

Steven Kelly

ARTIST/EDUCATOR

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts

Maine College of Art

Bachelor of Fine Arts

University of Montana

Apprenticeship

Buckcreek Pottery, Faber, VA

KEY SKILLS

- lecturing and instruction
- ceramic production
- wheel throwing
- hand building
- glaze production
- community leadership
- mentorship/apprentices
- studio management
- budgeting
- writing
- electric kiln repair
- multiple firing methods
- ceramic history

OTHER SKILLS

- Italian proficiency
- video production
- travel-guide experience
- group leadership
- fundraising
- gallery direction

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experienced international artist and educator. Dedicated to students and to inspiring artists through humor, hands-on tutelage and a focus on history and aesthetics, with years of commitment to instruction, community organizing, and craft.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point WI. 2025-Present

Lead Ceramics Professor

- teaching multiple levels of Ceramics
- responsible for curriculum and vision
- facility management and development

Also teaching Drawing for foundations

Adjunct Professor, University of North Carolina Wilmington 2020-2025

- Taught a 4/4 load in the follow courses:

Ceramics, 3D Design, Drawing Fundamentals, 2D Design

Ceramics Instructor, Orange Street Pottery, Wilmington, NC 2017-Present

Instruct a diverse student body in wheel throwing, hand building and surface design. Responsible for glaze production, firing and studio maintenance.

Ceramics Instructor, La Meridiana School of Ceramics, Italy 2023-Present

Develop and lead advanced-skill level workshops for an international student body. Instruction includes craft, history, tour guiding, and mentorship.

Ceramics Instructor, Multnomah Arts Center, Portland OR 2013-2016

Specialized in wheel throwing, handbuilding, Raku, and cone 10 pottery for a diverse student body,

Owner, Kelly Pottery, Wilmington NC 2010-Present

Owner and manager of a bespoke pottery business, specializing in dinner- and housewares. Have supplied numerous shops, restaurants, and corporate clients, including Rejuvenation, a Williams-Sonoma, Inc., company.

*Comprehensive work history on request

EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 1000 Vases, Paris Design Fair, Paris France
- 2025 Small Works, Gallery 906, Wilmington NC
- 2025 Faculty Biennial. CAB Gallery, Wilmington NC
- 2025 It's the Little Things, The Clay Studio of Missoula, Missoula MT
- 2025 Time Sip Time Slip, Contemporary Art Gallery at SLU, Hammond LA
- 2024 We the People, Brunswick Gallery, Missoula MT
- 2024 Ripple Effect, Meramec Contemporary Art Gallery, St. Louis MO
- 2024 Chromatic Configuration, New Elements Gallery, Wilmington NC
- 2023 3rd Annual Joy of Art Show, B'nai Israel, Wilmington NC
- 2023 POP!, Sturt Gallery, Mittagong, NSW Australia
- 2023 2nd Annual Joy of Art Show, B'nai Israel, Wilmington NC
- 2023 Solo Exhibition, Reflecting the Anthropocene, Fried Fruit Gallery, Wilmington NC
- 2023 Faculty Biennial, CAB Gallery, Wilmington NC
- 2021 Sorry We Missed You, ICA, Portland ME
- 2020 Tea Time with North Carolina Ceramics Guilds, Seagrove NC
- 2018 Tea Pot Show, The Clay Studio of Missoula, Missoula MT
- 2018 Terra Firma, Two-Person Exhibition, New Elements Gallery, Wilmington NC
- 2017 Art of Illumination, Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington NC
- 2017 New Members Exhibit, Piedmont Craftsmen Gallery, Winston-Salem NC
- 2017 Group Show, New Elements Gallery, Wilmington NC
- 2016 Art of Illumination, Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington NC
- 2016 Contemporary Celadon, Eutectic Gallery, Portland OR
- 2016 Oregon Potters Association Gallery Exhibit, Portland OR
- 2015 Dwell Magazine's Monogram Modern Home Traveling Exhibition
- 2015 Faculty Exhibit, Multnomah Art Center, Portland OR
- 2015 Oregon Potters Association Gallery Exhibit, Portland OR
- 2014 Faculty Exhibit, Multnomah Art Center, Portland OR
- 2014 The Art of Tea, Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland OR
- 2014 Oregon Potters Association Gallery Exhibit, Portland OR
- 2013 Tea Bowl National, Kansas City MO
- 2013 Faculty Exhibit, Multnomah Art Center, Portland OR
- 2013 Oregon Potters Association Gallery Exhibit, Portland OR
- 2013 Street of Dreams, Design Exhibition, Portland OR
- 2008 Solo Exhibition, The Bridge Progressive Arts Initiative Gallery, Charlottesville VA
- 2002 Solo Exhibition, Forest Park Gallery of Contemporary Art, St. Louis MO
- 2000 Solo Exhibition, UC Gallery, Missoula MT

