



YMCA at Virginia Tech - Pottery Studio Membership Agreement

The Y is dedicated to providing a safe and fun place where clay and ceramics may be pursued. The YMCA at VA Tech is honored to be outfitted with an outstanding pottery and glass fusing studio, thanks to many contributors! The Y offers an “Open Studio” pottery workspace to the local community of Blacksburg and surrounding areas. Pottery Education is a priority here, therefore previous experience is required before a Studio Pass can be issued. You can either take a class here at the YMCA or present proof of past experience elsewhere. Pottery memberships may pursue a continuation of skills learned in class and also allows skilled artisans a place to practice their art.

This agreement acknowledges your privilege to access the pottery studio during “Open Studio” hours. A studio pass includes access to the communal equipment (wheels and work tables and some tools), and use of the glazes offered, having your work fired for you (both bisque and glaze firings). A studio pass is an affordable alternative to the set up and maintenance costs associated with operating your own individual pottery workspace. The community environment also offers interaction and companionship with other working artists.

Studio equipment available to memberships includes:

Corning Inc. Foundation Studio (Blacksburg)
12 electric pottery wheels
1 kick wheels
Slab Roller
Wall Extruder
Work tables
16 plus buckets of Glazes
2 electric kilns
Ware racks for drying in-progress work (please identify your work)

Open Studio Hours:

The studio is open Monday through Saturday from 9am-7pm and Sunday 1-5pm *except during scheduled classtimes, holidays, or scheduled cleaning*. Occasionally, the Y will need to modify the hours for scheduled events and groups. **We will post the current hours on the door.**

1-Month	3-Month	Annually
\$45 (month to month)	\$126 (one-time payment) Works out to be \$42/mo.	1. \$480 (one-time payment) Works out to be \$40/mo.

Bank draft memberships shall renew automatically unless the price of membership increases. In the case of membership price increase, a new studio pass agreement must be completed to retain a shelf and workspace and the new bank draft amount agreed to.

New memberships start when you start paying and have approval from Studio Manager that space is available.

Payment:

1. Please make payments online! If cash or check is your preference, come in to make a payment with Michael LaRoche, make checks out to YMCA and leave for Michael as directed.
2. Inactivity and termination of your pass is your responsibility. Your shelf and studio pass-holder membership will end and your shelf cleared if no payment is received 10 days after your due date. Payments are non-refundable.

Cancellation of Pottery Pass:

1. Passes may be canceled for any reason. I understand that to cancel my pass, I will:
 - a. Give the YMCA at Virginia Tech written (email works, mlaroch@vtymca.org) notice at least 7 days prior to start of your next billing due date to cancel your Studio pass-holder membership.
 - b. Upon cancellation, I will clean off my shelf and remove any pottery and personal items from the studio immediately.
2. Upon cancellation, any items left on my shelf or in the studio will become property of the YMCA at Virginia Tech and will be disposed of as needed.
3. Pass fees are non-refundable.

Memberships may be assessed additional charges for:

1. Clay material fee (\$30 per 25lb. of clay, all clay fired in the studio must be purchased from the Y)
2. In the case that a member wants to bring in outside clay there is a glaze material fee (\$16 per 25lb. of clay) if prior approval for outside clay is granted, OR if recycled clay is used. If the studio manager suspect's unapproved clay is brought in from outside, the work will not be fired until the issue is resolved.
3. Damage to kiln shelves caused by outside clay or glaze drips shall be charged at a rate of \$5 per incident or pot stuck from over-glazing a piece, OR \$45 per un-repairable/ruined kiln shelf. This fee goes towards replacing damaged kiln shelves.
4. Damage to equipment from miss-use or neglect

A Pottery Pass Includes:

1. Access to equipment, tools and glaze
2. Open studio hours 9am to 7pm Monday through Saturday, and 12 to 5pm Sundays.
3. Bisque firing (Cone 07)
4. Glaze firing (Cone 6)
5. Use of studio glazes (all lead free and food safe)
6. Your own shelf 2' x 2' space for in-progress work, clay and tool storage.

Not Included with your Pass:

1. Pottery instruction is not included.
2. Clay must be bought from the Y. Clay is sold by the 25 pound bag for \$30.
3. Personal pottery tools.

Memberships are responsible for:

1. Knowledge of the current Studio Rules as posted throughout the Pottery Studio.
2. Clearly labeling any work at the studio (use paper sheets with your name for works in-progress).
3. Sign your pots clearly, to avoid confusion with other members or classes.
4. Cleaning up your work areas and tools when finished.

