

## Calendar of Events

officemanager@grandclayarts.com

January 26, 2026

### **Handbuilding II: January 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of sessions: Three 3-hour classes*

*Course Fee: \$60.00*

*Description:*

*Class will introduce more advanced handbuilding construction techniques, and introduce recovery techniques for clay and glazing.*

*Participants will learn:*

- complex construction methods using multiple seams, and larger slabs*
- how to bevel and blend seams*
- methods for embellishing pieces with texture, add ons, feet and handles*
- techniques for repairing cracks, and trouble shooting possible construction and drying issues*
- tips to level a piece*
- various glazing and staining tips, and discuss*

**Stains and Underglazes: January 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

06:00 PM - 09:00 PM MT

Brian Marx, 6087320429

marxtaxidermy@gmail.com

*Number of sessions: Four, three hour sessions*

*Class Fee: \$80.00*

*Class Date and Time: January 20, 22, 27 and 29, 2026. 6PM -9PM*

**Description:**

*Using the students' shapes, the effects of using stain versus underglazes in a painterly fashion will be explored.*

*Students will decorate at least two pieces, either hand built or wheel thrown. The pieces can be made during class or brought to class. Pieces need to be LEATHER HARD (not fired). The focus will be on decorating each piece using underglazes, using specific techniques and glazes.*

**Participants will learn:**

*- to use glazes and stains in a painterly fashion*

**Materials:**

*Students will bring one or two shapes that they can explore the use of stains or underglazes.*

**Class Information:**

*Pre-requisites: Participants will need to have at least two classes working with clay commonly stocked at Grand Clay Arts. It can be hand building or combination of hand building and throwing.*

*Number of participants : Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

**Basic Clay: January 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Patti Jones, 406-360-6463

Pattajones@msn.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: January 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

*Course Fee: \$60*

*Description:*

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

*Participants will learn:*

*Studio protocols*

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

*Use of studio equipment:*

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

*Construct simple hand built pieces:*

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece

2: Make a simple cylinder piece

*3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze*

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

January 29, 2026

**10 Minute Plate: January 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 6164608458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*10 Minute Plate*

*Date and Time: January 29, 2026, 3:00 - 6:00*

*Number of Sessions: 1*

*Course Fee: \$20.00*

*Description:*

*Participants will learn two different methods of making a plate. The wheel will be used as a tool to speed up the process. Wheel experience is not required.*

*Materials:*

*Two, three pound balls of clay, any clay body is acceptable.*

*Pin tool*

*Firm rubber rib ( the yellow ribs are ideal)*

*Narrow 1 inch texture rollers. If you have them*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level: beginner*

*Minimum 3, Maximum 8*

**Stains and Underglazes: January 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

06:00 PM - 09:00 PM MT

Brian Marx, 6087320429

marxtaxidermy@gmail.com

*Number of sessions: Four, three hour sessions*

*Class Fee: \$80.00*

*Class Date and Time: January 20, 22, 27 and 29, 2026. 6PM -9PM*

**Description:**

*Using the students' shapes, the effects of using stain versus underglazes in a painterly fashion will be explored.*

*Students will decorate at least two pieces, either hand built or wheel thrown. The pieces can be made during class or brought to class. Pieces need to be LEATHER HARD (not fired). The focus will be on decorating each piece using underglazes, using specific techniques and glazes.*

**Participants will learn:**

*- to use glazes and stains in a painterly fashion*

**Materials:**

*Students will bring one or two shapes that they can explore the use of stains or underglazes.*

**Class Information:**

*Pre-requisites: Participants will need to have at least two classes working with clay commonly stocked at Grand Clay Arts. It can be hand building or combination of hand building and throwing.*

*Number of participants : Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

January 29, 2026

**Artistic Succulent Containers: January 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Debby Luchetti, 815-670-3388

Debbyluchetti@aol.com

*Date and Time: January 29, 2026: 3:00 - 6:00*

*Number of sessions: One, three hour session*

*Course Fee: \$20.00*

*Description:*

*Using slap construction and texture create a unique container, excellent for succulents.*

*This piece is unique, and can be whimsical and fun.*

*Participants will learn :*

- tips and tricks for applying deep texture*
- how to use soft slabs*
- proper techniques for using slip and applying pieces*
- how to attach feet, balance piece*
- finishing techniques*

*Materials:*

- Clay, speckled buff preferred*
- Handbuilding tools*
- Texture tools and stamps ( many available in the studio, and instructor will provide some, too)*

*Class information:*

*Skill level/ pre- requisites: Beginner, some glazing experience*

*Minimum and maximum: minimum = 3; maximum = 8*

January 30, 2026

**Doctor is In: January 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Course Fee: \$20.00*

*Participants will work independently, hand building or throwing, with the assistance of the instructor as needed while they create their project of choice. Assistance will be offered on a rotation basis. Tips and tricks for success will be shared.*

*Participants should also plan to sign up for a work area to use during class time since there is usually a mixture of hand building and throwing. For example, if you plan to hand build, sign up for a high or low table. If you plan to throw on the wheel, sign up for the wheel of your choice.*

February 1, 2026

**Raku/Horsehair Firing: February 2026**

**Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Raku/Horsehair Firing*

*Class Fee: \$20.00*

*Date and Time: February 1, 2026. 8:00 AM- 11:00 AM*

*Participants will experience firing their own pieces using the reduction process of raku with the assistance of the instructor. Bring up to 3 items to raku fire made from WS 5, WSO, Soldate 60 or other grogged, white clay body, hand built or wheel thrown, which has been bisqued and glazed with raku glazes found in glaze room. They can be flat items rather than three dimensional. Weld any seams thoroughly to avoid cracking. Kiln space is limited, so avoid wide items or limit yourself to one.*

*Safety requirements will be reviewed at each firing. Bold beginners are welcome.*

*Proper dress required: long sleeves, long pants (all natural fiber), closed toe shoes, hat or scarf over hair.*

**Basic Clay: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Sherri Singer, 651-428-5368

Sherrisinger@hotmail.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: February 2 (3 - 4:30 pm), 9 (Noon - 3 pm), 16 and 23 (3 - 6 pm), 2026 (includes orientation/ monitor training and hands on learning using clay).*

*Please note the various times for each class.*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

*Course Fee: \$60*

*Description:*

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

*Participants will learn:*

*Studio protocols*

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

*Use of studio equipment:*

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

*Construct simple hand built pieces:*

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

**Handbuilding II: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of sessions: Three 3-hour classes*

*Course Fee: \$60.00*

*Description:*

*Class will introduce more advanced handbuilding construction techniques, and introduce recovery techniques for clay and glazing.*

*Participants will learn:*

- complex construction methods using multiple seams, and larger slabs
- how to bevel and blend seams
- methods for embellishing pieces with texture, add ons, feet and handles
- techniques for repairing cracks, and trouble shooting possible construction and drying issues
- tips to level a piece
- various glazing and staining tips, and discuss reglazing techniques

*Class 1*

*Review studio protocols and cleaning expectations*

*Using Hump and Slump molds: instruction and demo*

*Brief discussion on sprigging, texture and adding handles and/or feet*

*Create bowl using hump or slump method*

*Class 2*

*Slab building discussion*

*Review techniques for closing seams*

*Construct a bird house using templates and texture*

*Class 3*

*Discuss glazing techniques by exploring application options, glaze combinations, record keeping, reglazing*

*Discuss use of stains to enhance pieces*

*Glaze pieces made in class*

*Materials:*

*Basic clay tools*

*B-Mix with Grog Clay or Speckled Buff*

*Texture Tools if you have any*

*Highly Desired: purchase bevel cutting tool*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level/Pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Number of students: Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

February 3, 2026

**The Wow of Glazing: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

06:00 PM - 09:00 PM MT

Brian Marx, 608 732-0429

marxtaxidermy@gmail.com

*Date and Time: Feb 3 and 5, 2026; 6:00-9:00*

*Number of Sessions: 2, three hour classes*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Description:*

*Session 1 is a lecture, question/answer format. The instructor will discuss glazing methods, glaze make up, glaze room etiquette, special effects and glazing mishaps. Numerous examples of glaze combinations will be shown.*

*The second session is a follow-up to the lecture. In this second session, students will bring three or four bisque-fired pieces for glazing with the assistance of the instructor. Each student will discuss with the instructor's input what they would like for a final glaze look, then will glaze the pieces. Students will record glazes and techniques used, then will critique the results with the instructor.*

*Participants will learn:*

- glazing science (limited)
- glazing combinations
- glazing techniques and aesthetics

February 4, 2026

**Wheel 2: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: February 4, 6, 11, and 13, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

February 4, 2026

**Large Textured Vase: February 2026**

**GCA Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Large Textured Vase*

*Date and Time:* February 4 and 11, 2026

*Number of Sessions:* Two three-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$40.00

*Description:*

*Participants will create large vase. The intent is to texturize part of it, and learn to work with large slab construction. Focus will be on structure and learning seam binding for a large piece. Firing will be on your own, but glazing, staining and finishing will be discussed during class.*

*Participants will learn:*

- techniques for using texture
- proper slip and binding for seams, various seam options will be explored
- how to manage large slab construction to avoid cracking and warping

*Materials:*

*Clay of choice (more than one, if desired)*

*Basic clay tools*

*Texture tools if you have them (additional texture tools available in the studio and provided by instructor)*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Intermediate*

*Minimum/Maximum Participants 3 Minimum, 8 Maximum*

**Skyline Bowl: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Skyline Bowl:*

*Date and Time:* February 5, 6 and 19, 2026

*Number of Sessions:* Three, 3, hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$60.00

*Description:*

*Take a memory photograph from a trip or event in your life and create a decorative bowl from it! First you will create a slump bowl. Then using a photo from your special experience we will discuss design. Your photo can be used in totality or in part, or stylized to create the visual. This will be transferred onto the bowl. You will be taught decorative rim techniques and finish the piece with stain and/ or underglazes.*

*Class 1:*

- create the bowl
- transfer the photo onto the bowl
- decorate the rim
- firm up to leather hard

*Class 2:*

- decorate the bowl with carving and/or bas relief

*Class 3:*

- stain, underglaze, then dry bisque piece to prepare for firing

*Participants will learn:*

- how to trace image onto piece
- decorative lip techniques
- carving and bas relief
- finishing techniques on leatherhard or bisque ware

*Materials:*

*Clay of Choice*

*Basic Clay tools*

*Carving tools*

*Participants own picture(s)*

*Reference photos (some will be on hand from instructor)*

*Class information:*

*Skill level, pre-requisites: Bold beginner (can be relatively new to Clay if not afraid to try new things)*

