

Summer at Core Clay



Hip hip hooray--The weather is finally warming up and the cicadas are screaming! Our entire team is fully vaccinated (three cheers for health) and we are loving seeing each others faces in person.

Our summer schedule is packed with events--our biggest event being our first ever Gas Kiln Opening with a featured artist! Our weekly workshops are still happening each Saturday, and classes are expanding as we approach the warmer weather.

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First Ever: Gas Kiln Opening, with featured artist John Mason

We'd like to officially invite you to our first monthly Gas Kiln Opening event happening Friday June 4th at 6pm. Every month we will have a featured artist load the gas kiln with 30 or more pieces and unload the kiln in front of an audience. Witness the power of Te Fiti (our kiln) and see what earth, air, fire and the human heart can create! The artist will unload their work from the kiln for the first hour and follow up with an artist Q&A.



Our first featured artist also happens to be Core Clay's very first member. John Mason started his clay journey in the early 2000s and helped found Core Clay. Mason's work is highly inspired by Asian ink drawings and Asian ceramic forms. He primarily uses Shino glaze in his artwork, which looks fantastic in atmospheric firings. We hope to see familiar faces there, and we are excited for the turnout.

Spring Fair Re-Cap

4 Core Clay employees had booths and participated in the Annual Sale

The ceramics community in the Tri-State area has been buzzing non-stop in preparation for the Clay Alliance's annual Spring Pottery Fair.

Laura Davis, Nicholaus Westerkamp, Liz Given, and Hannah Staber all had booths at the fair. Core Clay even had its own business booth!

Everyone reported a fun day, good sales and a jolly good time. Until next year folks!



Above: Emily H. manning the Core Clay business booth.

Left: Hannah at her shared booth.

Below Right: Some of the Core Clay gang showing how they really feel: Exhausted but grateful.

June Workshop Lineup

June 5th: How to Mix your own Glazes

Learn how to find a glaze recipe, interpret the recipe and make your own glaze! Grab a ventilator mask and a notebook as Emily Hobart will guide you step by step through the process. At the end of the class you will even get to test the glazes you made.



June 12th: Beyond the Basics of Glazing

Laura Davis walks you through her favorite methods of glazing, along with helpful tips and tricks she has picked up throughout the years. This workshop will be taught numerous times by a different employee every few months, so don't worry if you have to miss this one! There will be PLENTY more workshops and classes dedicated to the glazing process.

June Workshops Cont'd

June 26th: Sculpting Turtles!

In this family friendly class, Liz will teach you how to make your very own summer sea turtle friend!

This class is kid friendly and perfect to beat the heat! Just look at how cute those are!



June 19-20th: Beginner Wheel Boot Camp

Our 2 day intensive wheel class is currently sold out. Reservations for July are going quick! Below is a link to the July signup.

Meet the Staff: Nicholaus Westerkamp

Nicholaus is our Glaze Room Master and Beginner Wheel Class Instructor on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. She joined us in January of 2020 and has been working and teaching ever since. You can usually find her whipping up new glazes and tests for us to use in the studio.

Nicholaus has been interested in the world of ceramics since childhood, when she saw her grandmother working in clay.



She got her start by cleaning Joyce Clancy's studio in exchange for pottery lessons.

She then took on numerous apprenticeships and eventually began to teach her own classes at community centers.

She eventually landed here and we are so thankful to have her with us! Spot her bright red locks flowing around the studio mixing glaze, measuring raw materials and playing with Mo.



Meet the Staff: Jason Trautz

Jason Trautz is one of our Beginner Wheel Instructors on Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings, and he has recently started doing kiln repairs on and off site for us. Jason caught "the clay bug" when he was in high school and later focused on the medium in college where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Arts from



Along with working with us, Jason is half of "Magpie and Molly" with his wife and business partner, Jen Ackerson.

Jason focuses on wheel-throwing as he loves "using his skills to [create] a new design" and "making a thought into something tangible."

You can usually catch him singing in the studio in a navy jumpsuit, handing out advice for beginners and amateurs alike! We are happy to have Jason as part of our growing family! Thanks Jason!

Looking Ahead...

If you are a studio member with us, we have some new things going on in the studio.

First, we will be raising our studio membership prices for the first time in 5 years. We have held off on raising our rates throughout the pandemic as our costs have increased, but the time has come. Studio shelf rental fees will increase by \$5 per person beginning July 1st. We look forward to not needing to do this again for a while.

Second, our mask policy--If you bring in your vaccination card and log it with an employee, you are okay to go mask-less in the main studio for one year after your completed vaccine regimen.

"But what about the mandate?" Businesses are now making rules to keep customers safe and comfortable as we work towards a safer existence. We ask customers to remain masked and home if they are not feeling well. An important part of creativity is feeling safe in your space, and we hope that this policy will help all of us move forward confidently.

As the science develops, we will continue to adapt. We hope you can understand that safety is our priority as we move forward to a "new normal."

As always, we thank you for taking the time to read and catch up with us, and we can't wait to see you at our summer events.

Sincerely,
Core Clay Staff

