



## Deborah Finley

Visual Arts: Ceramics



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Clay and what she can create with it dominates Deborah Finley's art life. Her current artistic interests continue to be dominated by ceramics and all the facets of it as a medium. For her, working with clay that is derived from the earth is an easy step to connecting the earth with her art. Many of her pieces are inspired by the colors, textures, forms, shapes, and processes observed in the natural environment.

Deborah has taught art to kindergarten through fourth grade students in Elko as well as college students at Great Basin College. Her method of teaching in any medium is to present the lesson which includes giving basics in the elements and principles of design, demonstrate basic techniques to manipulate materials and tools and then allow students to create. Her personal goal when teaching art is to combine the study of art with core curriculum. Students at all levels will benefit from integrating the arts with science, math, engineering and technology, learning more deeply and profoundly.

Deborah earned a BFA in Ceramics at the University of Washington and a MFA in ceramics at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. After many years of working with clay she continues to find inspiration and loves to share her passion with others.

### Program Types

Workshops, classes, residencies

### Language Proficiencies

English

### Fees

Contact to inquire

### Availability

Contact to inquire

### Audiences

Schools (grades pre-K-12), young adult, adults, at-risk, and persons with disabilities.

### Venues

Schools, colleges, and community centers

### Technical requirements

Contact to inquire

### Counties

Statewide

### School & Community Workshops

**Wheel Throwing:** Beginning wheel throwing to all ages and levels.

**Hand Building:** Hand building processes for all ages and groups. Projects may include: ceramic looms, fish, tiles, 3D portraits and animals.

**Raku:** 2 day workshop, participants would create ware, then bisque fired, glazed with raku glaze then raku fired.

**Pit Firing:** 2 day workshop, participants would create pottery using the coil technique. The ware would be bisque fired and then pit fired.

**Paper Clay:** Paper clay (PC) is a mixture of paper pulp and clay slip. This interesting medium is very forgiving and expands the use of clay.

**Ceramic Projects for People with Disabilities:** My career has involved working with people with disabilities. Projects are modified and accommodations are developed in order for individuals to have success creating with clay.

**Fun Hand Building with Clay**