

Residency Applications Due by December 19th

The Bray is now accepting applications for its artist residency program. This unique opportunity offers artists the chance to immerse themselves in a creative community, work in state-of-the-art studios, and take their practice to the next level.

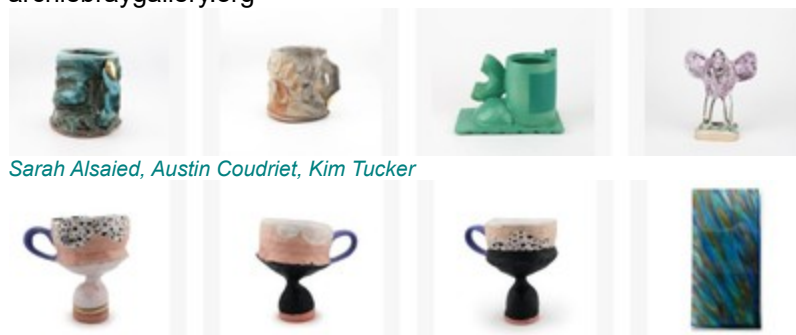
To apply for the Archie Bray Foundation residency, please [CLICK HERE](#). The deadline for applications is December 19th.



Shop the Holiday Show Online

Sale Dates: Now through December 23, 2024

Support artists this season! Click any image to visit the sale at archiebraygallery.org



Sarah Alsaied, Austin Coudriet, Kim Tucker

Laura Dirksen, Maxwell Henderson

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

Bray Holiday Hours

Friday, December 20:

Bray Open

Sat, December 21: Bray Clay & Galleries Open

Mon, December 23:

Downtown Gallery Open 12–4 pm, Offices Open, Bray Clay & Main Gallery Closed

December 24–January

6: Bray Closed, with offices opening Jan 2

Tuesday, January 7: Bray Open regular business hours

DONATE TODAY

EXPERIENCE CLASSES

Grab your friends for quick clay class! Get your hands dirty while learning the basics during our 2-hour classes! Fall/winter experience classes are filling fast, see our



Carey Nathanson



Lexus Giles, Sarah Alsaied



Eliza Weber, Jason Lee Starin



Dante Gambardella, Eliza Weber

Bray Holiday Hours



Friday, December 20: Bray Open

Saturday, December 21: Bray Clay & Galleries Open

Monday, December 23: Downtown Gallery Open 12-4 pm, Offices Open, Bray Clay & Main Gallery Closed

December 24-January 6: Bray Closed, with offices opening Jan 2

Tuesday, January 7: Bray Open regular business hours

Shop local this season! Complete your holiday shopping before Saturday, December 21 at The Bray Clay Business and the Main Gallery, or swing by The Bray Gallery: Downtown for our special

offerings and [register here.](#)



THE BRAY'S BRICKYARD NETWORK

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

limited hours on Monday the 23rd, from 12-4 pm. We are grateful for your support this and every year!

Announcing Our Spring 2025 Continuing Education Classes!

Discover new perspectives, understandings and a renewed appreciation for the ceramic arts through a ten-week clay class at The Bray. General registration opens at 10:30am next Tuesday, December 17th! Whether you're a total beginner or looking to inspire your existing studio practice – The Bray's Continuing Education classes are the ticket to motivate your creativity and expand your horizons. Take a peek at the line up of classes below. [See All Class Details here.](#)



Are you a member of The Bray? Check your email for an Early Members Registration link emailed to you on Tuesday the 10th from education@archiebray.org (don't forget to double check your spam)

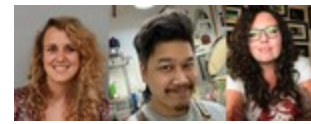
[Throw Your Life Away](#) while discovering the endless possibilities of the wheel. Learn the basics of clay and discover alternative and atmospheric firing methods to create unique functional and sculptural art! Best suited for beginner students. Taught by Resident Artist [Sarah Alsaied](#). Mondays 6-9pm (Feb 10 - April 21 *no class 3/24*)



Expect to gain information and inspiration in **[Designing Surface](#)**, a surface heavy class! Learn how to incorporate surface at all stages of your work (green ware, bisque ware, and glaze), discover stamps, springs, stencils, inlay, monoprints, water etching, carving and more. Intermediate – Advanced level. Taught by Resident Artist [Eliza Weber](#). Tuesdays 6-9pm (Feb 11 - April 22 *no class 3/25)



