



NEWS from the BRICKYARD

APPLY TODAY! Applications for 2023 residencies due February 15 by Midnight



Don't miss your chance to make art at The Bray! Submit your application by Feb 15 to be considered for 2023 residencies. If you are not an artist yourself, but know someone who would be interested, pass this message along to them. There is no fee to apply.

At The Bray, artists from around the world with a vast range of experiences and diverse aesthetic approaches, cultures and perspectives come together.

Residents of The Bray have the opportunity to be in community with other makers to share discoveries, frustrations and triumphs, and work together over an extended period of time. Studio experiences at The Bray are as varied and unique as the individuals involved. [Click for more info and to apply.](#)

Brick by Brick Mini Auction Series: Sue Tirrell

UPCOMING EVENTS - JOIN IN!

Resident Open Studios
First Friday (5-7 pm) and the following Saturday (12-2 pm) of each month!
Friday, Feb 3
Saturday, Feb 4
Friday, March 3
Saturday, March 4
Friday, April 7
Saturday, April 8

Artist Amplified w/Sunshine Cobb and Giselle Hicks
Thursday, Feb 16, 6:30-8 pm
Frances Senska Center for Education & Engagement

Brick by Brick Mini Auction featuring Sue Tirrell
Opens Feb 21, 10 am MST
Closes Feb 25, 7 pm MST
[ONLINE HERE](#)

Speaking of Pots w/Sarah Jaeger
Sunday, Feb 26, 2 pm
Frances Senska Center for Education & Engagement

Afro-Mingei Exhibition
On view through the month of February
Pottery Admin Gallery



DONATE TODAY

HOUSING FOR RESIDENTS NEEDED



FEATURING THE WORK OF
SUE TIRRELL

Brought to you by the generous spirit of individual artists and community members, this auction series focuses on donated collections from artists or feature themes that are predominantly found at The Bray. Each mini auction's proceeds will go and support varying Bray programs and projects.

The first in our series is a collection of work by Bray Board Chair, Sue Tirrell. 100% of the Proceeds will go towards supporting the Resident Artist program. A few words from Sue and why she's donating this work:

"Star-struck visitor, Volunteer, Workshop participant, Clay Business Customer, Short-Term Resident, Instructor, Visiting Artist, Donor, Board Member.... There are so many ways to be involved at The Bray and, aside from being an employee, I've had the privilege to experience them all! Since my first visit in 1995, The Bray has played an instrumental role in my growth as an artist and member of the clay community. The Bray continues to be an incredible resource for artists and enthusiasts of all levels, abilities and backgrounds. I donated this work to The Bray to raise much-needed funds to support The Bray's Resident Artist program. I'm so passionate about this cause and I hope you'll help me in raising as much as we can for The Bray at this important time. Thank you!" - Sue Tirrell



Bidding begins Tuesday, February 21st at 10am MST / 12pm EST
The auction will close Saturday, February 25th at 7:00pm MST / 9pm EST

For information about the auction items and delivery please contact auctions@archiebray.org

Thank you for your continued support!

Open Studios Held First Friday and Saturday Each Month

TONIGHT!

Friday, Feb 3, 5-7 pm

Saturday, Feb 4, 12-2 pm

Summer will be here before you know it and The Bray is continually looking for short-term housing for our incredible summer residents! If you are interested in being on a list of landlords our incoming residents may contact, [please fill out this form.](#)

HOURS

Clay Business

Monday-Saturday, 9 am–5 pm

Sales Gallery

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

BOARD OPEN CALL

Interested in serving on The Bray's Board? Visit the open call for [Board of Directors Nominations](#) document on our website to learn more and to apply.



QUICK LINKS

[Bray Homepage](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

[Education & Research](#)

[Become a Member](#)

[Donate Now](#)

[Online Sales Gallery](#)

[Bray Clay Business](#)

BRICKYARD
NETWORK
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Meet ceramic artists from across the nation and the world, experience finished artwork, see works in progress, learn about the ceramic process and connect with other art appreciators during The Bray's Open Studios!

Resident Artist Studios are open the First Friday of each month from 5-7 pm, and the following Saturday, 12-2 pm. In the event of inclement weather, please keep yourself safe, we will see you next month!

