

# Georgies Class Objectives and Expectations

Welcome to Georgies Community classroom. A place to learn , explore this ancient craft while you also explore your personal expression and possibly make a friend or two !

Georgies offers Clay classes which focus on two specific clay forming skills; throwing on the potters wheel and hand-building techniques. Clay work is a blending of art and learned skill. While watching an experienced potter it looks so easy ! Our 8 week series classes are designed for both beginning and continuing students. It's rare that any beginning class will have only novice students as it takes multiple sessions to form the skill to be able to accomplish many of the skills that go into a finished glaze piece.

## Beginning Pottery on the Potters Wheel

Beginning wheel classes focus on the primary skill of working on the potter's wheel. These skills are centering the clay, learning to control this spinning lump to raise the walls in both a vertical manner forming a mug , and pulling it out forming bowl shapes. Completing these forms requires another skill that is explored , trimming. Glazing is addressed in it's simplest method, by dipping with a wide variety of Georgies ^6 glazes.

Beginning students can expect to complete several small cereal size bowls and a mug or two. ( Perhaps not to perfection .... )

Continuing students will be able to explore these basic forms and expand their scale with greater control, larger bowls and more complex cylindrical forms.

The more time you spend in open studio , the faster you will develop your skills and control.

Many students repeat a class simply because it fits their schedule. Our wheel classes are small, 12 students per class session and you are guaranteed a wheel in your class.

Open studio times are uninstructed , but valuable in developing the skills you are learning in your class.

## Intermediate Wheel Classes :

Intermediate wheel classes are open to all students who are proficient on the wheel, be able to center and throw both bowls and mugs without further instruction. This class will explore more advanced wheel forms , covered - lidded pots , teapots, altered forms and elements of hand-building incorporated with a wheel thrown element.

The Intermediate Class is able to explore more advanced glaze techniques making use of wax-resist design as well as decorative painting.

## Hand-building Class :

Hand- building is often the best place to start your clay experience. Hand-building explores many popular methods of clay forming; slab building, pinch pots and building with coils. By touching and forming clay by these simple unaided methods you learn the fundamentals of joining the clay into a cohesive form. Our hand-building class is open to beginners and continuing students.

While presenting a specific technique , such as 'soft slab' , it is introduced by presenting a specific project that teaches the skills needed for that type of work. as you begin to develop your skills you are able bring your ideas to fruition.

Again, basic glazing skills are explored.

For most of Georgies employees, and instructors clay and it's many facets is a lifetime pursuit. There are endless ways to form the clay, decorate the surface. Explore form, function, texture color and design. An 8 week class is a freckle in time.... it may be something you want to explore further but it won't be enough time to become a master potter or make all your Christmas presents if you have never worked in clay before.