

HANNAH NISWONGER

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EDUCATION

- 1996-1998 New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, Alfred, NY, Master of Fine Arts in Ceramic Sculpture
- 1991-1995 Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art, with Honors in Studio Art
- 1993 Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT, intensive program in Mandarin Chinese

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2011-
PRESENT Founding and current director of Pots On Wheels, POW! a nonprofit arts education project bringing craft education to communities in a mobile gallery. From concept to its current status as a successful 501c3 nonprofit corporation, have been responsible for all aspects of the organization, including fundraising, sourcing legal and financial assistance, building a board, setting a mission, developing programming, filing for non-profit status, overseeing grant writing and administration of grants, renovating and maintaining the POW! truck, hiring artists and coordinating volunteers.
- 1998-2000 Gallery Coordinator, Brewhouse Arts, Pittsburgh, PA. Responsible for coordinating all aspects of gallery exhibitions for the Brewhouse arts organization, a live/work building in Pittsburgh's Southside neighborhood. Tasks included soliciting proposals, designing promotional materials, writing press releases and otherwise promoting exhibitions, overseeing installation and breakdown of exhibitions, and working with the Brewhouse board to plan the exhibition season.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2018-2023 Adjunct professor of ceramics at Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston (MassArt). Courses include *Drawing In and On Clay*, *Image on Clay*, and *Ceramic Majors' Studio*. The image courses cover the following techniques: paper transfer, mono-printing on clay, silkscreen, decal design and printing, traditional ceramic decoration techniques, life-drawing on clay. The majors' course is (currently) 17 separate independent studies. The current crop of majors make functional, sculptural and installation work. Instruction includes kiln firing as well as clay and glaze chemistry.
- 2011-
PRESENT Pots On Wheels (POW!) founding potter and instructor. Design and execution of workshops of varying lengths with schools, nursing homes, and afterschool programs, as well as public projects on the street in cities from Boston to Kansas City, MO.
- 2008-
PRESENT Truro Center for the Arts summer sculpture workshop instructor for most of the last 12 summers, teaching week-long animal building workshops to students from a wide range of backgrounds and ages from 12-80 years old, beginner to advanced, including many art teachers.
- 2002-2003 Adjunct professor of ceramics at MassArt
- 2001-2002 Instructor of ceramics at Harvard Ceramics
- 2000 Adjunct professor of ceramics at Georgia State University, Atlanta GA
- 1998-1999 Adjunct professor of ceramics at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA
- 1998-2000 Instructor for Saturday art classes, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA. Responsibilities included developing printmaking curriculum for middle and high school students in the museum's Saturday art classes.
- 1998-2000 Art Instructor, Carnegie Museum of Art. Responsibilities included teaching

elementary and middle-school student visitors in one-day programs; teaching monthly homeschool programs for elementary through high school aged homeschool students; teaching 6-week to 6-month-long programs across the city in a unique Carnegie Museum/Carnegie Library collaborative art program.

1995-1996 Art Instructor, Friends Select School, Philadelphia, PA. Responsible for designing curriculum and teaching the robust afterschool program for children aged 4 to 12 at Friends Select School. Also served as assistant and substitute teacher in art classes for elementary and middle school students.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Didn't I Used To Have a Sense of Humor*, Furlong Gallery, School of Art and Design, University of Wisconsin, Stout

2016 *Camouflage Creatures*, Center for the Arts at Castle Hill, Truro, MA

2013 *Sculptural Beasts*, Center for the Arts at Castle Hill, Truro, MA

2011 *Farm to Table*, Ferrin Gallery, Pittsfield, MA
2011 Animal Clay, Pinch, Northampton, MA

2010 *Hannah Niswonger, New Work*, Pinch, Northampton, MA

2008 *June*, Society of Arts and Crafts Retail Gallery, Newbury Street, Boston, MA

2001 *Travels Through the Middle Kingdom*, exhibition of wall work, The Clay Place, Pittsburgh, PA

1999 *Hannah Niswonger, Recent Work: Ceramic Sculpture*, The Clay Place, Pittsburgh, PA

CURATOR

2024 *Treading Lightly: Walking the Talk*, NCECA Salt Lake City, an exhibition exploring artist's approaches to sustainability, both in their work and studio practice. Co-curated with Lisa Orr and Adero Willard.