*Minimum/ maximum: Minimum = 3; Maximum = 8*

**The Wow of Glazing: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

06:00 PM - 09:00 PM MT

Brian Marx, 608 732-0429

marxtaxidermy@gmail.com

*Date and Time: Feb 3 and 5, 2026; 6:00-9:00*

*Number of Sessions: 2, three hour classes*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Description:*

*Session 1 is a lecture, question/answer format. The instructor will discuss glazing methods, glaze make up, glaze room etiquette, special effects and glazing mishaps. Numerous examples of glaze combinations will be shown.*

*The second session is a follow-up to the lecture. In this second session, students will bring three or four bisque-fired pieces for glazing with the assistance of the instructor. Each student will discuss with the instructor's input what they would like for a final glaze look, then will glaze the pieces. Students will record glazes and techniques used, then will critique the results with the instructor.*

*Participants will learn:*

- glazing science (limited)
- glazing combinations
- glazing techniques and aesthetics

February 6, 2026

**Wheel 2: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: February 4, 6, 11, and 13, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Skyline Bowl: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Skyline Bowl:*

*Date and Time:* February 5, 6 and 19, 2026

*Number of Sessions:* Three, 3, hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$60.00

*Description:*

*Take a memory photograph from a trip or event in your life and create a decorative bowl from it! First you will create a slump bowl. Then using a photo from your special experience we will discuss design. Your photo can be used in totality or in part, or stylized to create the visual. This will be transferred onto the bowl. You will be taught decorative rim techniques and finish the piece with stain and/ or underglazes.*

*Class 1:*

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- transfer the photo onto the bowl
- decorate the rim
- firm up to leather hard

*Class 2:*

- decorate the bowl with carving and/or bas relief

*Class 3:*

- stain, underglaze, then dry bisque piece to prepare for firing

*Participants will learn:*

- how to trace image onto piece
- decorative lip techniques
- carving and bas relief
- finishing techniques on leatherhard or bisque ware

*Materials:*

*Clay of Choice*

*Basic Clay tools*

*Carving tools*

*Participants own picture(s)*

*Reference photos (some will be on hand from instructor)*

*Class information:*

*Skill level, pre-requisites: Bold beginner (can be relatively new to Clay if not afraid to try new things)*

*Minimum/ maximum: Minimum = 3; Maximum = 8*

February 8, 2026

**Raku/Horsehair Firing: February 2026**

**Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Raku/Horsehair Firing*

*Class Fee: \$20.00*

*Date and Time: February 8, 2026. 8:00 AM- 11:00 AM*

*Participants will experience firing their own pieces using the reduction process of raku with the assistance of the instructor. Bring up to 3 items to raku fire made from WS 5, WSO, Soldate 60 or other grogged, white clay body, hand built or wheel thrown, which has been bisqued and glazed with raku glazes found in glaze room. They can be flat items rather than three dimensional. Weld any seams thoroughly to avoid cracking. Kiln space is limited, so avoid wide items or limit yourself to one.*

*Safety requirements will be reviewed at each firing. Bold beginners are welcome.*

*Proper dress required: long sleeves, long pants (all natural fiber), closed toe shoes, hat or scarf over hair.*

**Basic Clay: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Sherri Singer, 651-428-5368

Sherrisinger@hotmail.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: February 2 (3 - 4:30 pm), 9 (Noon - 3 pm), 16 and 23 (3 - 6 pm), 2026 (includes orientation/ monitor training and hands on learning using clay).*

*Please note the various times for each class.*

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*Course Fee: \$60*

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1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
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- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

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- techniques for repairing cracks, and trouble shooting possible construction and drying issues
- tips to level a piece
- various glazing and staining tips, and discuss reglazing techniques

*Class 1*

*Review studio protocols and cleaning expectations*

*Using Hump and Slump molds: instruction and demo*

*Brief discussion on sprigging, texture and adding handles and/or feet*

*Create bowl using hump or slump method*

*Class 2*

*Slab building discussion*

*Review techniques for closing seams*

*Construct a bird house using templates and texture*

*Class 3*

*Discuss glazing techniques by exploring application options, glaze combinations, record keeping, reglazing*

*Discuss use of stains to enhance pieces*

*Glaze pieces made in class*

*Materials:*

*Basic clay tools*

*B-Mix with Grog Clay or Speckled Buff*

*Texture Tools if you have any*

*Highly Desired: purchase bevel cutting tool*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level/Pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Number of students: Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

February 11, 2026

**Wheel 2: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: February 4, 6, 11, and 13, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

February 11, 2026

**Large Textured Vase: February 2026**

**GCA Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Large Textured Vase*

*Date and Time:* February 4 and 11, 2026

*Number of Sessions:* Two three-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$40.00

*Description:*

*Participants will create large vase. The intent is to texturize part of it, and learn to work with large slab construction. Focus will be on structure and learning seam binding for a large piece. Firing will be on your own, but glazing, staining and finishing will be discussed during class.*

*Participants will learn:*

- techniques for using texture
- proper slip and binding for seams, various seam options will be explored
- how to manage large slab construction to avoid cracking and warping

*Materials:*

*Clay of choice (more than one, if desired)*

*Basic clay tools*

*Texture tools if you have them (additional texture tools available in the studio and provided by instructor)*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Intermediate*

*Minimum/Maximum Participants 3 Minimum, 8 Maximum*

February 12, 2026

**Pitcher Perfect: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Debby Luchetti, 815-670-3388

Debbyluchetti@aol.com

*Pitcher Perfect*

*Date and Time:* February 12, 2026

*Number of Sessions:* One, three hour session

*Course Fee:* \$20

*Description:*

*Handbuild a small or medium sized pitcher with a handle. These unique pieces are both decorative and functional. Glazing and finishing techniques will be discussed, but completed on your own.*

*Participants will learn:*

- techniques for working with semi-soft slabs of clay
- how to create and use a template
- how to affix a bottom and handle to projects

?

*Materials:*

- Plastic placement for making template (can be purchased at Dollar Store)
- Texture tools (some available in studio)
- Fresh clay (clay body of participant choice)
- Handbuilding tools

*Class Information:*

*Skill level:* Beginner

*Number of Participants:* Minimum = 3. Maximum = 8

**Wheel 2: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: February 4, 6, 11, and 13, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Columns and Bottles: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

3:00-6:00PM

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Columns & Bottles:*

*Date and time:* Feb 13 and 20, 2026, 3:00-6:00

*Number of Sessions:* Two three-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$40.00

*Description:*

*Using dowels, students will learn to make seamless tubes and create a small tube project and one taller column, all with surface decoration and top and bottom treatments. Students will also have the opportunity to create a tube project of their choice: abstract sculpture, container or figure.*

*Students will learn:*

- seamless tube construction methodology

*Materials:*

*Sturdy clay body*

*Set of 24" length dowels ( some dowels available in studio)*

*1/2 inch*

*3/4 inch (7/8 inch will also work instead of 3/4 inch)*

*1-1/2 inch*

*1-3/4 inch (2 inch will also work instead of 1-3/4 inch)*

*NOTE: Dowels may be purchased at Home Depot or Lowes in 48 inch lengths they will cut in half to 24 inches, so share with a friend*

*Textured fabrics: corduroy, lace, veggie net bag, etc.*

*Work mat*

*5x5 inch ware board with paper*

*Sketches, photos or ideas*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Intermediate*

*Number of Students: 3 minimum, 8 maximum*

February 15, 2026

**David Bradley Demonstration (guest artist)**

**Raku patio**

01:00 PM - 03:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 6164608458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*David Bradley Demonstration*

*Date and Time: February 15, 1:00-3:00*

*Number of Sessions: 1*

*Course Fee: \$10.00*

*Description:*

*David Bradley will demonstrate use of his stainless steel rib. Chairs will be set up on the Raku patio and his ribs will be available for purchase.*

*Class Information:*

*This is a demonstration class*

**Basic Clay: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Sherri Singer, 651-428-5368

Sherrisinger@hotmail.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: February 2 (3 - 4:30 pm), 9 (Noon - 3 pm), 16 and 23 (3 - 6 pm), 2026 (includes orientation/ monitor training and hands on learning using clay).*

*Please note the various times for each class.*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

*Course Fee: \$60*

*Description:*

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

*Participants will learn:*

*Studio protocols*

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

*Use of studio equipment:*

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

*Construct simple hand built pieces:*

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

**CANCELED. Wheel 3: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Jim Perez-Wood, 415-994-8634

Jameswood6688@gmail.com

*Wheel 3*

*Number of sessions: Four, three hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Dates and times: February 16, 18, 23 and 25, 2026*

*Description:*

*This class will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to advance their throwing and shaping techniques for making larger and taller forms. Participants should be able to throw using up to 3 pounds of clay prior to taking this class. This class focuses on different shapes, complexity and creativity of pieces. Highly recommend completion of Wheel 1 and 2 or have equivalent skills.*

*Participants will learn:*

- how to use specific hand positions and tools*
- techniques for forming shapes*
- how to use increasing amounts of clay to throw (3 pounds and greater)*
- trimming a foot*
- pulling mug handles*
- using griffin grip*
- using different surface treatments*
- other skills as determined by instructor*

*Upon completion participants should be able to make medium sized vases and bowls, tall cylinders.*

*Materials:*

*Clay, pin tool, ribs, cutters, and other tools as requested/ suggested by instructor during class.*

*Class Information:*

- Skill level: Competent skill level associated with Wheel 2*
- Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 as determined by instructor.*

**Handbuilding II: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of sessions: Three 3-hour classes*

*Course Fee: \$60.00*

*Description:*

*Class will introduce more advanced handbuilding construction techniques, and introduce recovery techniques for clay and glazing.*

*Participants will learn:*

- complex construction methods using multiple seams, and larger slabs
- how to bevel and blend seams
- methods for embellishing pieces with texture, add ons, feet and handles
- techniques for repairing cracks, and trouble shooting possible construction and drying issues
- tips to level a piece
- various glazing and staining tips, and discuss reglazing techniques

*Class 1*

*Review studio protocols and cleaning expectations*

*Using Hump and Slump molds: instruction and demo*

*Brief discussion on sprigging, texture and adding handles and/or feet*

*Create bowl using hump or slump method*

*Class 2*

*Slab building discussion*

*Review techniques for closing seams*

*Construct a bird house using templates and texture*

*Class 3*

*Discuss glazing techniques by exploring application options, glaze combinations, record keeping, reglazing*

*Discuss use of stains to enhance pieces*

*Glaze pieces made in class*

*Materials:*

*Basic clay tools*

*B-Mix with Grog Clay or Speckled Buff*

*Texture Tools if you have any*

*Highly Desired: purchase bevel cutting tool*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level/Pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Number of students: Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

