

NEWS from the BRICKYARD



Brick by Brick Mini Auction: SPARKLING



With the start of a new year, new beginnings, and new ideas, it's a time to shine! What better way to do this than with jewelry...ceramic jewelry? Let's start the year "SPARKLING!"

Bidding begins: Wednesday, January 24th - 12pm EST / 10am MST

Auction closes: Friday, January 26th - 9pm EST / 7pm MST

Visit givergy.us/thebraybrickbybrick to preview the fantastic artwork and place your bids. Happy bidding!

Participating Artists:

April D. Felipe
Didem Mert
Iva Haas
Jamie Bates Slone
Janina Myronowa
Jason Bige Burnett with Ashley Gilreath

2024 Spring Education Classes

Mark your calendars! General Registration opens Tuesday, January 16 at 10 am for another round of our fun and thought provoking Continuing Education classes! Whether you're a total beginner or looking to inspire your existing studio practice – the Bray offers Continuing Education classes for adults (16+) in a range of topics and experience levels.

SPEAKING OF POTS IS BACK!

Join Sarah Jaeger and friends for conversations and community around anything pots.

**2:00 pm, Sunday,
Jan 28, Feb 25, Mar 24,
Apr 28, and May 19**

Frances Senska Center
for Education and
Engagement
kitchen/lounge space
(2nd floor)
Free and open to the
public.



STUDIOS

**Resident artist studios
are open to the public
during Bray Gallery and
Visitor Center hours.
Tuesday-Friday 11 am-5
pm
Saturday 12-4 pm**

DONATE TODAY

HOURS

New in 2024, Continuing Education classes now meet for 10 weeks!



Join our talented Artist Educators as they share their knowledge and expertise. This session our classes run the full spectrum in topics from learning to work with clay for the very first time to leveling up your established voice as a maker. Meet for 3 hours as a group once a week, then come in to practice what you're learning with ample studio time throughout the week. Learn more about the fantastic line up of classes listed below here.

- **Approaching Clay The Beginners Way** with Janette Torres, Mondays 6-9pm (Beginner)
- **Thrown and Altered** with Austin Coudriet, Tuesdays 6-9pm (Intermediate)
- **Level Up** with Anvil Williamson, Wednesdays 9am-12pm (Intermediate)
- **Introduction to The Pottery Wheel** with Austin Coudriet, Wednesdays 6-9pm (Beginner)
- **Applying Your Voice** with Laura Dirksen, Fridays 6-9pm (Intermediate – Advanced)

Members, check your inbox for a special link for Early Member Registration access – sent 1/9/24 at 10 am from education@archiebray.org

(See special winter break hours, left)

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

QUICK LINKS

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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!



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

Podcast Comment Drive - You Can Help!



As we head into the new year, the Brickyard Network is having a comment drive. This is one of the easiest ways you can support Bray podcasts, and the best part is that it's totally free. To participate, leave

a review and a rating for our podcasts on your favorite podcast app. **For Flux Sake, Clay in Color, and Tales of a Red Clay Rambler** are in the middle of their seasons, so it would be great if you could support them directly with your comments.

By leaving a comment on your podcast app you help our shows move up in the rankings, which in turn helps us attract sponsors. Thanks everyone for listening and supporting the network.

New Clay Business Hours

In order to best serve you, our loyal customers, we have decided it is necessary to alter our hours of operation at the Clay Business. Beginning January 2nd, our new hours are 10 am–5 pm Monday–Friday, with our Saturday hours remaining the same, 9 am–5 pm.



This change allows us to further pursue high quality production standards, improve our lead time in order fulfillment, and ensure a healthy and safe environment for our incredible team members.

We greatly appreciate your understanding and continued support of the Archie Bray Clay Business.

story to tell shoot us an email and be on the show!
(ben@archiebray.org)

[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.

[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.

