

NEWS from the BRICKYARD

Register Today! The Bray Benefit Auction begins Saturday, July 23rd



Pictured: Premier Auction pieces by Virgil Ortiz, Chris Antemann

Heritage & Premier Auctions

Close Thursday, July 28th
beginning 7:00 pm MDT

Main, Cup & Experience Auctions

Close Friday, July 29th
beginning 7:00 pm MDT

[Register here!](#) The Bray Online Benefit Auction begins next Saturday, July 23rd! These pieces by Frances Senska (pictured below) will be available in the Heritage Auction. The [Heritage Auction](#) calls attention to the early innovators important to The Bray and celebrates great makers in the field. Bidding begins Saturday, July 23, 10 am MDT. [Register to bid, view artwork and find more info here.](#) **Works will be added continually until the opening day!**



Often called the "Mother of Montana Modernism," Frances Senska had a literal hand in building the first pottery kilns at The Bray as well as developing Montana's first college-level ceramics program in Bozeman. Before taking the position where she would stay for the next 30 years, she had lived in

Cameroon with her missionary parents, taught drawing and painting at Grinnell College in Iowa, side-studied sculpture and design with a leader of the Bauhaus school, volunteered for service during the war effort, traveled to Europe where she saw Modernist works firsthand, flew Navy planes in non-combat situations, and took a single but pivotal ceramics class with the glamorous Edith Heath of Heath ceramics in San Francisco. From her Central African teachers, she had gained a deep appreciation for utilitarian arts that made creative use of materials on hand. Despite the wealth of experiences on her way to Montana, the concept of controlling the production and materials of work from start to finish was one of the strongest values she passed along to her famous students Rudy and Lela

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 23rd



The Bray Online Benefit Auction Opens at 10am MDT!

[Register, bid and view artwork here](#)

Thursday, July 28th

6:30–8pm

Artist Amplified lecture and demonstration series:
Summer Residents Part 2:
Haylie Jimenez, Elizabeth Pena-Alvarez, Melissa Joseph, Justin Reese, & Lindsay Rogers, at the Education and Research Facility

Thursday, July 28th

Heritage and Premier Auctions Close beginning at 7pm.

Friday, July 29th

Main, Cup and Experience Auctions Close beginning at 7pm.

Saturday, July 30th

Bray Open House Event

10am–4pm Open Artist Studios, Sales Gallery and Warehouse Gallery

6–8pm Open House and BBQ Social at The Bray

After making the rounds at the Montana Clay Tour, swing by The Bray to meet our new Executive Director, Rebecca Harvey, and mingle with artists and contemporaries! This event is free and open

Autio and Peter Vulkos. Yet when asked, Frances Senska typically downplayed her staggering breadth of knowledge and would describe her vocation simply, perhaps wryly, "I make pots," which became her artist statement.



The
Bray
Benefit



Auction is a vital fundraising event needed to support our mission to promote, celebrate, and sustain the ceramic arts. All [Call for Cash](#) proceeds benefit The Bray's artistic, educational, and community engagement programs. Our ongoing goal is to create opportunities for underrepresented communities and remove barriers to participate in Bray programs at every level.

A commitment to Indigenous representation at The Bray with a new pit firing facility



The importance of this project at The Bray:

Near the headwaters of the Missouri River, Helena, Montana sits in a valley at the base of the Rocky Mountains. Native Americans have inhabited this valley for more than 12,000 years; historically, it was not the permanent home of any particular tribe as the area was shared by Salish, Crow, Bannock, and Blackfeet tribal members. With eight tribal reservations — though none in Helena — many Native peoples continue to live and work in Montana.

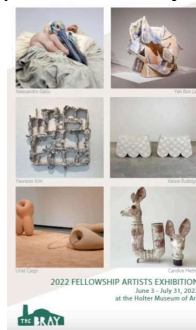
The Bray is internationally renowned for its facilities and its support of emerging and established ceramic artists. However, we acknowledge our history is steeped in primarily Western and Far Eastern clay traditions; there has not yet been a formal and long-term onsite land acknowledgement to Indigenous peoples, and there is currently no space to share and learn Indigenous ceramics. Within the Bray's expansive public sculpture park and grounds, there is currently no formal Indigenous representation.

to the community, tickets for food and two drinks are \$10.