First Fire Indigenous Centered Site

The Bray is excited to announce a collaboration with Indigenous artists Raven Halfmoon and Cannupa Hanska Luger supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. Halfmoon and Luger will lead a studio intensive this summer with other invited artists, focused on Native American ceramics and examining educational models for greater collaboration with Native communities in Montana and beyond. The Bray will also continue work with the Halfmoon and Luger to develop "First Fire Site", a permanent on-site Indigenous-centered space dedicated to Indigenous pit firing and clay practices.



We are honored to be working with these talented artists to create equitable opportunities in ceramics at The Bray.

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

NETWORK SPONSOR



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COMMUNITY SPONSORS





Indigenous First Fire Site Land Dedication at The Bray July 8, 2022

Raven Halfmoon (Caddo Nation) is from Norman, Oklahoma. She was a long-term resident artist at The Bray from 2019-2021, and an Invited Visiting Artist in 2021, 2022. Halfmoon focuses on producing a body of work that is reflective of how she feels both as a woman and as a Native American living in the 21st Century. Her monumental work has been featured in multiple exhibitions throughout the U.S. as well as internationally.

Cannupa Hanska Luger was an Invited Visiting Artist at The Bray in 2021 and 2022. Luger is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold (Mandan/ Hidatsa/ Arikara/ Lakota). Luger creates monumental installations, sculpture and performance to communicate urgent stories about 21st Century Indigeneity. Incorporating ceramics, steel, fiber, video and repurposed materials, Luger activates speculative fiction, engages in land-based actions of repair and practices empathetic response through social collaboration.

“The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support arts projects in communities nationwide,” said NEA Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD.



“Projects such as this one the Archie Bray Foundation

strengthen arts and cultural ecosystems, provide equitable opportunities for arts participation and practice, and contribute to the health of our communities and our economy.”

Welcome New Long-Term Resident Artists!

Simphiwe Mbunyuzo
2022 Lilian Fellow
Johannesburg, South Africa

Simphiwe Mbunyuzo (b. 1989; Eastern Cape, South Africa) creates masterful objects and vessels combining stoneware, leather, fabric and steel. Simphiwe’s richly textured, confounding ceramic objects are featured with traditional African iconography and cultural symbols. Furthermore, to produce his work Simphiwe uses a coiling technique that has been employed by the Xhosa people for centuries. Elegant and graphic, Simphiwe’s forms and colors unify in his extraordinarily distinct ceramic objects.



Simphiwe Mbunyuza obtained an MFA from Oklahoma University and a B.Tech from Walter Sisulu University in South Africa. He has

shown his work globally, including exhibitions at Guggenheim Gallery, Gallery 1957, Absolut Art Gallery, A.I.R. Vallauris, among others. Honors include the Red Clay Faction Award and the Oscar Johnson Award. Simphiwe participated in a residency at A.I.R. Vallauris France and joins The Bray as the 2022 Lilian Fellow.



Janina Myronova
2022 Speyer Fellow
Wroclaw, Poland; Ukraine

Janina Myronova creates narrative through figurative forms and composed backdrops. Utilizing a specific and distorted representation of the body, each composition shows a different personality and personal story to collectively reference a graphic novel and arcing story.

Imparting her own emotion through linework, Myronova's works are strategically charged with color to saturate and amplify their individual stories.



Janina Myronova received her MFA Lviv National Academy of Fine Arts (Lviv, Ukraine), an MFA from the The Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Fine Arts and Design (Wroclaw, Poland), and her PhD from the Department of Ceramics and Glass at Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Fine Arts. Continually developing her work and practice, Myronova has attended numerous residencies including opportunities at the New Taipei Yingge Ceramics Museum, Clayarch Gimhae Museum, Lefebvre and Fils, the

Polish Sculpture Centre, the International Ceramic Research Center (Guldagergaard, Denmark), International Ceramic Studio (Kecskemet, Hungary), and at the Northern Clay Center.

Interested in supporting a resident artist? Contact our Development Director at alison@archiebray.org.

Upcoming Artist Amplified Events



Artist Amplified is back! We had a blast piloting this free public lecture and demonstration series last year and we can't wait to bring you an incredible line up for 2023. First up are former long term resident artists [Giselle Hicks](#) and [Sunshine Cobb](#) on **Thursday, February 16, from 6:30-8pm MST**. Participate [in-person or online](#) as they engage in a night of conversation and casual demonstration. Expect a medley of topics ranging from their varied experiences as successful business owners, taking risks in their studios, and the importance of self-care.

