, 6-week classes here at our studio, or equivalent experience elsewhere, prior to registering for a block. As the program is unsupervised, participants are expected to have a reasonable knowledge of the process of making ceramics and common ceramic terminology, such as greenware, leather hard, bisque, slip. If a potential open studio user is unsure if they meet the minimum requirement, they should contact the Program Technician to discuss their credentials.

In addition to meeting the minimum pre-requisite courses, all new open studio users must register for and complete an Open Studio Orientation. There will be group orientation options available prior to the start of each session, or a private one can be organized for an additional fee. Orientations are only available to those registered in an upcoming open studio block.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

### Q: Can I bring my own clay and glaze?

A: No. All clay must be purchased through our clay room. The price includes firing and use of our large complement of studio glazes, as well as coloured slips, stains and some underglazes.

### Q: Do I need to fire my own work?

A: All firing is handled by our team of technicians. We offer both oxidation and reduction firing.

### Q: Do I need to bring my own tools?

A: We have a full compliment of studio tools for your use while you are here. You are welcome to bring anything additional you require or keep a personal set of tools if you prefer. We also offer specialty tools for sale through our tools shop.

### Q: Is storage included?

A: You will receive one cubby that fits 1 bag of clay with some extra space for your personal items. You will be allotted about 1.5 square feet worth of shelf space for greenware storage, and storage space for bisqueware is included.

### Q: Is there a limit on how much work can be produced?

A: The maximum amount of work that will be fired per participant per week is about 8 normal sized mugs or equivalent.

### Q: What is the maximum size for work to be fired?

A: The maximum dimension for any single piece is 13" in any direction.

### Q: What equipment do you have?

A: We have a large handbuilding table, a long concrete wedging counter, 12 electric wheels, a full sized slab roller, 2 extruders, a spray booth (requires an orientation to use), a large tools shelf including banding wheels, two giffin grips, bats and hand tools, three electric kilns and one Bailey gas kiln.

### Q: Can I register for more than one block?

A: The limit is one block per person. If you successfully register for more than one, please choose the one you prefer and remove yourself from the second.

### Q: Is it possible to get more studio time?

A: We offer additional flex blocks to registered studio users. Registration for flex will open one week in advance. You may register for as many of these blocks as you like, but there is no additional storage space available for extra work.

Please direct any further questions to the Program Technician- Marita Manson, [marita.manson@saanich.ca](mailto:marita.manson@saanich.ca) , 250-475-7626



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