2023 *Even More Exuberant Ornament*, NCECA Cincinnati, the rich history of pattern on clay and on fabric provides a treasure trove of inspiration for works by Hayne Bayless, Adero Willard, Colleen McCall, Kirsten Bassion, Salvador Jimenez Flores, Ahrong Kim, Peter Jadoonath and Nancy Gardner

2019 *Exuberant Ornament: a celebration of the well-decorated pot*; NCECA Minneapolis; curated by Hannah Niswonger, displaying the work of Jason Bige Burnett, Meredith Host, Hayne Bayless, Adero Willard, Colleen McCall, Kirsten Bassion, Hannah Niswonger and Nancy Gardner.

2018 *Peculiar Connections, Intriguing Objects*, exhibition pairs work by established makers of unusual forms, with works made by young people in POW! programs exploring their culture through functional ceramic objects. Co-curated by Hannah Niswonger and Adero Willard.
NCECA Providence, in the Pots On Wheels truck, curated by Hannah Niswonger, Adero Willard, Sam Taylor, Mark Shapiro and Hayne Bayless.

2015 *POW! 100 Top Potters Exhibition*: invitational exhibition of 100 potters from all over the US, held at NCECA Providence, in the Pots On Wheels truck, curated by Hannah Niswonger, Adero Willard, Sam Taylor, Mark Shapiro and Hayne Bayless.

2013 *Worcester Center for Crafts 6th Annual Pottery Invitational*, Worcester Center for Crafts, Worcester, MA. Invitational exhibition of 25 New England potters, curated by Hannah Niswonger and Hayne Bayless.

2012 *Worcester Center for Crafts 5th Annual Pottery Invitational*, Worcester Center for Crafts, Worcester, MA. Curated by Hannah Niswonger and Hayne Bayless.

2010 *From a Throat Smaller than a Finger*, Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA. Work by Bernadette Curran, Julia Galloway, Ayumie Horie, Julie Johnson, and Hannah Niswonger; five women potters who use birds as inspiration.

Curated by Hannah Niswonger and Bernadette Curran.

SELECTED GROUP INVITATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 *Flower City Pottery Invitational 2026, Rochester, NY*
- 2025 *Drawn To, online invitational exhibition*
- Found Object, Running With Scissors, Portland, ME*
- 2024 *Meet The Machines, POW! Truck Mobile Gallery, Chelsea MA*
8 Fluid Ounces: Mud and Moonlight Fusion, Louisiana State University School of Art - Glassell Gallery, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- 2023 *Tandem Glass FUNdraiser, Maine Craft Weekend, Dresden, ME*
Flower City Pottery Invitational 2023, Rochester, NY
- Tandem Glass FUNdraiser, Maine Craft Weekend, Dresden, ME*
- Worcester Center for Crafts Pottery Invitational, Worcester, MA*
- 2022 *Cup: The Intimate Object XVIII, Charlie Cummings Gallery, Gainesville, FL*
Flower City Pottery Invitational, Rochester, NY
Animal Attraction, Society of Arts and Crafts, Boston, MA
- 2021 *Over the River and Through the Woods, Visions West Contemporary, Bozeman, MT*
Mountain Standard Time, Visions West Contemporary, Bozeman, MT
- 2018 *Out of Hand; Society for Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh, PA*
- 2017 *CRAFTED: Ceramic Cups, Mugs & Tumblers; Society for Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh, PA*
- 2016 *New Ceramic Surface Design, Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis, MN*
Salad Days Invitational Pottery Sale, Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, Edgecomb, ME
CRAFTED, Society for Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh, PA
The Animal Show, Paper City Gallery, Holyoke, MA
Flora and Fauna, Center for the Arts at Castle Hill, Truro, MA
- 2015 *CRAFTED: Tableware; Society for Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh, PA*
The Group Show, Rhinebeck, NY
- 2014 *Salad Days Invitational Pottery Sale, Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, Edgecomb, ME*
- 2013 *The Artisan Gallery Cup and Mug Invitational; Consider the Cup 2012, Artisan Gallery, Northampton, MA*
Craft M(art), Schulman Project, Baltimore MD
All Creatures Great and Small, Gandee Gallery, Fabius, NY
Small Favors VIII, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