5. Returning all tools and equipment to their proper location.
6. Personal OSHA approved mask or respirator, if desired.
7. Your own personal tools.
8. **Works in progress and Pick-up of completed work:**
 - a. Any works left or not worked on for more than 60 days will become property of the Y.
 - b. All abandoned work or works in-progress will be recycled or discarded without notice including:
 - i. work not labeled or illegible labeling;
 - ii. work left in the community work area unlabeled for several days
 - iii. pieces under plastic which have dried out and unclaimed
 - iv. unlabeled bisque pieces which have been on the shelf longer than 60 days

Firing Policies and Risks:

Kiln use and firing is only performed by approved staff and the studio manager, no exceptions. Every possible care will be taken with membership's work at all stages: loading, firing and unloading. *Damage may still occasionally occur.* At the Y, we will do our best to avoid problems that can be averted. This includes not firing anything until it is truly "bone dry", not loading anything that looks like it could drip or spit/spatter glaze or still have glaze on the bottom or near the bottom of a piece.

Kiln Firings, as a membership you agree with the following:

1. I understand that there are inherent risks when having my work fired.
2. I will not hold the Y financially responsible for any damages to my work.
3. I will pay for additional charges for damages my work may cause to kiln shelves.

Outside Material Exceptions:

Due to the variable nature of raw pottery materials and for the protection of the kilns and other people's work in the kilns the YMCA does not permit OUTSIDE materials into the studio. In pottery spectrum of firing, we fire at CONE 6, a very specific temperature; this is why we do not permit outside materials into the studio. Exceptions may be sought after with the Studio Manager on a case by case basis. If an exception is allowed, and outside clay or glaze is allowed in the studio by the YMCA staff or Studio Manager, there is a **glaze material fee of \$16 per 25lb. bag of non-YMCA bought clay.** Other exceptions also requiring prior approval from the Studio Manager include outside glaze, slip, and underglaze and overglaze materials purchased by the member to use in the glaze area/firing process.

Studio Privileges may be revoked by the YMCA

I understand that my studio pass is a privilege and the YMCA at Virginia Tech has the right to terminate it for any justified reason including but not limited the list below.

1. For repeatedly violating pottery studio rules and procedures.
2. For misuse and/or neglect of equipment, tools, glaze or the studio in general.
3. For failure to respect others, their work or their privacy.
4. If I come to the studio under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
5. If I bring or use illegal drugs in the pottery studio.
6. If I touch the kiln without permission from the YMCA staff or Studio Manager.
7. If I do not pay my account balance according to the terms listed above.
8. If I steal from the YMCA at Virginia Tech or anyone else at the studio.

***The YMCA at Virginia Tech is not responsible for refunding or pro-rating any prepaid pass fees at termination of the pass.

I have read the Studio Pass Agreement and I agree to the conditions listed. I understand the studio rules as posted throughout the Pottery Studio can change, and I agree to follow any future revisions of the rules. I agree not to hold the YMCA at Virginia Tech financially liable for any injury that incurs on the premises.

I understand studio pass fees are subject to change with a minimum of 30 days notice. Any items left at the pottery studio after cancellation or termination of a studio pass becomes the property of the YMCA at Virginia Tech and will be disposed of unless arrangement for pick-up is made within 7 business days.

In consideration of being allowed to participate in the activities and programs of the YMCA and use of its facilities, equipment and machinery in addition to the payment of any fee or charge, I do hereby waive, release and forever discharge the YMCA and its officers, agents, employees, representatives, executors and all others from any and all responsibilities or liability for injuries or damages resulting from my participation in any activities or my use of equipment or machinery in the above mentioned facilities or arising out of my participation in any activity at said facility. I do hereby release all of those mentioned and any others acting on their behalf from any responsibility or liability from any injury or damage to myself, including those caused by negligent act or omission of any of those mentioned or others, acting on their behalf or in any way connected with my participation in any activities of the YMCA or the use of any equipment at the YMCA. I have read and hereby voluntarily sign this authorization and release.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

YMCA at Virginia Tech Pottery Studio Pass Application

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Pottery Experience: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

- Pass Type (select one):1- Month - One-time fee of \$45
 3-Month - One-time fee of \$126
 Annual – One-time fee of \$480