February 17, 2026

**10 Minute Plate: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*10 Minute Plate*

*Date and Time: February 17, 2026, 3:00 - 6:00*

*Number of Sessions: 1*

*Course Fee: \$20.00*

*Description:*

*Participants will learn two different methods of making a plate. The wheel will be used as a tool to speed up the process. Wheel experience is not required.*

*Materials:*

*Two, three pound balls of clay, any clay body is acceptable.*

*Pin tool*

*Firm rubber rib ( the yellow ribs are ideal)*

*Narrow 1 inch texture rollers. If you have them*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level: beginner*

*Minimum 3, Maximum 8*

**CANCELED. Wheel 3: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Jim Perez-Wood, 415-994-8634

Jameswood6688@gmail.com

*Wheel 3*

*Number of sessions: Four, three hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Dates and times: February 16, 18, 23 and 25, 2026*

*Description:*

*This class will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to advance their throwing and shaping techniques for making larger and taller forms. Participants should be able to throw using up to 3 pounds of clay prior to taking this class. This class focuses on different shapes, complexity and creativity of pieces. Highly recommend completion of Wheel 1 and 2 or have equivalent skills.*

*Participants will learn:*

- how to use specific hand positions and tools*
- techniques for forming shapes*
- how to use increasing amounts of clay to throw (3 pounds and greater)*
- trimming a foot*
- pulling mug handles*
- using griffin grip*
- using different surface treatments*
- other skills as determined by instructor*

*Upon completion participants should be able to make medium sized vases and bowls, tall cylinders.*

*Materials:*

*Clay, pin tool, ribs, cutters, and other tools as requested/ suggested by instructor during class.*

*Class Information:*

- Skill level: Competent skill level associated with Wheel 2*
- Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 as determined by instructor.*

**Textural Abstract Wall Hanging: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Pat O'Brien, 5133741429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of Sessions: Two three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Dates and Time: February 18 and 25, 2026 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Description:*

*Participants will create a textural wall hanging from their design, combining texture and pattern by cutting and attaching clay elements that may be made from different colors of clay. Students will design and utilize a mounting technique for their wall hanging. Underglaze will be used as the colorant along with stain to highlight the texture. Project will be created through underglaze application; bisque firing, staining and cone 5 firing will be on your own.*

*Participants will learn:*

- techniques for using texture and add on pieces using slip techniques
- manage large hump/ slump pieces to avoid cracking and warping

*Materials:*

*Clay of choice (more than one, if desired)*

*Three different colors of student-provided underglazes*

*Basic clay tools*

*Texture tools if you have them (additional texture tools available in the studio and provided by instructor)*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum/Maximum Participants 3 Minimum, 8 Maximum*

**Skyline Bowl: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Skyline Bowl:*

*Date and Time:* February 5, 6 and 19, 2026

*Number of Sessions:* Three, 3, hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$60.00

*Description:*

*Take a memory photograph from a trip or event in your life and create a decorative bowl from it! First you will create a slump bowl. Then using a photo from your special experience we will discuss design. Your photo can be used in totality or in part, or stylized to create the visual. This will be transferred onto the bowl. You will be taught decorative rim techniques and finish the piece with stain and/ or underglazes.*

*Class 1:*

- create the bowl
- transfer the photo onto the bowl
- decorate the rim
- firm up to leather hard

*Class 2:*

- decorate the bowl with carving and/or bas relief

*Class 3:*

- stain, underglaze, then dry bisque piece to prepare for firing

*Participants will learn:*

- how to trace image onto piece
- decorative lip techniques
- carving and bas relief
- finishing techniques on leatherhard or bisque ware

*Materials:*

*Clay of Choice*

*Basic Clay tools*

*Carving tools*

*Participants own picture(s)*

*Reference photos (some will be on hand from instructor)*

*Class information:*

*Skill level, pre-requisites: Bold beginner (can be relatively new to Clay if not afraid to try new things)*

*Minimum/ maximum: Minimum = 3; Maximum = 8*

**Columns and Bottles: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

3:00-6:00PM

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Columns & Bottles:*

*Date and time:* Feb 13 and 20, 2026, 3:00-6:00

*Number of Sessions:* Two three-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$40.00

*Description:*

*Using dowels, students will learn to make seamless tubes and create a small tube project and one taller column, all with surface decoration and top and bottom treatments. Students will also have the opportunity to create a tube project of their choice: abstract sculpture, container or figure.*

*Students will learn:*

- seamless tube construction methodology

*Materials:*

*Sturdy clay body*

*Set of 24" length dowels ( some dowels available in studio)*

*1/2 inch*

*3/4 inch (7/8 inch will also work instead of 3/4 inch)*

*1-1/2 inch*

*1-3/4 inch (2 inch will also work instead of 1-3/4 inch)*

*NOTE: Dowels may be purchased at Home Depot or Lowes in 48 inch lengths they will cut in half to 24 inches, so share with a friend*

*Textured fabrics: corduroy, lace, veggie net bag, etc.*

*Work mat*

*5x5 inch ware board with paper*

*Sketches, photos or ideas*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Intermediate*

*Number of Students: 3 minimum, 8 maximum*

February 21, 2026

**Alternative Fire - Experimental Saggar Feb 21 Prep Day (3-5p.m.) Feb 22, 2026 Firing day8-11A**

**GCA Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Number of Sessions: 2 ( one prep, one fire)*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Date and Time: Feb 21 Prep 3-5, - Feb 22 fire, 2026; 8:00-11:00*

*Description:*

*This session will have some experimental aspects!!! Saggar firing is a technique where a piece of pottery is wrapped in foil (Saggar) with chemicals and combustible materials. They are then placed in a kiln and slowly fired to about 1350 degrees F. Aluminum foil is used to create the saggars. The pottery requires smooth surfaces as well as a cooler bisque firing prior to the Saggar fire. Instructor will arrange for this special, cooler firing before prep day.*

*Materials:*

- students should have 3 reasonably sized pieces using Bmix clay*
- students will apply "may" terra sig to their greenware. Demo available as needed. Finished greenware will be placed on window ledge with yellow firing slips labeled Saggar.*
- on prep day, students will wear old clothes and shoes. Gloves and a mask will be worn while using chemicals.*
- On firing day students wear close toed shoes and cotton or wool clothing and cover hair, wear glasses. Safety issues will be reviewed.*
- Fired work will be finished with paste wax or Deft satin spray.*
- Both fire and glaze stickers are required.*

*Participants will learn:*

- the Saggar alternative fire process*

*Class information:*

- Students with no previous alternative fire experience should make an appointment with the instructor or take an alternative fire mini lecture.*
- Number of students: minimum 3, maximum 6*

February 22, 2026

**Alternative Fire - Experimental Saggar Feb 21 Prep Day (3-5p.m.) Feb 22, 2026 Firing day8-11A**

**GCA Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Number of Sessions: 2 ( one prep, one fire)*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Date and Time: Feb 21 Prep 3-5, - Feb 22 fire, 2026; 8:00-11:00*

*Description:*

*This session will have some experimental aspects!!! Saggar firing is a technique where a piece of pottery is wrapped in foil (Saggar) with chemicals and combustible materials. They are then placed in a kiln and slowly fired to about 1350 degrees F. Aluminum foil is used to create the saggars. The pottery requires smooth surfaces as well as a cooler bisque firing prior to the Saggar fire. Instructor will arrange for this special, cooler firing before prep day.*

*Materials:*

- students should have 3 reasonably sized pieces using Bmix clay*
- students will apply "may" terra sig to their greenware. Demo available as needed. Finished greenware will be placed on window ledge with yellow firing slips labeled Saggar.*
- on prep day, students will wear old clothes and shoes. Gloves and a mask will be worn while using chemicals.*
- On firing day students wear close toed shoes and cotton or wool clothing and cover hair, wear glasses. Safety issues will be reviewed.*
- Fired work will be finished with paste wax or Deft satin spray.*
- Both fire and glaze stickers are required.*

*Participants will learn:*

- the Saggar alternative fire process*

*Class information:*

- Students with no previous alternative fire experience should make an appointment with the instructor or take an alternative fire mini lecture.*
- Number of students: minimum 3, maximum 6*

**Basic Clay: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Sherri Singer, 651-428-5368

Sherrisinger@hotmail.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: February 2 (3 - 4:30 pm), 9 (Noon - 3 pm), 16 and 23 (3 - 6 pm), 2026 (includes orientation/ monitor training and hands on learning using clay).*

*Please note the various times for each class.*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

*Course Fee: \$60*

*Description:*

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

*Participants will learn:*

*Studio protocols*

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

*Use of studio equipment:*

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

*Construct simple hand built pieces:*

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

**CANCELED. Wheel 3: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Jim Perez-Wood, 415-994-8634

Jameswood6688@gmail.com

*Wheel 3*

*Number of sessions: Four, three hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Dates and times: February 16, 18, 23 and 25, 2026*

*Description:*

*This class will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to advance their throwing and shaping techniques for making larger and taller forms. Participants should be able to throw using up to 3 pounds of clay prior to taking this class. This class focuses on different shapes, complexity and creativity of pieces. Highly recommend completion of Wheel 1 and 2 or have equivalent skills.*

*Participants will learn:*

- how to use specific hand positions and tools*
- techniques for forming shapes*
- how to use increasing amounts of clay to throw (3 pounds and greater)*
- trimming a foot*
- pulling mug handles*
- using griffin grip*
- using different surface treatments*
- other skills as determined by instructor*

*Upon completion participants should be able to make medium sized vases and bowls, tall cylinders.*

*Materials:*

*Clay, pin tool, ribs, cutters, and other tools as requested/ suggested by instructor during class.*

*Class Information:*

- Skill level: Competent skill level associated with Wheel 2*
- Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 as determined by instructor.*

February 24, 2026

**Puzzle Pots: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Patti Jones, 406-360-6463

pattiajones@msn.com

*Puzzle Pots*

*Date and Times:* February 24, 2026. 3 - 6 PM

*Number of Sessions:* One 3 Hour Session

*Course Fee:* \$20.00

*Description:*

*Using two-piece molds (available in the studio or from instructor), students will create pots utilizing various shaped clay slabs or coils. This is a "puzzling" project, just how do you make a pot inside a hollow form? Learn the secrets and have lots of fun.*

*Participants will learn:*

- to construct using a tool called a *Puzzle Pot* form

*Materials:*

*Clay of choice*

*Small powerful flashlight*

*Texture tools*

*Clay cutter (harp)*

*Small rubber ball on a stick (some will be available at the class)*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimum 3 Maximum 6*

**CANCELED. Wheel 3: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Jim Perez-Wood, 415-994-8634

Jameswood6688@gmail.com

*Wheel 3*

*Number of sessions: Four, three hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Dates and times: February 16, 18, 23 and 25, 2026*

