

**Great News!!!** I am sure many districts across our state are a facing the same conundrum as ours, art related PIR offerings this year are slim to none, so as the president of MAEA I have been working on seeking options for us. In my role as president I am a registered agent for MAEA with OPI to offer renewal units on behalf of our organization and have collaborated with the Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art (PGSMOA) in Great Falls and OPI on the three ceramic classes being offered at the Square this summer for credit. To participate you will register for the class with the Square and notify me of your intent to receive OPI credit. I will be the one who verifies your hours of participation and processes your paper work for OPI and will issue your renewal certificate. Each PGSMOA class listed below could earn you up to 12 hours of renewal credit.

We will also have the February retreat in Fort Benton this year where you can earn up to 15 hours of renewal credit and/or one college credit. Since our retreat is a Friday/Saturday combo most districts will only allow the hours outside our duty day will be applicable for district PIR, but please check your local policy. The retreat will either be the 1st or 2nd weekend of February. The artist is yet to be determined, but will be finalized no later than our fall conference in Billings. Of course our fall conference is yet another great way to earn credit.

All of these professional development opportunities, as well as the online webinars through NAEA, are all MAEA benefits. To receive those benefits, we ask you either be a member, become one, or pay a small fee to MAEA for the service. MAEA is an affiliate of NAEA and annual membership for a full time professional in our state is \$80. With that you automatically became a member of both MAEA and NAEA. You can join by visiting <https://www.arteducators.org/promo/join>. If you would like to take advantage of the renewal units and not join MAEA/NAEA a fee of \$40 will be assessed for the service. Checks should be made payable to MAEA. I will collect those fees and forward them to our MAEA treasurer, April Fox, for deposit.

Make it a great day,

Mrs. Cortni Harant  
MAEA President, 2017-2019  
PGSMOA Board Member, 1<sup>st</sup> Term, 2017-2019  
Great Falls High School  
1900 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. South  
Great Falls, MT 59405  
406-268-6362, classroom  
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***Summer Course Descriptions and Fees from PGSMOA:***

## **Sculptural Ceramics Intermediate to Advanced Wheel Throwers**

**with Rob Kellenbeck**

**When:** Tuesday's. July 10-31

**Time:** 6:00pm-9:00pm

**Where:** Wheel Room

**Cost:** \$150, plus \$35 supply fee

**10 students maximum**

This Sculptural Ceramics class entails combining wheel thrown and hand-built elements to create sculptural vessels. Students will be learning to throw on the wheel multiple parts to create large scale sculpture. The sculptures that will be created will be fired in our cone 10 gas kiln. Come step outside the box and explore a new approach to ceramics, in this fun and relaxed environment.

**Instructor: Rob Kellenbeck**

*Rob Kellenbeck has over 4 decades of experience in the ceramics field. He began his college academic studies in math and science, but once he took a ceramic elective course, he was hooked and started a more creative academic path in the arts. His major became ceramics which lead him to earn his BFA from Texas Tech. He went on to open Deer Creek Pottery in the early 70's. His accomplishments in the ceramic industry are vast and we are happy to have him here as an instructor and fellow potter in the Great Falls community. To learn more about Rob and Deer Creek Pottery, please go to this link (Ceramic Monthly, pages 26-30), [https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2015/06/Ceramics\\_Monthly\\_dec93\\_cei1293d.pdf](https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2015/06/Ceramics_Monthly_dec93_cei1293d.pdf)  
[Click here to download the Participation Registration Form](#)*

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## **Wheel-throwing Ceramics Class (open to all levels)**

**with Lauren Smith**

**When:** Wednesday's, August 1st-22nd

**Time:** 6:30pm-9:30pm

**Where:** Wheel Room

**Cost:** \$125, plus \$35 supply fee

**10 students maximum**

This 4-week course is designed to develop and refine technique. You will be exploring the different forms of functional pottery. Beginning students will learn the basics and step-by-step instruction on how to throw a cylinder and a bowl. We will finish forms with trimming, adding handles, knobs and some surface decoration. Advanced students will concentrate on improving your throwing skills and knowledge of clay. Surface decorations will be explored well as discuss various clay, glazes and firing processes that work well with producing functional pottery. Please come to class ready to practice, get dirty, and have fun! Mandatory clean up the last day for all students.

**Instructor: Lauren Smith**

*Lauren Smith lives and maintains her studio practice in Ulm Montana. She received her MFA from the University of North Texas in 2011 and has been a resident artist at renowned clay centers such as The Archie Bray Foundation and Red Lodge Clay Center. Lauren has taught classes in the past at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, in Pomona CA, and Ceramic Services in Ontario, CA. She looks to historical, antique and contemporary pottery for her inspiration and wants to share the magic of how one can take a ball of clay and make something that can be treasured. Please visit her website at [www.laurensmithpottery.com](http://www.laurensmithpottery.com)*

[Click here to download the Participation Registration Form](#)

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**Sculpture Hand-building Ceramics Class**

**with Sarah Justice**

**When:** Tuesdays June 12th- July 3rd

**Time:** 6:30pm-9:30pm

**Where:** Room 18

**Cost:** \$125 plus \$35 supply fee ( includes 25lbs of clay, firing and glaze materials)

**(Min 5 students, and Max 15 students)**

In this 4-week course is much like an independent study. Students will propose a sculpture idea which will be discussed and planned with the instructor. The instructor is working one on one with the student to achieve their goal. Hand-building techniques and surface treatments will be discussed and demonstrated. Bring your ideas to class the first day, with visual printouts, or sketches of your sculpture idea.

**Instructor: Sarah Justice**

*Sarah Justice is the Education Director at the PGSMOA. She has her Masters of Fine Art from the University of Montana with a concentration in figurative sculpture. She has been sculpting and drawing the human figure*

*professionally for over a decade. Justice has taught intro to ceramics at the University of Montana and figurative sculpting at the Clay Studio of Missoula. Sarah has exhibited her sculptures throughout the United States. This will be a fun and unforgettable class. [www.sarahjusticefineart.com](http://www.sarahjusticefineart.com)*

[Click here to download the Participation Registration Form](#)