

Three Years Running; Bray-Food Share Collaboration

We had another fantastic event collaborating with Helena Food Share for our third year of The Bray's Community Bowl Fest, and a Bray staff, residents, and alumni Making Event.

With the help of 60 community participants and 18 Bray staff, residents, and alumni, over 160 bowls were made and will be donated to support Food Share in their Empty Bowls Helena! event on Thursday, April 17. In addition, we've collected over 30 bowls from our bowl collection drop off site. BRAVO Helena, for showing up to support your local community! We wish Helena Food Share the very best in their [Empty Bowls](#) fundraising efforts.



Upcoming Experience Classes

We have multiple opportunities to take an Experience Class in Education this Spring! Check them out below:

HOURS

Clay Business

Monday-Friday, 10 am–5 pm
Saturday, 9 am–5 pm

Gallery & Visitor Center, Exhibitions & Artist Studios

Tuesday-Friday, 11 am–5 pm
Saturday, 12 pm–4 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

Bray Gallery: Downtown

Wed-Fri, 11 am–5 pm
Saturday, 12 pm–4 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Speaking of Pots with Sarah Jaeger

Sunday, April 27, 2-3 pm

Organized and run by Sarah, Speaking of Pots is free and open to the public. Meeting from 2-3 pm in the second-floor lounge in the Frances Senska Center for Education and Engagement, the conversation-based series intends to increase knowledge and awareness of handmade pottery.

DONATE TODAY

THE BRICKYARD NETWORK

A wealth of ceramic conversation and knowledge right at your fingertips! Check out our most recent episodes



1. Pottery Spin - Thursday, April 24, 6-8 pm

Learn the foundations of how to throw on the pottery wheel. Discover what terms like centering, opening, pulling, compressing, and shaping mean, all while becoming aware of how the clay responds to your hands' touch.

[Register Today!](#)

2. Dirty Date Night - Friday, May 2, 6-8 pm

Looking for a date night that's muddy, fun, and results in a handmade bowl of your very own!? Join us at The Bray for a couples throwing night that's sure to energize any relationship. Romance NOT required, bring your partner, spouse, or friend to this crash course on the wheel.

[Register Today!](#)

3. Coffee & Clay - Saturday, May 3, 3-5 pm

Develop your wheel-throwing skills while creating your very own functional coffee mug and connecting with good company. BYO coffee, pastries, and other snacks are welcome!

[Register Today!](#)

4. Dirty Date Night - Thursday, May 22, 6-8 pm

Looking for a date night that's muddy, fun, and results in a handmade bowl of your very own!? Join us at The Bray for a couples throwing night that's sure to energize any relationship. Romance NOT required, bring your partner, spouse, or friend to this crash course on the wheel.

[Register Today!](#)

NCECA 2025 Recap

We had such a wonderful time in Salt Lake City for NCECA 2025! Thank you to everyone who stopped by our booths and the Resident

on your favorite podcast app!



CLAY IN COLOR



Angelik Vizcarrondo-Laboy and Alex Anderson talk with young professionals of color who use humor, cuteness, and the decorative in their work.

FOR FLUX SAKE



Kathy King, Matt Katz and Rose Katz answer your burning questions about clay and glaze. You'll be laughing and learning about glaze chemistry in no time.

THE KILN SITTERS



Marianne Chénard, Brendan Tang, and Carole Epp bring you enlightening interviews from Canadian makers.

MAKER'S PLAYBOOK



Exhibition at Modern West Fine Art. We will see you again next year!



Greater Helena Gives!

Wednesday, April 30 at 8 pm to Thursday, May 1 at 8 pm

The Bray is participating in Greater Helena Gives, the annual 24-hour online giving campaign. This is designed to raise awareness for local nonprofits and help keep Helena so great. Thank you to everyone who participated last year, we are excited to see the support to and from the Helena community this year.

Learn more [HERE](#)



Save The Date - Pots & Plants is next month!

Saturday, May 10, 10 am-3 pm

The much-loved Pots & Plants Market is back on May 10! Find the perfect Mother's Day gift or indulge in a little beauty for yourself. Shop a variety of planters bursting with vibrant flowers, unique vases,

Rebecca Ickes Carra talks with artists about what it's really like to make a living from the things we make.

THE SHOT CALLERS



Each week Virgil Ortiz and Justin Reese will make a signature cocktail with their guests as they talk about their journey through the world of art.

TALES OF A RED CLAY RAMBLER



Ben Carter talks with potters, sculptors, and ceramic designers about their creative practice.

TRADE SECRET



Adam Chau hosts conversations about contemporary issues in art, craft and design.