*Description:*

*This class will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to advance their throwing and shaping techniques for making larger and taller forms. Participants should be able to throw using up to 3 pounds of clay prior to taking this class. This class focuses on different shapes, complexity and creativity of pieces. Highly recommend completion of Wheel 1 and 2 or have equivalent skills.*

*Participants will learn:*

- how to use specific hand positions and tools*
- techniques for forming shapes*
- how to use increasing amounts of clay to throw (3 pounds and greater)*
- trimming a foot*
- pulling mug handles*
- using griffin grip*
- using different surface treatments*
- other skills as determined by instructor*

*Upon completion participants should be able to make medium sized vases and bowls, tall cylinders.*

*Materials:*

*Clay, pin tool, ribs, cutters, and other tools as requested/ suggested by instructor during class.*

*Class Information:*

- Skill level: Competent skill level associated with Wheel 2*
- Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 as determined by instructor.*

**Textural Abstract Wall Hanging: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Pat O'Brien, 5133741429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of Sessions: Two three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Dates and Time: February 18 and 25, 2026 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Description:*

*Participants will create a textural wall hanging from their design, combining texture and pattern by cutting and attaching clay elements that may be made from different colors of clay. Students will design and utilize a mounting technique for their wall hanging. Underglaze will be used as the colorant along with stain to highlight the texture. Project will be created through underglaze application; bisque firing, staining and cone 5 firing will be on your own.*

*Participants will learn:*

- techniques for using texture and add on pieces using slip techniques
- manage large hump/ slump pieces to avoid cracking and warping

*Materials:*

*Clay of choice (more than one, if desired)*

*Three different colors of student-provided underglazes*

*Basic clay tools*

*Texture tools if you have them (additional texture tools available in the studio and provided by instructor)*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum/Maximum Participants 3 Minimum, 8 Maximum*

February 26, 2026

**Pitcher Perfect: February 26, 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Debby Luchetti, 815-670-3388

Debbyluchetti@aol.com

*Pitcher Perfect*

*Date and Time:* February 26, 2026

*Number of Sessions:* One, three hour session

*Course Fee:* \$20

*Description:*

*Handbuild a small or medium sized pitcher with a handle. These unique pieces are both decorative and functional. Glazing and finishing techniques will be discussed, but completed on your own.*

*Participants will learn:*

- techniques for working with semi-soft slabs of clay
- how to create and use a template
- how to affix a bottom and handle to projects

?

*Materials:*

- Plastic placement for making template (can be purchased at Dollar Store)
- Texture tools (some available in studio)
- Fresh clay (clay body of participant choice)
- Handbuilding tools

*Class Information:*

*Skill level:* Beginner

*Number of Participants:* Minimum = 3. Maximum = 8

February 27, 2026

**Basic Glaze: February 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Cyndi Swintek, 734-718-3304

cynelf20@yahoo.com

*Basic Glaze*

*Date and Time:* February 27, 2026. 3 - 6 PM

*Number of Sessions:* One 3 Hour Session

*Course Fee:* \$20

*Description:*

*Learn the basics of glazing bisque ware, techniques and some of the do's and don'ts.*

*Both dipping and brushing glazes will be demonstrated. You will also learn how to reglaze a piece. By the end of the class, you should feel comfortable glazing your work.*

*Participants will learn:*

- dipping techniques
- brush on glazing techniques
- reglazing process (glazing over a piece that is already glazed)
- proper clean up of glaze on piece and in the glaze room

*Materials:*

*Bring two bisque fired pieces*

*Wax Resist*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner - Must have taken Basic Clay Class*

*Number of Students - Minimum 3 Maximum 5*

March 1, 2026

**Raku/Horsehair Firing: March 2026**

**Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Raku/Horsehair Firing*

*Class Fee: \$20.00*

*Date and Time: March 1, 2026. 8:00 AM- 11:00 AM*

*Participants will experience firing their own pieces using the reduction process of raku with the assistance of the instructor. Bring up to 3 items to raku fire made from WS 5, WSO, Soldate 60 or other grogged, white clay body, hand built or wheel thrown, which has been bisqued and glazed with raku glazes found in glaze room. They can be flat items rather than three dimensional. Weld any seams thoroughly to avoid cracking. Kiln space is limited, so avoid wide items or limit yourself to one.*

*Safety requirements will be reviewed at each firing. Bold beginners are welcome.*

*Proper dress required: long sleeves, long pants (all natural fiber), closed toe shoes, hat or scarf over hair.*

**Handbuilding II: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of Sessions: Three three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$60.00*

*Dates and Time: March 2, 9, and 16, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00PM*

*Description:*

*Class will introduce more advanced handbuilding construction techniques, and introduce recovery techniques for clay and glazing.*

*Participants will learn:*

- complex construction methods using multiple seams, and larger slabs
- how to bevel and blend seams
- methods for embellishing pieces with texture, add ons, feet and handles
- techniques for repairing cracks, and trouble shooting possible construction and drying issues
- tips to level a pieces
- various glazing and staining tips, and discuss reglazing techniques

**Class 1**

*Review studio protocols and cleaning expectations*

*Using Hump and Slump molds: instruction and demo*

*Brief discussion on sprigging, texture and adding handles and/or feet*

*Create bowl using hump or slump method*

**Class 2**

*Slab building discussion*

*Review techniques for closing seams*

*Construct a bird house using templates and texture*

**Class 3**

*Discuss glazing techniques by exploring application options, glaze combinations, record keeping, reglazing*

*Discuss use of stains to enhance pieces*

*Glaze pieces made in class*

*Materials:*

*Basic clay tools*

*B-Mix with Grog Clay or Speckled Buff*

*Texture Tools if you have any*

*Highly Desired: purchase bevel cutting tool*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level/Pre-requisites: Beginner/ Basic Clay Class  
Number of students: Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

March 4, 2026

**Abstract Image Transfer on Tile: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time: March 4 and 5, 2026*

*Number of Sessions: Two sessions: session 1 is 1 hour, session 2 is 3-hours*

*Course Fee: \$45.00 ( includes cost of materials)*

*Description:*

*Have you ever wanted to make a tile for use in your home or to decorate a piece of furniture. Here's your opportunity to learn a technique and make a tile. The class will use a transfer process of your image or selected from one provided by the instructor. You will also make your own tiles.*

*Class 1: (approximately 1 hour)*

- make your own horsehair brush*
- Wrap with wire ( optional) wrap with colored floss*

*Class 2:*

- cut tile from slab*
- on newsprint practice loose abstract paint technique using new horsehair brush with underglaze*
- outline with deco bottle and black underglaze*

*Participants will learn:*

- how to make a horsehair paintbrush*
- image transfer process*
- abstract lines and shapes using underglaze*

*( pic)*

*Materials:*

*Clay*

*Basic Clay tools*

*Underglazes, and instructor will have some available too*

*Small deco bottle with small tip for black underglaze*

*Class information:*

*Skill level, pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum/ maximum: Minimum = 3; Maximum = 8*

**Wheel 1: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

Dianeniehoff@yahoo.com

*Wheel 1*

*Date and Time:* *Monday, March 4, 6, 11 and 13, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of sessions:* *Four 3-hour sessions*

*Course Fee:* *\$65.00*

*Description:*

*This course will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to learn how to create pottery using the wheel. Instruction will focus on the following skills and the end product will be throwing a 3" - 4" cylinder.*

*Students will learn the fundamentals of throwing:*

*Learn the mechanics of centering, opening, pulling.*

*Cutting off a wheel or bat.*

*Cutting of an uneven top.*

*Finishing bottom.*

*Wedging.*

*Learn the hand and body positions needed in throwing.*

*Learn to throw cylinders.*

*Learn to trim pieces after they reach leather hard.*

*Reclaiming clay.*

*Learn other skills as determined by the instructor.*

*Materials:*

*The instructor will provide a recommended list of tools/clay which may include but is not limited to the following:*

*Small sponge, wood or rubber rib, cutting wire, needle tool, trimming tools, container for water, and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Abstract Image Transfer on Tile: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time: March 4 and 5, 2026*

*Number of Sessions: Two sessions: session 1 is 1 hour, session 2 is 3-hours*

*Course Fee: \$45.00 ( includes cost of materials)*

**Description:**

*Have you ever wanted to make a tile for use in your home or to decorate a piece of furniture. Here's your opportunity to learn a technique and make a tile. The class will use a transfer process of your image or selected from one provided by the instructor. You will also make your own tiles.*

**Class 1: (approximately 1 hour)**

- make your own horsehair brush
- Wrap with wire (optional) wrap with colored floss

**Class 2:**

- cut tile from slab
- on newsprint practice loose abstract paint technique using new horsehair brush with underglaze
- outline with deco bottle and black underglaze

**Participants will learn:**

- how to make a horsehair paintbrush
- image transfer process
- abstract lines and shapes using underglaze

(pic)

**Materials:**

*Clay*

*Basic Clay tools*

*Underglazes, and instructor will have some available too*

*Small deco bottle with small tip for black underglaze*

**Class information:**

*Skill level, pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum/ maximum: Minimum = 3; Maximum = 8*

**Wheel 1: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

Dianeniehoff@yahoo.com

*Wheel 1*

*Date and Time:* *Monday, March 4, 6, 11 and 13, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of sessions:* *Four 3-hour sessions*

*Course Fee:* *\$65.00*

*Description:*

*This course will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to learn how to create pottery using the wheel. Instruction will focus on the following skills and the end product will be throwing a 3" - 4" cylinder.*

*Students will learn the fundamentals of throwing:*

*Learn the mechanics of centering, opening, pulling.*

*Cutting off a wheel or bat.*

*Cutting of an uneven top.*

*Finishing bottom.*

*Wedging.*

*Learn the hand and body positions needed in throwing.*

*Learn to throw cylinders.*

*Learn to trim pieces after they reach leather hard.*

*Reclaiming clay.*

*Learn other skills as determined by the instructor.*

*Materials:*

*The instructor will provide a recommended list of tools/clay which may include but is not limited to the following:*

*Small sponge, wood or rubber rib, cutting wire, needle tool, trimming tools, container for water, and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Basic Clay: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Cindi Swintek, 734-718-3304

Cyneif20@yahoo.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: March 6, (3 - 4:30), 10, 20 and 27 (3 - 6:00), 2026*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

