

Willow Teller

Ceramist, Potter

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SUMMARY

I have been specializing in functional wheel-thrown pottery since elementary school. My interests lie in design of all kinds, particularly in the objects we use in our everyday lives. I enjoy working with children and educating the future generation. My personal work is primarily known for using ceramics and other mediums as a way to connect with our environment, materiality, individual-society-nature relationships, and environmentalism. I enjoy exploration of material and experimentation. I have a particular interest in the process of ceramics and enjoy manual kiln firings and alternative firings, including gas, raku, and wood. My greatest passion is the processes of ceramics and sharing it with others.

EXPERIENCE

Ceramic Studio Worker

School of the Art Institute of Chicago 01/2023 - Present

- Recycled and mixed clay on a large scale
- Mixed glazes and slips, including troubleshooting of glaze issues
- Loaded and unloaded kilns
- Maintained a clean studio environment to reduce hazardous dust levels
- Various kiln maintenance, including repairs

Ceramic Studio Intern

The Digs Chicago 11/2022 - 08/2023

- Assisted with workshops
- Glazed Studio work
- Helped to build a selection of studio glazes at low cost and with food safety in mind
- Repaired equipment, including kilns
- Maintained a clean studio environment to reduce hazards and assisted in studio maintenance
- Led studio orientations
- Recycled clay for reuse

Ceramics Teaching Assistant

Gunn High School 08/2019 - 06/2021

- Teaching beginning through advanced skills in hand-built ceramics and wheel-thrown pottery
- Created glazes for use in food-safe ceramics as well as alternative firing types while maintaining proper safety procedures in the environment
- Recycled clay for reuse
- Assisted in studio maintenance including repairs, organization, and processes of the studio from clay delivery through firings
- Maintained a clean environment to reduce hazardous dust levels
- Assisted with loading, firing, and unloading kilns
- Implemented changes to studio processes resulting in better organization and less student confusion

Ceramic Event Supervisor

Association of Ceramic and Glass Artists 07/2023 - 07/2024

- Co-ran the Clay for All event during the annual festival
- Gave children and families the opportunity to try using clay
- Kept a clean space
- Answered questions relating to the festival and opportunities for ceramic classes in the area

SKILLS

[Ceramics](#) [Wheel Throwing](#)

[Hand building](#) [Glaze Production](#)

[Clay Mixing and Recycling](#)

[Manual Wood Firing](#)

[Manual Gas Kiln Firing](#)

[Ceramic and Glaze Chemistry](#)

[Alternative Firing Techniques](#)

[Graphic Design](#) [Adobe Illustrator](#)

[Electric Kiln Maintenance](#)

EDUCATION

BFA in Studio Arts with a concentration in Ceramics (Expected Graduation 2025)

School of the Art Institute of Chicago

06/2021 - 05/2025

Philosophy - Non-Degree Seeking

Foothill College

09/2020 - 06/2021

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteer

Various Political Campaigns

08/2016 - 11/2024

- Volunteered with in-person, door-to-door, and phone-based voter outreach in preparation for the 2016, 2020, and 2024 elections
- Assisted people in registering to vote, planning logistics around mail-in voting, and getting to the polls
- Answering policy-related questions with regards to all candidates in multiple races at various levels from presidential to local
- Created social media graphics with voter and volunteer outreach information
- Constructed and assisted in large-scale distribution of signage and literature material numbering in the hundreds of thousands for voter outreach

EXPERIENCE

Nanny

Various Families

📅 08/2020 - 06/2024

- Nanny for various private families, children ages five through nine, up to three at a time
- Taking care of, entertaining, and assisting with virtual schoolwork for multiple elementary schoolers
- Worked to help the children benefit from virtual elementary school, both synchronously and asynchronously
- Successfully and consistently helped the children continue to attend and participate in after-school activities during the pandemic in a safe manner
- Traveled internationally with children to help them experience different parts of the world

VOLUNTEERING

Graphic Designer

Beyond Celiac

📅 10/2022 - 11/2022

- Produced advertisements and infographics for a charity focused on medical research and advocacy