- 2012 *Line & Color: Women in Clay*, 18 Hands Gallery, Houston TX
Small Favors VII, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
- 2011 *The Birding Life*, Ferrin Gallery, Pittsfield, MA
Gifted, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Celebration of American Crafts, Creative Arts Workshop, New Haven, CT
Small Favors VI, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Salad Days Invitational Pottery Sale, Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, Edgecomb, ME
- 2010 *THE DECORATED POT: Studio Pottery Invitational*, Ferrin Gallery, Pittsfield, MA. An exhibition exploring the way various potters embellish the surfaces of their pots with imagery ranging from pure surface design to complex narratives.
Small Favors V, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
- 2009 *State of Clay VI*, biannual juried exhibition, Lexington Arts and Crafts Society
Small Favors IV, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Spineless Wonders, Atrium Art Gallery, University of Maine, Lewiston ME. Exhibition of art inspired by invertebrates.
- 2008 *Homage to Brancusi*, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Small Favors III, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Symbiosis, curated by Bernadette Curran and Krista Grecco, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore MD
Platters and Pourers, juried by John Glick, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore MD
Artistry, Guilford Art Center, Guilford, CT
Our Cups Runneth Over, SAC Exhibition Gallery, Newbury Street, Boston, MA
- 2007 *Small Favors II*, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Put A Lid on It, Mudfire Gallery, Decatur, GA
Masters in Clay, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Artists Market, Decordova Museum Shop, Lincoln, MA
Holiday Market, Falmouth Artists' Guild, Falmouth, MA
Artistry, Guilford Art Center, Guilford, CT
December at Pinch, Pinch, Northampton, MA
- 2006 *Worcester Center for Crafts 4th Annual Pottery Invitational*, Curator, Mark Shapiro, Worcester Center for Crafts, Worcester, MA
Small Favors, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Masters in Clay, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
40 Under 40, The Clay Place, Carnegie, PA
- 2005 *Masters in Clay*, Invitational Benefit Exhibition, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
- 2004 *Masters in Clay*, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Salad Days Exhibition, Watershed Center for Ceramic Arts, Edgecomb, ME
- 2002 *New Talent:/New Work*, invitation group exhibition, curated by Robert Pfannebecker, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
- 2001 *Reunion*, show of recent work by Alfred Alumni and faculty, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Faculty Show, Lamar-Dodd Art Center, LaGrange College, LaGrange, GA
- 2000 *30 Curators*, Concept Art Gallery, S. Braddock Ave, Pittsburgh, PA
32 Below, Associated Artists of Pittsburgh Gallery, Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA
Craft Art of Western New York, Burchfield-Penney Art Center, Buffalo, NY
Through Fire, SUNY Art Gallery, Albany, NY

SELECTED CRAFT SHOWS

Smithsonian Craft Show, National Building Museum, Washington, D.C.
Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show, Philadelphia Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA
Hilltown 6 Pottery Tour Guest Artist, Mark Shapiro's Studio, Worthington, MA

Baltimore ACC Show, Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD
CRAFTBOSTON Holiday, Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA
CRAFTBOSTON, Cyclorama at Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA
Morven in May, Morven Museum and Garden, Princeton, NJ
Finger Lakes Pottery Tour Guest Artist, Elmira, NY

LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

Haystack Mountain School of Craft, Deer Isle, ME
Snow Farm Center for Craft, Williamsburg, MA
Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill, Truro, MA
Harvard Ceramics Program, Allston, MA
Mudflat Studio, Somerville, MA

SELECTED GALLERIES

Violante & Rochford, The Store, Santa Fe, NM
Charlie Cummings Gallery, FL
Red Wolf, Saratoga Springs, NY
Pinch, Northampton, MA
The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Side Street Gallery, Gloucester, MA
New Moon, Wilmington, DE
Visions West Contemporary, Bozeman, MT

COLLECTIONS

The Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art
Collection of Robert Pfannebecker, Lancaster, PA
Collection of Donald Clark, Springfield, MA
Springfield Museum of Art, Springfield, MA

AWARDS

Award of Distinction in Ceramics, Society of Arts and Crafts, 2014