*3:00 - 6:00 p.m. with the exception of the first day.*

**Course Fee: \$60**

**Description:**

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

**Participants will learn:**

**Studio protocols**

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

**Use of studio equipment:**

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

**Construct simple hand built pieces:**

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

March 8, 2026

**Raku/Horsehair Firing: March 2026**

**Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Raku/Horsehair Firing*

*Class Fee: \$20.00*

*Date and Time: March 8, 2026. 8:00 AM- 11:00 AM*

*Participants will experience firing their own pieces using the reduction process of raku with the assistance of the instructor. Bring up to 3 items to raku fire made from WS 5, WSO, Soldate 60 or other grogged, white clay body, hand built or wheel thrown, which has been bisqued and glazed with raku glazes found in glaze room. They can be flat items rather than three dimensional. Weld any seams thoroughly to avoid cracking. Kiln space is limited, so avoid wide items or limit yourself to one.*

*Safety requirements will be reviewed at each firing. Bold beginners are welcome.*

*Proper dress required: long sleeves, long pants (all natural fiber), closed toe shoes, hat or scarf over hair.*

March 9, 2026

## **Handbuilding II: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of Sessions: Three three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$60.00*

*Dates and Time: March 2, 9, and 16, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00PM*

### *Description:*

*Class will introduce more advanced handbuilding construction techniques, and introduce recovery techniques for clay and glazing.*

*Participants will learn:*

- complex construction methods using multiple seams, and larger slabs
- how to bevel and blend seams
- methods for embellishing pieces with texture, add ons, feet and handles
- techniques for repairing cracks, and trouble shooting possible construction and drying issues
- tips to level a pieces
- various glazing and staining tips, and discuss reglazing techniques

### *Class 1*

*Review studio protocols and cleaning expectations*

*Using Hump and Slump molds: instruction and demo*

*Brief discussion on sprigging, texture and adding handles and/or feet*

*Create bowl using hump or slump method*

### *Class 2*

*Slab building discussion*

*Review techniques for closing seams*

*Construct a bird house using templates and texture*

### *Class 3*

*Discuss glazing techniques by exploring application options, glaze combinations, record keeping, reglazing*

*Discuss use of stains to enhance pieces*

*Glaze pieces made in class*

### *Materials:*

*Basic clay tools*

*B-Mix with Grog Clay or Speckled Buff*

*Texture Tools if you have any*

*Highly Desired: purchase bevel cutting tool*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level/Pre-requisites: Beginner/ Basic Clay Class  
Number of students: Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

March 9, 2026

**Wheel Independent Study: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Jim Perez-Wood, 415-994-8634

Jameswood6688@gmail.com

*Wheel Independent Study*

*Number of Sessions: One, three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$20.00*

*Dates and time: March 9, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Description:*

*LIMITED TO THOSE WHO COMPLETED WHEEL 3, or have equivalent skill set as determined by instructor.*

*This class will provide hands on guidance to students who wish to create wheel thrown pieces of their own choosing. Participants will work independently on projects of their own choice to execute the project or improve skills. Upon completion, participants should be able to execute the piece they select.*

*Project examples (but not limited to):*

- throwing specific pieces such as a French Butter Dish, Oila, moon jar, or pieces suitable for alternative firing processes
- producing lids
- "rescuing" a failing form
- combining multiple thrown pieces into a single form

*This class is intended to help those who are competent at the Wheel 3 level continue to advance.*

*Pre-requisite:*

*Participants must submit to the instructor desired project at least ONE WEEK prior to the class.*

*Materials:*

*Students come prepared with their project.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level: Advanced (must be competent at Wheel 3 skills. See Wheel 3 class description to verify required skills)*

*Number of participants: Minimum = 3, Maximum = 5*

March 10, 2026

**Basic Clay: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Cindi Swintek, 734-718-3304

Cyneif20@yahoo.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: March 6, (3 - 4:30), 10, 20 and 27 (3 - 6:00), 2026*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

*3:00 - 6:00 p.m. with the exception of the first day.*

**Course Fee: \$60**

**Description:**

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

**Participants will learn:**

**Studio protocols**

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

**Use of studio equipment:**

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

**Construct simple hand built pieces:**

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

**Wheel 1: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

Dianeniehoff@yahoo.com

*Wheel 1*

*Date and Time:* *Monday, March 4, 6, 11 and 13, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of sessions:* *Four 3-hour sessions*

*Course Fee:* *\$65.00*

*Description:*

*This course will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to learn how to create pottery using the wheel. Instruction will focus on the following skills and the end product will be throwing a 3" - 4" cylinder.*

*Students will learn the fundamentals of throwing:*

*Learn the mechanics of centering, opening, pulling.*

*Cutting off a wheel or bat.*

*Cutting of an uneven top.*

*Finishing bottom.*

*Wedging.*

*Learn the hand and body positions needed in throwing.*

*Learn to throw cylinders.*

*Learn to trim pieces after they reach leather hard.*

*Reclaiming clay.*

*Learn other skills as determined by the instructor.*

*Materials:*

*The instructor will provide a recommended list of tools/clay which may include but is not limited to the following:*

*Small sponge, wood or rubber rib, cutting wire, needle tool, trimming tools, container for water, and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

March 12, 2026

**Desert Landscape Plate/Wall Hanging: March 2026**

**GCA Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of Sessions: Two three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Dates and Time: March 12 and 26, 2026 3:00 - 6:00PM*

**Description:**

*In this class students will create either a plate or wall hanging that reflects the western landscape. Students can modify the landscape however it fits their description of a western landscape.*

**Students will learn:**

- layering with texture techniques
- management of large hump/slump piece to avoid warping/ cracking
- use of stains

**Materials:**

*Basic handbuilding tools*

*Clay of choice, slab rolled out before class begins*

*Images or resources to incorporate in design*

*Texturing tools if you have them*

*Small handle roller*

*Paint brushes*

*Large plastic bag*

*Cotton towels for moisture*

**Class Information:**

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum students: 3 Maximum: 8*

**Wheel 1: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

Dianeniehoff@yahoo.com

*Wheel 1*

*Date and Time:* *Monday, March 4, 6, 11 and 13, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of sessions:* *Four 3-hour sessions*

*Course Fee:* *\$65.00*

*Description:*

*This course will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to learn how to create pottery using the wheel. Instruction will focus on the following skills and the end product will be throwing a 3" - 4" cylinder.*

*Students will learn the fundamentals of throwing:*

*Learn the mechanics of centering, opening, pulling.*

*Cutting off a wheel or bat.*

*Cutting of an uneven top.*

*Finishing bottom.*

*Wedging.*

*Learn the hand and body positions needed in throwing.*

*Learn to throw cylinders.*

*Learn to trim pieces after they reach leather hard.*

*Reclaiming clay.*

*Learn other skills as determined by the instructor.*

*Materials:*

*The instructor will provide a recommended list of tools/clay which may include but is not limited to the following:*

*Small sponge, wood or rubber rib, cutting wire, needle tool, trimming tools, container for water, and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Alternative Fire - Saggar FOIL Mar 14, Prep Day (3-5p.m.); Mar 15, (8-11)Firing, 2026**

**GCA Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Number of Sessions: 2 ( one prep, one fire)*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Date and Time: March 14, Prep 3-5.; March 15 fire, 8:00-11:00*

*Description:*

*Saggar firing is a technique where a piece of pottery is wrapped in foil (Saggar) with chemicals and combustible materials. They are then placed in a kiln and slowly fired to about 1350 degrees F. Aluminum foil is used to create the saggars. The pottery requires smooth surfaces as well as a cooler bisque firing prior to the Saggar fire. Instructor will arrange for this special, cooler firing before prep day.*

*Materials:*

- students should have 3 reasonably sized pieces using Bmix clay*
- students will apply "may" terra sig to their greenware. Demo available as needed.*
- Finished greenware will be placed on window ledge with yellow firing slips labeled Saggar.*
- on prep day, students will wear old clothes and shoes. Gloves and a mask will be worn while using chemicals.*
- On firing day students wear close toed shoes and cotton or wool clothing and cover hair, wear glasses. Safety issues will be reviewed.*
- Fired work will be finished with paste wax or Deft satin spray.*
- Both fire and glaze stickers are required.*

*Participants will learn:*

- the Saggar alternative fire process*

*Class information:*

- Students with no previous alternative fire experience should make an appointment with the instructor or take an alternative fire mini lecture.*
- Number of students: minimum 3, maximum 6*

**Alternative Fire - Saggar FOIL Mar 14, Prep Day (3-5p.m.); Mar 15, (8-11)Firing, 2026**

**GCA Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Number of Sessions: 2 ( one prep, one fire)*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Date and Time: March 14, Prep 3-5; March 15 fire, 8:00-11:00*

**Description:**

*Saggar firing is a technique where a piece of pottery is wrapped in foil (Saggar) with chemicals and combustible materials. They are then placed in a kiln and slowly fired to about 1350 degrees F. Aluminum foil is used to create the saggars. The pottery requires smooth surfaces as well as a cooler bisque firing prior to the Saggar fire. Instructor will arrange for this special, cooler firing before prep day.*

**Materials:**

- students should have 3 reasonably sized pieces using Bmix clay*
- students will apply "may" terra sig to their greenware. Demo available as needed. Finished greenware will be placed on window ledge with yellow firing slips labeled Saggar.*
- on prep day, students will wear old clothes and shoes. Gloves and a mask will be worn while using chemicals.*
- On firing day students wear close toed shoes and cotton or wool clothing and cover hair, wear glasses. Safety issues will be reviewed.*
- Fired work will be finished with paste wax or Deft satin spray.*
- Both fire and glaze stickers are required.*

**Participants will learn:**

- the Saggar alternative fire process*

**Class information:**

- Students with no previous alternative fire experience should make an appointment with the instructor or take an alternative fire mini lecture.*
- Number of students: minimum 3, maximum 6*

**Handbuilding II: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of Sessions: Three three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$60.00*

*Dates and Time: March 2, 9, and 16, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00PM*

*Description:*

*Class will introduce more advanced handbuilding construction techniques, and introduce recovery techniques for clay and glazing.*

*Participants will learn:*

- complex construction methods using multiple seams, and larger slabs
- how to bevel and blend seams
- methods for embellishing pieces with texture, add ons, feet and handles
- techniques for repairing cracks, and trouble shooting possible construction and drying issues
- tips to level a pieces
- various glazing and staining tips, and discuss reglazing techniques

**Class 1**

*Review studio protocols and cleaning expectations*

*Using Hump and Slump molds: instruction and demo*

*Brief discussion on sprigging, texture and adding handles and/or feet*

*Create bowl using hump or slump method*

**Class 2**

*Slab building discussion*

*Review techniques for closing seams*

*Construct a bird house using templates and texture*

**Class 3**

*Discuss glazing techniques by exploring application options, glaze combinations, record keeping, reglazing*

*Discuss use of stains to enhance pieces*

*Glaze pieces made in class*

*Materials:*

*Basic clay tools*

*B-Mix with Grog Clay or Speckled Buff*

*Texture Tools if you have any*

*Highly Desired: purchase bevel cutting tool*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level/Pre-requisites: Beginner/ Basic Clay Class  
Number of students: Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

