**Ceramics and Sculpture I**

**Haverhill High School Mrs. Yabe**

Make-up and additional help is available on Thursdays (2:10) and upon request

**Course Description:** The prerequisite to this course is Basic Foundations in Art. Ceramics and Sculpture is a half -year or one semester course.

Students will become exposed to the process of making utilitarian, as well as non utilitarian art using clay as a medium. They will also experience a brief study of sculpture, which will segway into an assignment during the final weeks of class. This project will explore another material such as wood, wire, cardboard or papier-mâché.

Students, while working in the ceramics area, will learn commonly used techniques such as wedging, coil building, slab construction, the pinch method and will also become exposed to the potters wheel where they will attempt to “throw” a pot. Students will also learn finishing techniques for decorating and glazing their work. Lastly, the process of firing the pottery will be covered.

During the latter part of the semester students may choose their method of execution for specific assignments allowing for creative expression within the confines of a problem. Assessments for projects will emphasize the thoughtful execution of the assignment, first on paper then in three-dimensional form.

**Students are responsible for following their clay piece through the various stages until a completed piece results.** They will then turn it in for grading accompanied by a completed self -evaluation form.

**Conduct**: All students are expected to respect the rights of other students and not disturb the learning process. Teamwork and a responsible attitude toward studio maintenance is a must in this class. Students are assigned sink area cleanup duty on a regular basis.

**Attendance:** Regular attendance in this and all studio classes is imperative. As all materials, equipment, etc. can only be found in the studio, a student must be present to be productive. If however, you find that you will be out for an extended length of time, and you have an incomplete wet clay project in the making, you would be wise to ask a friend or email me (ayabe@haverhill-ps.org), with a detailed explanation of where you are keeping it, so we can keep it wet until you return. If this is not done, and your project becomes *too* dry, you will need to start over, as wet clay cannot successfully be added to dry.

**Grading:** Students grades are based upon, not only the finished result or final product but how that product was arrived at. Students are expected to work consistently showing effort and a desire to improve upon their skills. Students are graded with a real focus on execution and compliance with the assignments objectives. All designs are first sketched out on paper and the finished product should bare a close resemblance to that original plan. When the clay projects are glazed and fired, or the sculpture finished, the student must submit the piece with a *Self Evaluation Form* (found on my desk) which assesses the work based upon; effort, creativity and craftsmanship. I will then assess the piece and designate a grade based upon both the students’ comments as well as my observations. There will be approximately four to five projects per term.

Students can plan for success by:

-Maintaining regular attendance

 -Completing all assignments

 -Cooperating fully with the instructor

 -Respecting school property, as well as other classmates

 -Making an effort…. students are evaluated based upon improvement, which can only be achieved by practice and perseverance.

**PARENT SIGNITURE**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You may e-mail me with your questions and concerns at… ayabe@haverhill-ps.org

***Return this signed form by Monday February 2, 2015***

*The mission of Haverhill High School is to product self directed learners who read, write, and speak effectively in Standard English and who apply analytical and technological skills to interpret information and problem solve.*