Join us again on **March 9th** as we honor celebrated artist and educator, **Frances Senska** through a special presentation, panel discussion (featuring Shelburn Murray, Josh Deweese, Lisa Simon, Wayne Boeck, and Michelle Corriel), and birthday cake for what would have been Frances' 109th birthday!

Save the date for the remaining 2023 Artist Amplified line up: April 13, May 18, June 8, June 29, July 6, July 27, August 17, September 14, and October 12. All Artist Amplified events are 6:30-8pm Mountain Time, and located in the newly named **Frances Senska Center for Education and Engagement**, at 2915 Country Club Ave, Helena, MT 59601. [Learn more about each event here.](#)

Interested in Sponsorship opportunities for events and programs like Artist Amplified? Contact our Development Director at alison@archiebray.org.

The Bray's Brickyard Network Kiln Sitters Podcast



The balancing act of an emerging artist with Shaun Mallonga

Brendan sits down with a former student of his Shaun Mallonga, to catch up on all of his artistic endeavors. They cover conversations around education, artist residencies, functional works as a vehicle to talk about identity, the monster and the “Bawdy”. Topics covered and folks mentioned are: Emma Canning, Amelia Butcher, A Blue Fire by James Hillman, Deformed Discourse: The Function of the Monster in Medieval Thought and Literature by David Williams, A Sense of Order: A study in the psychology of decorative arts by E.H. Gombrich and Enya Only Time. Before they chat the gang gets together to talk about limits and work life balance.



Amélie Proulx on material transformation

Marianne sits down with the amazing Québec city artist Amélie Proulx. They dive into material transformation and Amélie's relationship with the medium of porcelain. Amélie shares her experience working on large scale projects within Québec's Integration of Art in Public Spaces program and her new research into local raw ceramic material. To learn more visit www.amelieproulx.com.



Joan Anderson Joins The Bray Board

Joan Anderson is a long-time volunteer and supporter of The Bray. Joan grew up in Billings, studied accounting in Bozeman, and moved to Helena in 1987. She started as a CPA for the Legislative Auditor's Office and spent the majority of her career at the Office of Public Instruction, serving as State School Finance



Director and Director of Operations. Since retiring from the State, Joan worked for the past 6 years as Budget Analyst and Finance Director at Rocky Mountain Development Council, Helena's nonprofit HRDC. Joan and her husband, Gary, are both ceramic artists and enjoy volunteering at Bray events.

“I'm so excited to join the Bray's Board of Directors! I'm really looking forward to learning more about the business side of the Bray and helping to make the important decisions that'll support the organization's future.” -Joan Anderson

Speaking of Pots Highlight

The first ever Speaking of Pots event was a smashing success featuring cups from the private collection of series organizer, former Board Member, Long Term Resident, and Visiting Artist, Sarah Jaeger. Sarah's incredible insights into this lovely Betty Woodman Cup and Saucer were too good not to share!



"This cup and saucer was made by Betty Woodman, in the late 1970s. I consider her among the most important people in recent ceramic history, and she had a huge influence on me. I went to a workshop that Betty gave in the mid-70s, when I was a self-taught, aspiring potter in Denver, and she was a potter in Boulder. It was a life changing experience to see how she handled clay with such freedom and ease.

She threw many forms off the hump because she said it allowed a rhythm to develop, giving a kind of energy to the pots, which I think you can see in this cup and saucer. If she made a mistake, say, cut through the bottom of the cup when she was cutting it off the hump, she would simply patch it and wouldn't fuss over concealing the patch. She would leave the evidence of the process, and keep moving. That was revolutionary for functional pots at the time, tilting the balance in favor of expression over perfection.

When you handle it, you notice that the cup slides around on the saucer, it doesn't have a perfectly level place to sit. This requires you to pay attention when you're drinking out of it. All the better for you to enjoy the energy and gesture of the piece, containing, but also extending out into the world." -Sarah Jaeger

Learn More about Betty Woodman [here](#), and join us for another Speaking of Pots with Sarah Jaeger on Sunday, February 26 at 2 pm in the Frances Senska Center for Education and Engagement.

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 Blackfoot 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 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.

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