March 16, 2026

**Wheel 2: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

**Wheel 2**

*Dates and Times: March 16, 18, 23 and 25, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

March 17, 2026

**Big Bold Pots: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time: March 17, 24 and 31, 2026. 3:00-6:00*

*Number of sessions: Three, 3 hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$60.00*

**Description:**

*Ever want to make large pieces but not on the wheel. This class is for you! By using strips of clay students will learn to make large pots that will look 'wheel-thrown'.*

*Emphasis is on proper construction, form and creativity.*

**Participants will learn:**

- unique construction process
- unique methods for enhancing pieces
- managing large hand built pieces using proper seam blending
- do some construction on the wheel, so gain comfort with a wheel without throwing a wheel based form

**Materials:**

*Serrated metal rib for scoring*

*Wooden tool with one wedge end and one rounded end*

*Pin tool*

*Pony roller (optional)*

*Red flexible mud tool rib (or equivalent)*

*Fettling knife or equivalent*

*Yardstick (if possible)*

*Small sponge*

*Texture mat or roller or wooden molding for texturing top of pots*

*Large soft plastic (dry cleaner bag or equivalent)*

*The club has some long thin support boards or bring your own dry wall panel 18" x 3' approximate. This will support your soft 3/8" slab, smoothed with a rib and cut into 1 1/2" wide strips using a yardstick.*

*A slightly curved wooden paddle with rounded edges so it doesn't dig into the clay wall. The instructor will have one in two different sizes, long and short*

**Class Information:**

*Pre-requisites: Intermediate (or strong, confident beginner)*

*Number of students: 3 minimum 6 maximum*

**Wheel 2: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: March 16, 18, 23 and 25, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

March 18, 2026

**Mold Making: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time: March 18 and 19, 2026*

*Number of Sessions: Two 3 hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$45.00 ( includes cost of materials)*

*Description:*

*Make plaster relief molds that allow you to create your image over and over.*

*Class 1:*

- *make your three low relief image (s) that will fit a small square mold*
- *keep it simple: animal, floral, abstract image*

*Class 2:*

- *make the plaster mold using your clay image*

*Participants should plan to work outside on the patio for class 2.*

*Participants will learn:*

- *how to make reusable, relief mold*
- *how to avoid undercuts*
- *how to mix plaster*

*(pic)*

*Materials:*

*Clay of Choice*

*Basic Clay tools*

*Your ideas for the clay image*

*Session 2: Bring a mask (required)*

*Class information:*

*Skill level, pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum/ maximum: Minimum = 3; Maximum = 5*

March 19, 2026

**Mold Making: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time: March 18 and 19, 2026*

*Number of Sessions: Two 3 hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$45.00 ( includes cost of materials)*

*Description:*

*Make plaster relief molds that allow you to create your image over and over.*

*Class 1:*

- *make your three low relief image (s) that will fit a small square mold*
- *keep it simple: animal, floral, abstract image*

*Class 2:*

- *make the plaster mold using your clay image*

*Participants should plan to work outside on the patio for class 2.*

*Participants will learn:*

- *how to make reusable, relief mold*
- *how to avoid undercuts*
- *how to mix plaster*

*(pic)*

*Materials:*

*Clay of Choice*

*Basic Clay tools*

*Your ideas for the clay image*

*Session 2: Bring a mask (required)*

*Class information:*

*Skill level, pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum/ maximum: Minimum = 3; Maximum = 5*

March 20, 2026

**Basic Clay: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Cindi Swintek, 734-718-3304

Cyneif20@yahoo.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: March 6, (3 - 4:30), 10, 20 and 27 (3 - 6:00), 2026*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

*3:00 - 6:00 p.m. with the exception of the first day.*

**Course Fee: \$60**

**Description:**

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

**Participants will learn:**

**Studio protocols**

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

**Use of studio equipment:**

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

**Construct simple hand built pieces:**

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

March 21, 2026

## **Alternative Fire -One Step Naked Raku Mar 21 and 22, 2026**

### **GCA Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Up to 3 pieces can be fired. pieces must be made of W-5 Clay. The top 1" to 1.5" must clear to use tongs to grab.*

*Number of Sessions: 2*

*Course Fee: \$40*

*Date and Time: March 21 (prep from 3:00-5:00), and 22 (fire) 2026. 8:00-11:00 AM*

### *Description:*

*Students will fire pieces in the gas kiln on the patio.*

*Participants may fire up to 3 pieces that are less than 10" tall and 6" wide. Clay pieces must be made of WS-5 and polished with terra sigillata before special bisque firing. The top area of each piece must have a minimum of 1"-1.5" of area at top to grab with tongs during firing. Both firing and glaze stickers required.*

### *Participants will learn:*

- the one step naked raku process*

### *Materials:*

- Up to 3 reasonably sized pieces made from WS-5 clay*
- Each piece must have a minimum of 1" to 1.5" of area at top to grab with the tongs after firing.*

### *- Participants must follow these safety precautions:*

- Wear close toed shoes and socks*
- Cotton or wool long sleeved pants/ shirts*
- Cover hair*
- Wear glasses*

*Additional safety instructions will be reviewed day of firing.*

- Both firing and glaze stickers are required.*

### *Class Information:*

- Skill level: All skill levels*

*If first Alternative Fire Participant, please meet with instructor for additional instruction prior to firing.*

- Number of students: Minimums and maximums: 3, Maximum of 6*

March 22, 2026

## **Alternative Fire -One Step Naked Raku Mar 21 and 22, 2026**

### **GCA Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Up to 3 pieces can be fired. pieces must be made of W-5 Clay. The top 1" to 1.5" must clear to use tongs to grab.*

*Number of Sessions: 2*

*Course Fee: \$40*

*Date and Time: March 21 (prep from 3:00-5:00), and 22 (fire) 2026. 8:00-11:00 AM*

#### *Description:*

*Students will fire pieces in the gas kiln on the patio.*

*Participants may fire up to 3 pieces that are less than 10" tall and 6" wide. Clay pieces must be made of WS-5 and polished with terra sigillata before special bisque firing. The top area of each piece must have a minimum of 1"-1.5" of area at top to grab with tongs during firing. Both firing and glaze stickers required.*

#### *Participants will learn:*

- the one step naked raku process*

#### *Materials:*

- Up to 3 reasonably sized pieces made from WS-5 clay*
- Each piece must have a minimum of 1" to 1.5" of area at top to grab with the tongs after firing.*

#### *- Participants must follow these safety precautions:*

- Wear close toed shoes and socks*
- Cotton or wool long sleeved pants/ shirts*
- Cover hair*
- Wear glasses*

*Additional safety instructions will be reviewed day of firing.*

- Both firing and glaze stickers are required.*

#### *Class Information:*

- Skill level: All skill levels*

*If first Alternative Fire Participant, please meet with instructor for additional instruction prior to firing.*

- Number of students: Minimums and maximums: 3, Maximum of 6*

**Wheel 2: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: March 16, 18, 23 and 25, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- Throwing with increasing amounts of clay
- Trimming
- Putting on a foot
- Pulling handles
- Shaping techniques

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

March 24, 2026

**Big Bold Pots: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time: March 17, 24 and 31, 2026. 3:00-6:00*

*Number of sessions: Three, 3 hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$60.00*

**Description:**

*Ever want to make large pieces but not on the wheel. This class is for you! By using strips of clay students will learn to make large pots that will look 'wheel-thrown'.*

*Emphasis is on proper construction, form and creativity.*

**Participants will learn:**

- unique construction process
- unique methods for enhancing pieces
- managing large hand built pieces using proper seam blending
- do some construction on the wheel, so gain comfort with a wheel without throwing a wheel based form

**Materials:**

*Serrated metal rib for scoring*

*Wooden tool with one wedge end and one rounded end*

*Pin tool*

*Pony roller (optional)*

*Red flexible mud tool rib (or equivalent)*

*Fettling knife or equivalent*

*Yardstick (if possible)*

*Small sponge*

*Texture mat or roller or wooden molding for texturing top of pots*

*Large soft plastic (dry cleaner bag or equivalent)*

*The club has some long thin support boards or bring your own dry wall panel 18" x 3' approximate. This will support your soft 3/8" slab, smoothed with a rib and cut into 1 1/2" wide strips using a yardstick.*

*A slightly curved wooden paddle with rounded edges so it doesn't dig into the clay wall. The instructor will have one in two different sizes, long and short*

**Class Information:**

*Pre-requisites: Intermediate (or strong, confident beginner)*

*Number of students: 3 minimum 6 maximum*

**Wheel 2: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: March 16, 18, 23 and 25, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

March 26, 2026

**Desert Landscape Plate/Wall Hanging: March 2026**

**GCA Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Number of Sessions: Two three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

*Dates and Time: March 12 and 26, 2026 3:00 - 6:00PM*

**Description:**

*In this class students will create either a plate or wall hanging that reflects the western landscape. Students can modify the landscape however it fits their description of a western landscape.*

**Students will learn:**

- layering with texture techniques
- management of large hump/slump piece to avoid warping/ cracking
- use of stains

**Materials:**

*Basic handbuilding tools*

*Clay of choice, slab rolled out before class begins*

*Images or resources to incorporate in design*

*Texturing tools if you have them*

*Small handle roller*

*Paint brushes*

*Large plastic bag*

*Cotton towels for moisture*

**Class Information:**

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum students: 3 Maximum: 8*

March 27, 2026

**Basic Clay: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Cindi Swintek, 734-718-3304

Cyneif20@yahoo.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: March 6, (3 - 4:30), 10, 20 and 27 (3 - 6:00), 2026*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

*3:00 - 6:00 p.m. with the exception of the first day.*

**Course Fee: \$60**

**Description:**

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

**Participants will learn:**

**Studio protocols**

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

**Use of studio equipment:**

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

**Construct simple hand built pieces:**

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

**Wheel Independent Study: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Jim Perez-Wood, 415-994-8634

Jameswood6688@gmail.com

*Wheel Independent Study*

*Number of Sessions:* **One, three-hour sessions**

*Course Fee:* **\$20.00**

*Dates and time:* **March 30, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM**

*Description:*

*LIMITED TO THOSE WHO COMPLETED WHEEL 3, or have equivalent skill set as determined by instructor.*

*This class will provide hands on guidance to students who wish to create wheel thrown pieces of their own choosing. Participants will work independently on projects of their own choice to execute the project or improve skills. Upon completion, participants should be able to execute the piece they select.*

*Project examples (but not limited to):*

- throwing specific pieces such as a French Butter Dish, Oila, moon jar, or pieces suitable for alternative firing processes
- producing lids
- "rescuing" a failing form
- combining multiple thrown pieces into a single form