Coming Soon! BEYOND THE BRICKYARD

Take a deeper look at the history of the Archie Bray Foundation and its

and much more!



Updates from the Clay Business

The Clay Business has been working with the engineers at Ceramics Material Workshop to improve the working and firing properties of our clay bodies. John's, one of our most popular clays, has been reformulated and is better than before! Reach out to the Clay Business to give it a try, we would love to hear what you think.

Check out what else Bray Clay offers [here!](#)

influence on the ceramic world. We are taking listener submitted questions for this podcast. If you have a story to tell shoot us an email and be on the show!
(ben@archiebray.org)

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2025 Workshops at The Bray

Get ready for a new and improved version of our popular workshops! We are pleased to offer a handful of exciting workshops throughout 2025 featuring talent from our long term resident artists as well as artists from afar. Registration has already opened and there are still spots available! Check out the options below:

Ceramic Furniture with Long Term Resident Artist and 2025 NCECA Emerging Artist Austin Coudriet! May 15-19, 2025 at The Bray



Join us at The Bray for an immersive five-day workshop and create your very own piece of ceramic furniture. Explore advanced coil and slab-building techniques, focusing on moisture control and effective attachment methods, learn when and how to incorporate internal supports, and gain practical experience in: enclosing forms,

constructing shrink slabs, managing the drying process, and more.

Intermediate to Advanced Experience Level

[Register today!](#)

Working with Local Clay with Long Term Resident Artist Dante Gambardella, plus Josh DeWeese, and Colby Allred

June 5-11, 2025 at The Bray



Don't miss your chance to learn from three talented artists coming together to lead a 7 day workshop on working with local clay. As a class you'll travel to local clay sites, dig clay, and learn to process the clay into a workable state fit for making and firing in both gas and electric firings. Gain confidence to dig your own clay and leave with a unique skill set to process clay with minimal resources and tools.

All levels welcome! (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced)

[Register Today!](#)

Glaze of Our Lives

Understanding Glazes for the Beginner with Matt Katz

(One of three amazing hosts of our popular podcast, [For Flux Sake!](#))

July 21-25, 2025 at The Bray



Glaze of Our Lives is a comprehensive study of ceramic glazes that helps people learn about what glazes are and how they work. In this 5 day in-person workshop we will answer all of the questions you have and smash a lot of the ceramic myths you may have been told. As a class, you'll take the mystery of materials, formulas and firings and translate them to change your studio forever! [Learn more here.](#)

All levels welcome! (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced)

[Registration is open now!](#)

Please stay tuned for information about additional workshops coming soon!

Montana Educators – Receive OPI Renewal Units for Classes at The Bray!

Richard Baiter: Bray Board Member 2001- 2010

We are sad to announce the passing of former board member and long-time donor, Richard Baiter of Spokane, WA. Our hearts are with his family at this time, and we thank him for all he did for The Bray.



We are thankful for you!

Because of your generous support, we have been able to fuel our mission to promote, celebrate, and sustain the ceramic arts through the residency program, education, gallery, ceramic materials and technology, and community engagement on a local, national, and international scale. In the words of Archie himself, The Bray makes

available, “for all who are seriously and sincerely interested in any of the branches of the ceramic arts, a fine place to work”.



Your love of the ceramic arts and our community makes this all possible. You are an important part of our work and our continued success. Please show your support by making a gift today.



The Archie Bray Foundation recognizes and honors the Indigenous peoples of this region on whose ancestral lands the Foundation now stands. Indigenous people have inhabited the valley in which Helena is situated for more than 12,000 years; the valley acting as a crossover for Salish, Crow, Bannock, and Blackfeet tribes among others.

We respectfully acknowledge and honor all Indigenous communities whose land we reside on in what is now known as Montana— past, present, future—and are grateful for their ongoing and vibrant presence. We believe that acknowledging and reflecting upon the contemporary lived experience and history of the Indigenous peoples here in Montana and around the world are essential steps toward creating a more equitable world. Learn more through the [#HonorNativeLand](#) initiative of the U.S. Department of Arts and Culture, and consider contributing to Indigenous-led organizations doing important work to further the health and wellness, sovereignty and self-determination of the first peoples of this land.

The Bray is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to the enrichment of the ceramic arts, located at 2915 Country Club Ave. in Helena, just 1/3 mile west of Spring Meadow Lake.

This project is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, and in part by the Montana Cultural Trust, the Montana Arts Council, the Bray Business Alliance and the friends and members of the Bray. The Bray is funded in part by coal severance taxes paid based upon coal mined in Montana and deposited in Montana’s Cultural and Aesthetic Projects Trust Fund.