Bray Members receive complimentary food/drink tickets. Not a member? [Click here to join!](#)

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

2022 Fellowship Artists Exhibition at the Holter Museum of Art featuring Uriel Caspi, Alessandro Gallo, Yeonsoo Kim, Yeh Rim Lee, Candice Methe and Kelsie Rudolph, June 3-July 31



Resident Artists Exhibition at The Bray Warehouse Gallery featuring 20 long term and summer resident artists June 23-July



30

SAVE THE DATE

**Monday, August 1, 2022,
3:00 pm**



**Monday, August 1, 2022
3:00 pm**

Private tour of [Raven](#)

About the pit firing site:

Designed by Indigenous artists Cannupa Hanska Luger and Raven Halfmoon and based on traditional North American Indigenous designs, this new site will be built for the future and will incorporate new, repurposed and long-lasting materials to create a structure to host pit firing and for Indigenous artists to teach and explore firing techniques, sharing these technologies with The Bray's clay community.



The proposed domed building will measure approx 60' across and 30' high, mirroring the respective artists' ancestral design knowledge, as noted in the Earth Lodge structure of Luger's ancestors. The interior space will be hyper-functional, designed to support what will become a global Indigenous led ceramics program. Spaces for working and learning will surround a pit-fire in the lodge's center; a large open aperture will be in the center that connects earth and sky. Further details on design and construction are in the planning stages.

The Bray's commitment:

The Bray is committed to support the construction of this new site to become the first permanent Indigenous on-site presence; moreover, it will be a living monument to house an ongoing Indigenous clay program — the first Indigenous-designed and run ceramics facility in the region — for which The Bray will actively fundraise, recruit, promote, and support. With the process in motion, the trajectory of this site's construction is estimated to be complete and the site.

Welcome Invited Visiting Artist Sharif Bey

Born as one of twelve children, [Sharif Bey](#) was raised in a large African American family in Pittsburgh. While many of the men in his family left school for jobs in industry, Bey had a pivotal experience at the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild (MCG) while attending high school. MCG played a formative role for Bey throughout his teens, giving him a foundation of skills and extensive ceramics-world connections. Shortly after the fall of the

Soviet Union, Bey studied sculpture at The Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava, Slovakia. Later, he earned his BFA from Slippery Rock University, his MFA from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and PhD (in art education) from Pennsylvania State University. His awards include: The United States Artist Fellowship, The Pollock-Krasner Fellowship, The New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship, and The J. William Fulbright Scholarship. He is featured in numerous public collections including: The Smithsonian American Art Museum, The Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, The Carnegie Museum, The Columbus Museum, The Everson Museum, and The Westmoreland American

[Halfmoon: New Monuments](#)

exhibition at Missoula Art Museum (MAM) led by former Bray resident artist Raven Halfmoon (*pictured, above*). Hear from the artist and see the exhibition before it opens to the public. This is a special intimate gathering for Bray supporters. Not a member? [Click here to join!](#)

Contact Development Director, Alison Dawson, for more information and to reserve your spot at alison@archiebray.org.

HOURS**Clay Business**

Monday-Saturday, 9 am–5 pm

Sales Gallery

Monday-Friday, 11 am–5 pm
Saturday, 12 pm–4 pm

**QUICK LINKS**

[Bray Homepage](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

[Education & Research](#)

[Become a Member](#)

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[Online Sales Gallery](#)

Art Museum. Currently Bey is an Associate Professor of Art at Syracuse University.

Happenings in Education



Save the Dates: Continuing Education Fall Session!

Join us at The Bray this fall to take an 8 week, Continuing Education class! Believe it or not, our fall session is just around the corner - make sure and mark your calendar with these important dates:

- Early Member Registration opens on Tuesday, July 26th at 9am
- General Registration opens on Tuesday, August 2nd at 9am
- Fall session begins Tuesday, September 13th

We have an exciting lineup of topics and instructors including: *Finding Form* with Perry Haas, *Beginning, Middle, and End* with Bill Wilkey, *Digital Fabrication with Clay, 101* with Cait Finley, and *Introduction to Clay* with Jon Bashioum. Learn more about these classes and what you can expect from a Continuing Education class by visiting [our website](#). Consider [becoming a member](#) today to receive the early registration benefit!