*This class is intended to help those who are competent at the Wheel 3 level continue to advance.*

*Pre-requisite:*

*Participants must submit to the instructor desired project at least ONE WEEK prior to the class.*

*Materials:*

*Students come prepared with their project.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill level: Advanced (must be competent at Wheel 3 skills. See Wheel 3 class description to verify required skills)*

*Number of participants: Minimum = 3, Maximum = 5*

March 31, 2026

**Big Bold Pots: March 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time: March 17, 24 and 31, 2026. 3:00-6:00*

*Number of sessions: Three, 3 hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$60.00*

**Description:**

*Ever want to make large pieces but not on the wheel. This class is for you! By using strips of clay students will learn to make large pots that will look 'wheel-thrown'.*

*Emphasis is on proper construction, form and creativity.*

**Participants will learn:**

- unique construction process
- unique methods for enhancing pieces
- managing large hand built pieces using proper seam blending
- do some construction on the wheel, so gain comfort with a wheel without throwing a wheel based form

**Materials:**

*Serrated metal rib for scoring*

*Wooden tool with one wedge end and one rounded end*

*Pin tool*

*Pony roller (optional)*

*Red flexible mud tool rib (or equivalent)*

*Fettling knife or equivalent*

*Yardstick (if possible)*

*Small sponge*

*Texture mat or roller or wooden molding for texturing top of pots*

*Large soft plastic (dry cleaner bag or equivalent)*

*The club has some long thin support boards or bring your own dry wall panel 18" x 3' approximate. This will support your soft 3/8" slab, smoothed with a rib and cut into 1 1/2" wide strips using a yardstick.*

*A slightly curved wooden paddle with rounded edges so it doesn't dig into the clay wall. The instructor will have one in two different sizes, long and short*

**Class Information:**

*Pre-requisites: Intermediate (or strong, confident beginner)*

*Number of students: 3 minimum 6 maximum*

**Wheel 1: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

Dianeniehoff@yahoo.com

*Wheel 1*

*Date and Time:* April 1, 3, 8 and 10, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM

*Number of sessions:* Four 3-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$65.00

*Description:*

*This course will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to learn how to create pottery using the wheel. Instruction will focus on the following skills and the end product will be throwing a 3" - 4" cylinder.*

*Students will learn the fundamentals of throwing:*

*Learn the mechanics of centering, opening, pulling.*

*Cutting off a wheel or bat.*

*Cutting of an uneven top.*

*Finishing bottom.*

*Wedging.*

*Learn the hand and body positions needed in throwing.*

*Learn to throw cylinders.*

*Learn to trim pieces after they reach leather hard.*

*Reclaiming clay.*

*Learn other skills as determined by the instructor.*

*Materials:*

*The instructor will provide a recommended list of tools/clay which may include but is not limited to the following:*

*Small sponge, wood or rubber rib, cutting wire, needle tool, trimming tools, container for water, and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

April 2, 2026

**Doctor is In: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Doctors In:*

*Course Fee: \$20.00*

*Participants will work independently, hand building or throwing, with the assistance of the instructor as needed while they create their project of choice. Assistance will be offered on a rotation basis. Tips and tricks for success will be shared.*

*Participants should also plan to sign up for a work area to use during class time since there is usually a mixture of hand building and throwing. For example, if you plan to hand build, sign up for a high or low table. If you plan to throw on the wheel, sign up for the wheel of your choice.*

**Wheel 1: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

Dianeniehoff@yahoo.com

*Wheel 1*

*Date and Time:* April 1, 3, 8 and 10, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM

*Number of sessions:* Four 3-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$65.00

*Description:*

*This course will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to learn how to create pottery using the wheel. Instruction will focus on the following skills and the end product will be throwing a 3" - 4" cylinder.*

*Students will learn the fundamentals of throwing:*

*Learn the mechanics of centering, opening, pulling.*

*Cutting off a wheel or bat.*

*Cutting of an uneven top.*

*Finishing bottom.*

*Wedging.*

*Learn the hand and body positions needed in throwing.*

*Learn to throw cylinders.*

*Learn to trim pieces after they reach leather hard.*

*Reclaiming clay.*

*Learn other skills as determined by the instructor.*

*Materials:*

*The instructor will provide a recommended list of tools/clay which may include but is not limited to the following:*

*Small sponge, wood or rubber rib, cutting wire, needle tool, trimming tools, container for water, and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Raku/Horsehair Firing: April 2026**

**Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Raku/Horsehair Firing*

*Class Fee: \$20.00*

*Date and Time: April 5, 2026. 8:00 AM- 11:00 AM*

*Participants will experience firing their own pieces using the reduction process of raku with the assistance of the instructor. Bring up to 3 items to raku fire made from WS 5, WSO, Soldate 60 or other grogged, white clay body, hand built or wheel thrown, which has been bisqued and glazed with raku glazes found in glaze room. They can be flat items rather than three dimensional. Weld any seams thoroughly to avoid cracking. Kiln space is limited, so avoid wide items or limit yourself to one.*

*Safety requirements will be reviewed at each firing. Bold beginners are welcome.*

*Proper dress required: long sleeves, long pants (all natural fiber), closed toe shoes, hat or scarf over hair.*

**Basic Clay: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: April 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

**Course Fee: \$60**

**Description:**

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

**Participants will learn:**

**Studio protocols**

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

**Use of studio equipment:**

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

**Construct simple hand built pieces:**

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

**Abstract Faces Wallhanging: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Abstract Faces Wallhanging*

*Date and Times: April 7 and 21, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: Two - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$40*

*Description:*

*Participants create a wall hanging of connected, abstract faces. The faces are constructed from a slab and features are created either by adding textures , elements of clay or subtracting clay from the slab. You can't do it wrong. You make the faces however you want- just have FUN.*

*Materials:*

*Templates for the initial shape, rings to hang it when it's completed and use of texturing tools will be provided. Molds from the club can be used if the participant wants to bend the shape of the face.*

*Participants provide:*

- Clay, either B-mix or Speckled Buff
- Underglazes, 5 colors is optimal
- Brushes for painting
- Clay tools

*Class Information:*

*Skill level - Beginners*

*Number of Students - Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

**Wheel 1: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

Dianeniehoff@yahoo.com

*Wheel 1*

*Date and Time:* April 1, 3, 8 and 10, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM

*Number of sessions:* Four 3-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$65.00

*Description:*

*This course will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to learn how to create pottery using the wheel. Instruction will focus on the following skills and the end product will be throwing a 3" - 4" cylinder.*

*Students will learn the fundamentals of throwing:*

*Learn the mechanics of centering, opening, pulling.*

*Cutting off a wheel or bat.*

*Cutting of an uneven top.*

*Finishing bottom.*

*Wedging.*

*Learn the hand and body positions needed in throwing.*

*Learn to throw cylinders.*

*Learn to trim pieces after they reach leather hard.*

*Reclaiming clay.*

*Learn other skills as determined by the instructor.*

*Materials:*

*The instructor will provide a recommended list of tools/clay which may include but is not limited to the following:*

*Small sponge, wood or rubber rib, cutting wire, needle tool, trimming tools, container for water, and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Wheel 1: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

Dianeniehoff@yahoo.com

*Wheel 1*

*Date and Time:* April 1, 3, 8 and 10, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM

*Number of sessions:* Four 3-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$65.00

*Description:*

*This course will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to learn how to create pottery using the wheel. Instruction will focus on the following skills and the end product will be throwing a 3" - 4" cylinder.*

*Students will learn the fundamentals of throwing:*

*Learn the mechanics of centering, opening, pulling.*

*Cutting off a wheel or bat.*

*Cutting of an uneven top.*

*Finishing bottom.*

*Wedging.*

*Learn the hand and body positions needed in throwing.*

*Learn to throw cylinders.*

*Learn to trim pieces after they reach leather hard.*

*Reclaiming clay.*

*Learn other skills as determined by the instructor.*

*Materials:*

*The instructor will provide a recommended list of tools/clay which may include but is not limited to the following:*

*Small sponge, wood or rubber rib, cutting wire, needle tool, trimming tools, container for water, and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

April 12, 2026

**Raku/Horsehair Firing: April 2026**

**Raku Patio**

08:00 AM - 11:00 AM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Raku/Horsehair Firing*

*Class Fee: \$20.00*

*Date and Time: April 12, 2026. 8:00 AM- 11:00 AM*

*Participants will experience firing their own pieces using the reduction process of raku with the assistance of the instructor. Bring up to 3 items to raku fire made from WS 5, WSO, Soldate 60 or other grogged, white clay body, hand built or wheel thrown, which has been bisqued and glazed with raku glazes found in glaze room. They can be flat items rather than three dimensional. Weld any seams thoroughly to avoid cracking. Kiln space is limited, so avoid wide items or limit yourself to one.*

*Safety requirements will be reviewed at each firing. Bold beginners are welcome.*

*Proper dress required: long sleeves, long pants (all natural fiber), closed toe shoes, hat or scarf over hair.*

**Wheel 2: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: April 13, 15, 20 and 22, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Basic Clay: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: April 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

**Course Fee: \$60**

**Description:**

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

**Participants will learn:**

**Studio protocols**

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

**Use of studio equipment:**

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

**Construct simple hand built pieces:**

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

**Ombre with Birds: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time:* April 14 and 16, 2026

*Number of Sessions:* Two three-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$40.00.

*Description:*

*Finish your piece using transfers and an Ombré color technique. Participants will transfer an image onto a panel, 3 dimensional surface or a form. Images should be no larger than hand sized. Participants will apply blended underglaze colors, called ombré for the finished look.*

*Participants will learn:*

- How to transfer images
- Use underglaze to create an Ombré look

*Materials:*

*One to three images, about the size of of your hand, (image will be used for transfer). Ideal images are simple. Birds are a good option.*

*One or more leather-hard pieces that have a smooth surface*

*Underglazes (some will be supplied by instructor)*

*Small carving tool ( optional)*

*Soft fan brush, small pointed brush*

*Red rubber rib*

*Sponge*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Basic Clay Class*

*Minimum participants: 3. Maximum Students: 8*

**Wheel 2: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: April 13, 15, 20 and 22, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Ombre with Birds: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time:* April 14 and 16, 2026

*Number of Sessions:* Two three-hour sessions

*Course Fee:* \$40.00.