MARKETS AND FAIRS

- 2016-Present Coastal Carolina Clay Guild Show and Sale
- 2016-2018 Piedmont Craftsman
- 2017-2018 Carolina Craftsmen Makers
- 2017 Durham Arts Council Centerfest
- 2011-2016 OPA Ceramics Showcase
- 2012-2015 Saturday Market
- 2014-2016 Portland Flea
- 2013-2016 Mississippi Street Fair

WORKSHOPS AND RESIDENCIES

Exploring Surface and Form

Fat Cat Pottery, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 2025

Pouring Vessels Through History

La Meridiana Ceramic School, Tuscany, Italy 2025

Cultivating Voice, Crafting Vocabulary

La Meridiana Ceramic School, Tuscany, Italy 2024

Surface and Form

Franklin Square, Southport NC 2024

Crash Course in Clay

Sturt Gallery and Studio, Mittagong, NSW, Australia 2023

Unique Forms and Surfaces

Sturt Gallery and Studio, Mittagong, NSW, Australia 2023

Cultivating Voice, Crafting Vocabulary

La Meridiana Ceramic School, Tuscany, Italy 2023

Raku/Tea Workshop

Orange Street Pottery Wilmington NC 2019

Guest Artist/Lecturer

Coastal Carolina Clay Guild, Wilmington NC 2018

Live Demonstrator

Piedmont Craftsmen's Fair, Winston-Salem NC 2017

Surface Design and Form Workshop

Sawtooth School for the Arts, Winston-Salem NC 2017

Guest Lecturer

Coastal Carolina Clay Guild, Wilmington NC 2016

Live Demonstrator

Piedmont Craftsmen's Fair, Winston-Salem NC 2016

Visiting Artist Workshop

Multnomah Arts Center, Portland OR 2016

Guest on the PottersCast

September 2015

Visiting Artist/Lecturer

Saint Louis Community College, St. Louis MO 2015

Visiting Artist/Lecturer

South Puget Sound Community College, Olympia WA 2014

OPA Ceramics Showcase Live On-Stage Demonstration

Convention Center, Portland OR 2013-2015

PUBLICATIONS

Magpies and Mud: The Value of a Good Residency Program

The Journal of Australian Ceramics

Steve Kelly

Vol 63, July 2024

Surface Decoration for Ceramics

A Creative Guide for the Contemporary Maker

Claire Ireland

2023

Craft & Clay

Wrightsville Beach Magazine

Emory Rakestraw

February 2022

Achieving A Clean Etch

Ceramics Monthly

Maud Kelly

April 2017

INTERESTS AND AFFILIATIONS

Co-Producer and Director of Photography, documentary films

"This Means Something" shown nationally at film festivals

"Stan Kann: The Happiest Man in the World" shown nationally at film festivals and screened on St. Louis PBS

"Tour de Donut: Gluttons for Punishment" shown nationally at film festivals

President, Coastal Carolina Clay Guild, 2021-2023

Vice-President, Coastal Carolina Clay Guild, 2018-2021

Board Member, Membership Director, Oregon Potter's Association, 2012-2014

Board Member, Mid-America Dharma, 2009-2010

Other:

Mountain biker, fly fisherman, traveler, chef, baker, (terrible) guitar player, meditation practitioner,

Etruscan art nerd

CONTACT INFO

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