Manchester Craftsmen's Guild Youth & Arts

We had the great pleasure of hosting a group of students and educators from [Manchester Craftsmen's Guild and Youth Arts](#)

[Bray Clay Business](#)

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Many thanks to these sponsors for making the Bray Benefit Auction possible.

AUCTION SPONSORS



IN-KIND SPONSORS



(MCG)...and it was incredible! This partnership program began in early April when long term resident artist Kristy Moreno was a virtual visiting artist for MCG and provided a demo that kicked off a multi-week class project. In late June, three students, one Alumni Fellow, and two faculty of MCG traveled to The Bray to spend a week discovering new perspectives in clay.



Current and former resident artists Yeonsoo Kim, Joon Hee Kim, Haylie Jimenez, Bill Wilkey, and Candice Methe worked closely with MCG through demonstrations, hands-on activities, and conversations about what it means to be an artist. Full studio access and open studio time gave students the opportunity to explore new techniques, push their creative thinking, and develop conceptual considerations.

This is the second year The Bray has partnered with MCG and we look forward to many more years of working together to provide transformative experiences in the ceramic arts!

Tales of a Red Clay Rambler 10 Year Celebration!



We will be taping a live episode of the TRCR to celebrate its 10th anniversary on Zoom July 25th at 7pm EST (5pm MST). Host Ben Carter will be joined by Carole Epp and Britta Schroeder along with other special guests. There will be merch giveaways and lots of other goodies. **Register now at** brickyardnetwork.org/live.

Open Call for Board of Director Nominations



The Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts (The Bray) seeks individuals for consideration to serve on the Board of Directors. The Bray is a nonprofit educational organization actively committed to promoting, celebrating, and sustaining the ceramic arts through a residency program, education, gallery, ceramic materials and technology, and community engagement on a local, national, and international scale. The Board of Directors (BOD) is the governing body of up to 21 individuals from local, regional and national backgrounds, who bring a variety of strengths in communal service to the foundation. Board members include artists, collectors, administrators, financial managers, accountants, academics,



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lawyers, development officers, engineers, contractors, realtors, and more - all with a strong passion for the field of ceramics and The Bray.

The primary responsibility of the Board of Directors of The Bray is to assist the organization in fulfilling its mission. A diversity of experience, perspective, and expertise are what combine to form a strong board to execute The Bray's vision and mission.

Please view our [Open Call Nominations document](#) for more information about The Bray's Board member qualifications, responsibilities, financial stewardship and contributions as well as the Nominations form.

Support The Bray

Your support makes an impact! The Bray needs your continued involvement now as we invest in the power of art to heal and unify.

Your donation fuels our education and residency programs, scholarships and engagement, and all the many ways we serve our community of artists, youth, collectors, and educators. We believe the ceramic arts inspire creativity and connect people of all backgrounds and abilities through transformative encounters in the studio, in the classroom, at the table, and in the community.

"I support The Bray for the vibrant and creative community it creates."—Martha Williams, former Bray board member & supporter

Please consider a tax-deductible donation today to help us reach our spring fundraising goals! [Donate here](#) to support artists through The Bray's year-round programs. goals!

Summer at The Bray



Summer at The Bray brings a renewed energy to the studios and encourages collaboration between resident and visiting artists alike! Pictured, L to R; Back: Austyn Taylor, Soojin Choi, Sydnie Jimenez, Uriel Caspi, Jun Hee Kim, Yeh Rim Lee, Sanjit Sethi, Lindsay



Rogers, Guy Davis, Adam Lefebvre, Yeonsoo Kim; Front: Candice Methe, Kelsie Rudolph, Haylie Jimenez, Justin Reese; Not Pictured: Alessandro Gallo, Kristy Moreno, Melissa Joseph, Katie Parker, Elizabeth Pena-Alvarez, Aili Schmeltz

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.