*Description:*

*Finish your piece using transfers and an Ombré color technique. Participants will transfer an image onto a panel, 3 dimensional surface or a form. Images should be no larger than hand sized. Participants will apply blended underglaze colors, called ombré for the finished look.*

*Participants will learn:*

- How to transfer images
- Use underglaze to create an Ombré look

*Materials:*

*One to three images, about the size of of your hand, (image will be used for transfer). Ideal images are simple. Birds are a good option.*

*One or more leather-hard pieces that have a smooth surface*

*Underglazes (some will be supplied by instructor)*

*Small carving tool ( optional)*

*Soft fan brush, small pointed brush*

*Red rubber rib*

*Sponge*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Basic Clay Class*

*Minimum participants: 3. Maximum Students: 8*

**Wheel 2: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: April 13, 15, 20 and 22, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Basic Clay: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: April 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

**Course Fee: \$60**

**Description:**

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

**Participants will learn:**

**Studio protocols**

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

**Use of studio equipment:**

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

**Construct simple hand built pieces:**

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

**Abstract Faces Wallhanging: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Abstract Faces Wallhanging*

*Date and Times: April 7 and 21, 2026 - 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: Two - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$40*

*Description:*

*Participants create a wall hanging of connected, abstract faces. The faces are constructed from a slab and features are created either by adding textures , elements of clay or subtracting clay from the slab. You can't do it wrong. You make the faces however you want- just have FUN.*

*Materials:*

*Templates for the initial shape, rings to hang it when it's completed and use of texturing tools will be provided. Molds from the club can be used if the participant wants to bend the shape of the face.*

*Participants provide:*

- Clay, either B-mix or Speckled Buff
- Underglazes, 5 colors is optimal
- Brushes for painting
- Clay tools

*Class Information:*

*Skill level - Beginners*

*Number of Students - Minimum 3 Maximum 8*

**Wheel 3: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Jim Perez-Wood, 415-994-8634

Jameswood6688@gmail.com

*Wheel 3*

*Number of sessions: Four, three hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Dates and times: April 21, 23, 28 and 30, 2026*

*Description:*

*This class will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to advance their throwing and shaping techniques for making larger and taller forms. Participants should be able to throw using up to 3 pounds of clay prior to taking this class. This class focuses on different shapes, complexity and creativity of pieces. Highly recommend completion of Wheel 1 and 2 or have equivalent skills.*

*Participants will learn:*

- how to use specific hand positions and tools*
- techniques for forming shapes*
- how to use increasing amounts of clay to throw (3 pounds and greater)*
- trimming a foot*
- pulling mug handles*
- using griffin grip*
- using different surface treatments*
- other skills as determined by instructor*

*Upon completion participants should be able to make medium sized vases and bowls, tall cylinders.*

*Materials:*

*Clay, pin tool, ribs, cutters, and other tools as requested/ suggested by instructor during class.*

*Class Information:*

- Skill level: Competent skill level associated with Wheel 2*
- Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 as determined by instructor.*

**Wheel 2: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Dave Dick ,

Ddclay2004@yahoo.com

*Wheel 2*

*Dates and Times: April 13, 15, 20 and 22, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 PM*

*Number of Sessions: 4 - 3 Hour Sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Description:*

*This class provides instruction for developing shapes and forms on the wheel. The end product will be one or more bowls, mugs, or cylinders.*

*Participants should have completed Wheel 1 or have the skills taught in Wheel 1.*

*Each student will learn:*

- *Throwing with increasing amounts of clay*
- *Trimming*
- *Putting on a foot*
- *Pulling handles*
- *Shaping techniques*

*As available, class will include guest demonstrations of skills. At the completion of this class students should be ready to move to Wheel 3 or other creative classes leveraging the wheel.*

*Materials:*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Exploring*

*Number of Students - Minimum and maximums below 6 students determined by instructor.*

**Carving Southwest Images: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time: April 22 and 24, 2026*

*Number of Sessions: Two, three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

**Description:**

*Participants will learn how to trace, transfer and carve a clay panel. Options for stain, glaze and color will be discussed.*

**?Pre-requisite:**

*Before class, participants should plan to roll out a slab of clay about 8" by 10" and 3/8" thick. Compress the slab on both sides, then wrap tightly with Saran Wrap or several layers of plastic*

**Participants will learn:**

- tips for managing flat slabs to prevent warping
- carving techniques for creating dimension

**Materials:**

*Clay of choice*

*Tiny loop tool or a set of Kemper carving tools*

*Old toothbrush*

*Assorted paintbrushes*

*Rubber-tipped smoothing tool*

*Rubber rib*

*Small tip black watercolor marker (usually available at Walgreens)*

*Recommended: Bring pictures, examples of Southwest images you'd like to create*

**Class Information:**

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum number of participants: 3; Maximum number of participants: 8*

**Wheel 3: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Jim Perez-Wood, 415-994-8634

Jameswood6688@gmail.com

*Wheel 3*

*Number of sessions: Four, three hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Dates and times: April 21, 23, 28 and 30, 2026*

*Description:*

*This class will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to advance their throwing and shaping techniques for making larger and taller forms. Participants should be able to throw using up to 3 pounds of clay prior to taking this class. This class focuses on different shapes, complexity and creativity of pieces. Highly recommend completion of Wheel 1 and 2 or have equivalent skills.*

*Participants will learn:*

- how to use specific hand positions and tools*
- techniques for forming shapes*
- how to use increasing amounts of clay to throw (3 pounds and greater)*
- trimming a foot*
- pulling mug handles*
- using griffin grip*
- using different surface treatments*
- other skills as determined by instructor*

*Upon completion participants should be able to make medium sized vases and bowls, tall cylinders.*

*Materials:*

*Clay, pin tool, ribs, cutters, and other tools as requested/ suggested by instructor during class.*

*Class Information:*

- Skill level: Competent skill level associated with Wheel 2*
- Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 as determined by instructor.*

**Carving Southwest Images: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Diane Niehof, 616-460-8458

dianeniehof@yahoo.com

*Date and Time: April 22 and 24, 2026*

*Number of Sessions: Two, three-hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$40.00*

**Description:**

*Participants will learn how to trace, transfer and carve a clay panel. Options for stain, glaze and color will be discussed.*

**?Pre-requisite:**

*Before class, participants should plan to roll out a slab of clay about 8" by 10" and 3/8" thick. Compress the slab on both sides, then wrap tightly with Saran Wrap or several layers of plastic*

**Participants will learn:**

- tips for managing flat slabs to prevent warping
- carving techniques for creating dimension

**Materials:**

*Clay of choice*

*Tiny loop tool or a set of Kemper carving tools*

*Old toothbrush*

*Assorted paintbrushes*

*Rubber-tipped smoothing tool*

*Rubber rib*

*Small tip black watercolor marker (usually available at Walgreens)*

*Recommended: Bring pictures, examples of Southwest images you'd like to create*

**Class Information:**

*Skill Level/Pre-requisites: Beginner*

*Minimum number of participants: 3; Maximum number of participants: 8*

**Basic Clay: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Pat O'Brien, 513-374-1429

paobrien7286@gmail.com

*Basic Clay*

*Dates and Times: April 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026. 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.*

*Number of sessions: Four sessions. The first session is 1.5 hours, the remaining three sessions are 3 hours each*

**Course Fee: \$60**

**Description:**

*This course provides hands on experience working with clay. These classes will teach you the fundamental elements of the oldest form of clay work. You will learn the basics of working with clay and gain an understanding of how and why clay works. Participants will learn to use slabs to construct platters and cylinders which they will then glaze. The end product is 1-2 completed pieces.*

*This class is for new members who may register after they receive an invitation. If you think you should have received an invitation but have not, please contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and request an invitation. Existing members who want to take Basic Clay as a refresher must contact [educoord@grandclayarts.com](mailto:educoord@grandclayarts.com) and ask to be invited. Once you receive an invitation, you may register.*

*The very first class will cover basic etiquette in the clay club, review of equipment, and monitoring. Bring your login and password for the Grand Clay Arts website, along with your door code to the studio, and a credit card to purchase your beginning clay kit and clay.*

**Participants will learn:**

**Studio protocols**

- Tour studio, available supplies, forms, texture tools, molds, slips, cooking spray, etc
- Understand process for drying project, firing (bisque and glaze)
- Understand all clean up expectations (studio, glaze room, sinks)
- Understand proper use and maintenance of molds. (Use of pin tools vs wood tools, spray vs powder, clean up)
- Understand marking pieces throughout process (while drying, directly on piece, etc)

**Use of studio equipment:**

1. Learn to use slab roller
2. Learn to compress clay, and why
3. Learn to wedge clay, condense clay

**Construct simple hand built pieces:**

- Make a hump and/or slump piece
- Make a cylinder piece
- Learn tips for smooth edges, removing shards, and wet sanding techniques for greater success
- Learn managing when to take piece off hump/ slump mold
- Learn to apply texture
- Learn to bind and bevel seams
- Glaze using studio glaze

*Hands on sessions:*

- 1: Make a simple, small hump or slump piece
- 2: Make a simple cylinder piece
- 3: Glaze 1-2 pieces with studio glaze

*Materials:*

*All necessary tools should be available from the Grand Clay Arts supply room. During first class you will purchase (bring credit card):*

*25# bag of clay (B-Mix with grog or Speckled Buff)  
Beginner's Tool Kit*

*Additional supplies you may want to bring:*

*Small tool box or tote box or Rubbermaid container  
Apron  
Flexible ruler  
Post It Notes  
Sharpie Marker  
Pencil  
4x6 Spiral Notebook  
Small paint brush to apply magic water or slip*

*Mark your last name with permanent marker on all tools and clay.*

*Class Information:*

*Skill Level - Beginner*

*Number of Students - Minimums and maximums below 8 students determined by instructor.*

**Wheel 3: April 2026**

**Grand Clay Arts Studio**

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM MT

Jim Perez-Wood, 415-994-8634

Jameswood6688@gmail.com

*Wheel 3*

*Number of sessions: Four, three hour sessions*

*Course Fee: \$80.00*

*Dates and times: April 21, 23, 28 and 30, 2026*

*Description:*

*This class will provide hands on instruction for students who wish to advance their throwing and shaping techniques for making larger and taller forms. Participants should be able to throw using up to 3 pounds of clay prior to taking this class. This class focuses on different shapes, complexity and creativity of pieces. Highly recommend completion of Wheel 1 and 2 or have equivalent skills.*

*Participants will learn:*

- how to use specific hand positions and tools*
- techniques for forming shapes*
- how to use increasing amounts of clay to throw (3 pounds and greater)*
- trimming a foot*
- pulling mug handles*
- using griffin grip*
- using different surface treatments*
- other skills as determined by instructor*

*Upon completion participants should be able to make medium sized vases and bowls, tall cylinders.*

*Materials:*

*Clay, pin tool, ribs, cutters, and other tools as requested/ suggested by instructor during class.*

*Class Information:*

- Skill level: Competent skill level associated with Wheel 2*
- Number of Students: Minimums and maximums below 6 as determined by instructor.*

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