

Katharine Lee Robbins

ARTIST, EDUCATOR

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TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

Creating a focused and thoughtful academic environment where students are encouraged to challenge and expand their artistic limits. Fostering a sense of community that values and supports diversity and respects others. Educating students in the ceramic arts through engaging in literary research as well as hands-on experience, such as kiln loading, surface decoration, and all other stages of the ceramics artistic process. Encouraging and aiding students on their paths to developing themselves as artists.

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts in Ceramics

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA (2022)

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ceramics

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO (2016)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Ceramics Instructor and Studio Technician

Jewish Community Center of Denver

Denver, CO (January 2022-Current)

I teach multiple classes at the JCC Ceramics Studio. Carefully selecting topics to cover in class, I demonstrate corresponding ceramics techniques. I develop new courses to expand art programming, including a fiber arts class as well as a series of workshops on prototype development, mold making, and casting in the ceramics studio. As the Ceramics Studio Technician, I load and fire much of the work made in the studio's eight weekly classes. I develop glazes, do light maintenance on equipment, studio organization, material safety education, and more.

Advanced/Intermediate Ceramics

Introduction to Wheel Throwing

Introduction to Ceramics

Beginner Wheel and Hand Building

Teacher of Record

Louisiana State University College of Art and Design – Ceramics Area
Baton Rouge, LA (Fall 2019- Spring 2021)

I created original coursework and taught undergraduate courses in the College of Art and Design. My teaching duties consisted of creating course syllabi, including original assignments and projects; leading demonstrations; leading historical and contemporary ceramic presentations, lectures, and class discussions; grading student work; and numerous other classroom responsibilities. I loaded and fired all my students' artwork in gas, electric, and salt/soda kilns. Class size ranged from twelve to eighteen students.

Introduction to Hand Building (Spring 2021)
Introduction to Hand Building (Fall 2020)
Introduction to Wheel Throwing (Fall 2019)

Graduate Assistant

Louisiana State University College of Art and Design
Baton Rouge, LA (Fall 2018 – Spring 2021)

As a Graduate Assistant my roles often shifted, allowing me to practice adapting to new jobs while rapidly acquiring a wide variety of skills. I gained first-hand experience overseeing student safety in the studio as well as cleanliness and organization. I led the effort to exhibit and handle the LSU School of Art Permeant Collection plus created and maintained an inventory of the over two-hundred-piece collection.

Exhibition Team Leader and Art Handler, previously the Assistant (Spring 2018-Spring 2021)
Design and Woodshop Monitor and Project Assistant (Fall 2018-Fall 2019)
Gallery Assistant and Attendant at LSU's Foster Gallery (Fall 2018)
Ceramics Studio Organizer (Spring 2019)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Louisiana State University College of Art and Design
Baton Rouge, LA (Fall 2018 – Spring 2020)

As a TA, I had the opportunity to have hands-on experience teaching alongside tenured professors at LSU. I grew as a teacher and developed myself as an educator while instructing in tandem with mentors. I assisted with many of the same roles as the professors, including grading students, giving class demonstrations, presenting projects and topical information to the class, assigning homework, helping students one on one during class, hosting office hours, and developing coursework.

Ceramics Area: Introduction to Wheel Throwing with Andy Shaw (Spring 2020)
Foundations Area: Introduction to 3D Design with Loren Schwerd (Fall 2018)

Post-Baccalaureate Teaching Assistant

Colorado State University Pottery Area
Fort Collins, CO (Spring and Fall 2017)

I was a TA in the Pottery Area for two semesters. I became interested in the Post-Baccalaureate Pottery program at CSU because it presented rare opportunities to work as a Teaching Assistant before Graduate School. I have long been passionate about teaching in the arts. Working at CSU Pottery permitted me to lay the strong foundation that allows for my continuous growth as an educator.

Introduction to Ceramics with Sanam Emami (Spring 2017)
Introduction to Ceramics with Del Harrow (Fall 2017)

Ceramics Summer Studio Assistant

Art Students League of Denver
Denver, CO (Summer 2016)

I worked a seasonal role as a Studio Assistant in the ceramics studio at ASLD. This position allowed me the space to work in a new environment and build off the skills I gained at my previous Studio Assistant job while an undergraduate. I loaded and unloaded student work into kilns, mixed glazes, helped organize the studio, cleaned and maintained studio equipment (kiln shelves, etc.) and more.

EXPERTISE AND SKILLS

CERAMIC PROCESSES- Sculpture, Pottery, Hand Building, Wheel Throwing, Slip Casting, Mold Making, Glaze and Clay Formulation, Surface Decoration.

KILN FIRING- Electric, Gas, Wood, Salt/Soda, and more.

TEACHING- Ceramics, 2D and 3D Foundation Arts, Special Topic Workshops.

STUDIO MAINTENANCE- Organization and Upkeep, Light Kiln and Equipment Maintenance, Material Inventory and Storage.

DIVERSE MEDIUMS - Ceramics, Mixed Media, Sculpture, 2D Art, Fiber Arts, Woodworking.

EXPIERIENCE- Ten Plus Years Working in Ceramics, Five Years Teaching and Assisting Teaching in Higher Education.