

Pottery with Rachel Morouney

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Mondays, 2:00-4:00 in Instructor's home studio at 136 Moore Rd Ext, Otter Creek, NB

6 weeks starting on April 19, 2010 (Note: No class on Monday, May 24)

Maximum 6

Storm Policy: No classes when schools are closed in Sackville

Course Outline: Hand-Building & Throwing on the Potters' Wheel

Each participant will be asked to pay \$30 for materials

This course is meant to give the participant an idea of the many techniques a novice can employ when using clay for a project. I will attempt to give an introduction to clay and lead you through the pitfalls of getting to know the clay.

For instance, a beginner should know that when shaking hands with the clay, one does not hold on for an excessive length of time as it will dry out. Our body's chemistry seems to have that effect on clay. The greeting should be pleasant but direct and to the point with no unnecessary stroking or squeezing. Unused clay likes to be covered snugly when not in use or it is rendered useless and must be put through a lengthy process of recycling which is very time and energy consuming.

Another tip that is invaluable when getting to know the clay is that if you roll it out on an improperly prepared surface, there is a good chance that you won't be able to get the slab or pot bottom that made to come unstuck. Clay has quirks.

So in addition to having fun, I want to do some work with the simplest types of hand building such as pinch pots and go on coils and slabs and joining pieces of clay together. I will also have an electric potter's wheel at our workshop for those who want to try throwing.

I think that everyone will get at least one fired and glazed piece at the end of the course.

Instructor Bio:

I was living in British Columbia in the 70's and the handmade pottery in peoples' homes and in the stores attracted me strongly. For several years afterwards, wherever I was, I watched potters at work. Soon I was making my own pots.

In 1978, I came to New Brunswick, where my husband and I built a kick-wheel and eventually a workspace in our home. .

I make functional stoneware pottery and lamps and I decorate them using assorted techniques, such as cobalt hand painted patterns and carved motifs.

I travelled and worked in Japan in 2005-2006 and since then I have used some Japanese hand building methods in my work. This keeps pottery making fresh and interesting for me and I am hopeful that I can pass on some of my enthusiasm to interested participants of the Tantramar Seniors College. My pottery is in the NB Art Bank and in homes and private collections all over the world.

Some people are very sensitive to perfumes and other scents. Please respect a scent free environment by not using scented products. Thank you.

A note to seniors about class attendance and absenteeism....

As you know, our instructors are all volunteers, who work very hard at putting courses together. Your cooperation is appreciated in letting them know if you are unable to attend any of the classes as most instructors plan weekly classes that are appropriate to the number of registered students in the course.

If circumstances change between registration and the first class, or if you decide to withdraw after the first or second class, please email tsccordinator@nbnet.nb.ca or call 364-2780. Many courses have a wait list and this could allow someone else to take your place.

Sometimes, seniors have travel plans or medical appointments made in advance. It would help instructors to know this at registration, if possible, so that class material may be adjusted accordingly. Illness, as well as other unanticipated and unavoidable conflicts can occur. If you are able, please let your instructor know as soon as possible if you will miss a class.

Thank you!