In **[From Inspired to Intended Forms](#)**, leverage simple hand building techniques to take your ideas to the next level. Develop your understanding on how to break down complex sculptural forms into systematic approaches of making in clay. Beginner to Intermediate level. Taught by Resident Artist [Jason Lee Starin](#). Wednesdays 9:30am-12:30pm (Feb 12 - April 23 *no class 3/26)



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

[MAKER'S PLAYBOOK](#)



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](#)

Feel overwhelmed by the infinite avenues of clay? Worry not, as [Approaching Clay The Beginners Way](#) was developed to narrow in on the realm of possibilities. Discover how focusing on one wheel, one hand building, and one glazing technique gives you opportunity to develop foundational skills and ensure a creative outlet. Beginner level students! Taught by Resident Artist [Laura Dirksen](#). Wednesdays 6-9pm (Feb 12 - April 23 *no class 3/26*)



Explore the power of ornament and decoration to make your pieces pop in [Wild Adornment: An Exploration of The Applied Surface In Clay](#). Learn to breathe life into traditional ceramic methods of decoration through the use of coils, braids, sprigs, and so much more to create the 21st century work you've been thirsting for. Taught by Bray Alumni [Joanna Powell](#). Saturdays 10am-1pm (Feb 15 - April 26 *no class 3/29*)



Not sure which class is the right fit for you? Email our Education team at education@archiebray.org to help determine the best fit for you. Registration Fees include: 30 hours instructional time from leading ceramic artists, 25 pounds of clay, all class firings, personal shelf and locker space, and open studio access 7 days a week from 8am-10pm to practice what you're learning!

Introduction to Wood Firing; Workshop-Style Class with Jake Brodsky



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 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)

SPONSORS

Thanks to these sponsors for making the Brickyard Podcast Network possible. Contact ben@archiebray.org to join our growing list of sponsors.

The Rosenfield Collection
Contemporary, Functional Ceramic Art Collection

CERAMIC ARTS
NETWORK

GR Pottery Forms
Durable and Economical

QUICK LINKS

[Bray Homepage](#)



Spanning three consecutive weekends, students will learn about and actively participate in the wood firing process from start to finish; through glazing of their work, loading, firing, and cleaning up afterwards. Fire The Bray's Train Kiln over the course of a 48 hour period, while learning about, and achieve effects that are unique to the process. Those interested must be available for every class session before and after the firing, and be available for (at minimum) a 6-hour shift on the kiln the weekend of the firing. Each student can expect to get 6 cubic feet of work fired, but more importantly, learn lots about the process of wood firing!

Please Note: There is no studio time/making time as a part of this class. This class is intended for students who are enrolled in another Continuing Education class or have studio access elsewhere.

Class Meets: April 5 & 6, 10am - 1pm

Kiln Firing: April 12 - 13

Kiln Unloading: April 19, 10am-1pm

Welcome to Visiting Artist Heidi

McKay Casto!

Heidi McKay Casto creates objects that explore the intersections of utility and sculpture, and feature a variety of playful design elements, anthropomorphic animal portraits, and vibrant colors. Her work explores similarities between instinctual animal behaviors, and behaviors learned through her lived experience as a woman, artist, and mother, gaining insight and inspiration for living with fewer



[Events Calendar](#)

[Education](#)

[Podcast Network](#)

[Become a Member](#)

[Donate Now](#)

[Online Sales Gallery](#)

[Clay Business](#)



insecurities and societal pressures. Heidi desires for the work to be a synchronistic exchange of connection where care and beauty are more present in daily life for users, and where complex human emotions might be made more discernible through light-hearted depictions of anthropomorphized animal subjects.



Bray Clay Business



At [Bray Clay](#), we provide everything a ceramic artist, hobbyist, or classroom could need or want. We produce clays on-site in Helena, Montana for every firing temperature and color and we stock many more clays from Plainsman and Laguna. Everything you need to work with and finish your ceramic pieces—glazes, underglazes, tools, dry materials, and studio equipment—is all available in our Helena store, by phone, or [online](#).

THANK YOU FOR A FANTASTIC YEAR!

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.