

ClaySpace Independent Study Guidelines and Application

Independent study students have complete access to ClaySpace and can work independently on their own schedule. This includes use of the wheels, slab roller, extruder, tables, and kilns. Independent study students may work at any time as long as they do not interfere with classes.

Independent Study students must have some formal background in clay and ceramics. They either have taken classes at Clayspace or completed a college level or comprehensive high school course. Applicants must have an interview with the ClaySpace coordinator and may be asked to demonstrate their proficiency.

Payment

Independent Study students pay on a month-to-month basis. There is no long term lease.

For 50 hours or less use per month: \$50/month

For 75 hours or less use per month: \$75/month

For 100 hours or less use per month: \$100/month

All students must add to their first month's payment a one-time, refundable \$100 security and \$20 key deposit. Students must be members in good standing of the Erie Art Museum. Monthly usage fees are due on or before the first of each month by check or credit card. Make checks out to Erie Art Museum with Clayspace on the memo line.

Guidelines

- Students must purchase all their own clay and glazes. All clay must come from M & M Pottery Supply.
- Use of ClaySpace is for independent study students only. Friends and family members can not use the equipment.
- Use of the studio is limited to clay related arts. Plaster is permitted, but waste plaster for mold making or bats must be cleaned up thoroughly, placed in plastic bags and carried to the first floor waste receptacles. Please do not wash wet plaster down the drains.
- Dogs (excluding seeing eye/help dogs) are not permitted.
- Music needs to be played at a low volume. Headphones are encouraged.
- ClaySpace can be chilly. Bring a sweater as space heaters are not allowed.
- Shelf space is available, students may bring in their own lock box.
- No smoking in ClaySpace or in the ArtWorks building.
- Any equipment damaged, destroyed or lost due to negligence or inexperience must be financially compensated for before the end of the month.
- Clay fired in the gas kiln must be compatible with the cone temperature. Kiln shelves from the gas kiln must be cleaned off and re-washed with kiln wash before the next firing.
- This is a shared community studio, students must put tools and materials away, clean up after themselves, and keep ClaySpace tidy and organized. Failure to do so can cause failure to renew your lease.
- Renewal of monthly lease may be denied if the coordinator finds it necessary for the welfare of the studio.

Kiln Usage

Independent study students may do their own firing. Kiln usage must be pre-paid and pre-approved by the ClaySpace coordinator. Students may choose to fire the kiln themselves or purchase pro-rated space by square foot. Ask ClaySpace coordinator for firing fees. Students are responsible for loading and unloading the kiln. Students must adhere to proper loading techniques.

Ceramics materials and methods proficiency

When prospective independent study students meet with the ClaySpace coordinator they will be asked following questions. The purpose of this test is to ensure that students demonstrate basic knowledge about clay and firing.

- * what is the purpose of wedging clay?
- * what is (are) the proper ways to glaze pots/art?
- * how should solid or thick walled objects be fired?
- * what could happen to your piece if you fire it at the wrong cone?
- * what is the purpose of using a cone in firing?
- * what is the proper way to join two pieces of clay together?
- * what could happen if you get small chunks of hard plaster in your clay?
- * illustrate and describe a properly loaded and stacked bisque firing/ three stacks high
- * illustrate and describe a properly loaded and stacked glaze firing/ three stacks high
- * Are you able to fire a gas kiln in reduction? If not, would you like to learn?

To apply, choose one of the following methods:

- Return the form below, along with payment of monthly usage fee (\$50 or more) plus \$120 deposit
- Call the Erie Art Museum at 814-459-5477, and have a credit card ready for payment.
- Stop by the Annex, 20 East 5th Street, 3rd floor, Monday-Friday 9 a.m.–5 p.m. with payment.

ClaySpace Independent Study Application

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

My check is enclosed.

Visa/Mastercard number _____ exp date _____

Where have you studied ceramics/clay?

Two references are required of current or former employers or art instructors.

Reference 1: _____ Phone: _____

Reference 2: _____ Phone: _____