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Welcome Visiting Artist Ryan Wilson Kelly



"My work comes into being through a great deal of non-linear or associative research, tangential explorations and an abiding love of the object, the well made, properly made, appropriate object. Just as much it is informed by a childhood spent exploring the cramped, overstuffed homes of elderly midwestern relatives, filled with books, curios and artifacts from their long lives. While my work may have a familiarity in expression or form, there is a half-cocked dream logic to the entirety. I am returning to these spaces in my dreams to interrogate these objects for their stories. Borrowing my subjects as I do from existing sources, I need to gain as much ownership of the work as I can. This manifests itself in my laboring over these projects, beginning to end, in every aspect. Every decision of refinement or finish, material choice, action or inaction belongs to me. In this Whitmanesque spirit, 'out



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Contemporary, Functional Ceramic Art Collection

CERAMIC ARTS
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of the cradle endlessly rocked' by a craft based work ethic, I feel the need to come to my finished product honestly, through the work of my own hand."

Ryan W. Kelly is an Associate Professor in WWU's Art & Art History Department, teaching Ceramics and 3-D Foundations. Prior to that he lived and worked in Philadelphia, where he was a resident artist at The Clay Studio; a recipient of an Independence Foundation Fellowship, and a co-curator at Practice Gallery. His collaborations in dance and theater include credits in the Green Porno series by Isabella Rossellini.

2023 Education & Engagement Snapshot



The Frances Senska Center for Education and Engagement was a bustling place filled with curious minds, discovery, and growth in 2023. Serving a whopping 1,796 students and participants through eight educational programs offered here at the Bray, we are proud to have connected so many of you to the ceramic arts through educational offerings in 2023! Take a peek below to gain some insight on how the numbers break down.

- 370 students served through our [Engagement Programming](#) with 17 community partnerships formed including groups like Helena Food Share, Helena Indian Alliance, Helena Home School, AWARE, and Lewis & Clark Teen Services, to name a few

- 19 individuals participated through our innovative [Incubator Programming](#) fostering relationships with groups like Manchester Craftsmen's Guild Youth, Lame Deer Junior High, and the Bray's 2023 First Fire Cohort
- Seven emerging professionals in our [Educational Assistantship](#) program including [Muriel Condon](#), [Anvil Williamson](#), [Allye Grace Grisham](#), [Comstock](#), [Dana August](#), [James Hogan](#), and [Janette Torres](#)
- 19 art educators from across Montana joining us for [Professional Development](#) opportunities
- 106 students served over 12 of our one-time [Experience Classes](#), with the quickest to sell out and longest wait lists being our Dirty Date Night! **wink, wink: mark your calendars for announcements in the February Newsletter!**
- 209 students learning new techniques and pushing their comfort zones over three sessions and 11 unique classes in our [Continuing Education](#) programming
- 364 participants on 25 guided tours of our [historic grounds](#)
- 702 audience members showing up to support 28 talented artists and presenters over the course of 11 [Artist Amplified](#) events showcasing new perspectives on the arts

What a year 2023 was - we thank you for your support and for allowing us to be a part of your clay experiences. We hope you'll join us here again soon for more fun and learning at the Bray!

If you or your business are interested in sponsoring an educational program or event, please email our Development Director, Kelly Posewitz at kposewitz@archiebray.org

Bray Community News

Below is an exciting exhibition featuring former Bray residents!



[A Beautiful Spirit](#)

Radius Clayworks, Missoula, MT
January 26 - March 16, 2024

Radius Clayworks is delighted to present new work by nine masterful artists working in ceramics, all past residents of the Archie Bray Foundation (aka the Bray) in Helena, Montana:

Sam Chung, Christina Erives, Hiroe Hanazono, KleinReid, Yoonjee Kwak, Steven Young Lee, Julie Moon, Kensuke Yamada and Sunkoo Yuh.

These artists demonstrate the creative vigor and vitality, the impulse to experiment and explore, that the Bray has encouraged and celebrated for nearly 75 years.

The title of the show is drawn from a letter, written in 1951, by founder Archie Bray: **"That somewhere thru it all will permeate a beautiful spirit... carrying on and forwarding the intentions, the aims and the life of the Foundation. Can we do it? What a joy it is to do it."**



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.

The Bray | 2915 Country Club Ave, Helena, MT 59602 | 406/443-3502 | www.archiebray.org