

Saturday May 17

**Michigan Ceramic Arts Association  
Michigan Mud 2025**

**Preliminary Program - Information subject to change**

**Friday, May 16th**

**8:00am - 12:50pm, 2:30pm - 4:20pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 1st floor, Lobby

**Conference Registration**

**8:00am - 9:00am**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 1st floor, Lobby

**Welcome Breakfast**

*Join us for coffee, tea, fruit and pastries.*

**9:00am - 11:50am, 2:30pm - 4:20pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 1st floor, R1004

**Keynote Presenter Demonstrations**

**Containing Emotion - Hollow Built Figures**

**Kyungmin Park**

*Park will demonstrate a handbuilding technique for sculpting a human head. Beginning with the slab-building method to construct the basic structure, she will then refine it using coiling, pinching, and carving techniques to shape detailed facial features. Throughout the process, she'll discuss how figurative sculptures can effectively convey narratives and the significant role facial expressions play in storytelling through these forms.*

**Every Pinch Counts in Art and Life**

**Paul Briggs**

*Briggs will share his mindful approach to making hand-turned pottery, otherwise known as pinch pots. He will discuss how pinching clay is related to wheel throwing and will demonstrate how to achieve both low and high relief surfaces.*

**9:00am - 12:50pm, 2:30pm - 4:20pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 1st floor, Albertine Monroe-Brown Gallery

**Vendors**

*Visit the manufacturers and suppliers of the brands and products that ceramic artists know and love. Free material samples, vendor logo swag, and company representatives to share product benefits and features.*

Saturday May 17, Continued

**9:00am - 12:50pm, 2:30pm - 4:20pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts Lobby, 2nd floor, R2107 “The Cube”

**Educational Resources**

*Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI.*

*Ox-Bow School of Art and Artists’ Residency, Saugatuck, MI.*

*Northern Michigan University, Marquette, MI.*

*Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI.*

*Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI.*

*Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.*

*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.*

*Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.*

*Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.*

*Morean Ceramics Research Center, Kalamazoo, MI.*

**9:00am - 6:00pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 1st floor, Rose Netzorg and James Wilfrid Kerr Gallery

**Michigan Mud 2025 Keynote Presenters Exhibition**

*A survey of artwork from our two Keynote Presenters, Kyungmin Park and Paul Briggs.*

*Reception: Friday, May 16, 4:30pm - 6:00pm*

**9:00am - 6:00pm**

South Kohrman Hall, 1st floor, K1117 & K1206

**Michigan Mud 2025 Student Exhibition**

*A collection of student artworks from institutions of higher education throughout Michigan representing current trends within ceramic medium through explorations of materials, processes, and content. Sponsored by DiamondCore Tools, [diamondcoretools.com](http://diamondcoretools.com)*

*Reception: Friday, May 16, 4:30pm - 6:00pm*

**9:00am - 6:00pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 1st floor,

Eleanor R. and Robert A. DeVries Student Art Gallery, R1109

**Michigan Mud 2025 Presenters Exhibition**

*An exhibition showcasing works from the 23 invited presenting artists.*

*Reception: Friday, May 16, 4:30pm - 6:00pm)*

Saturday May 17, Continued

**9:00am – 6:00pm**

South Kohrman Hall, 2nd floor, K2121

**Mugs of Michigan Cup Show and Sale**

9:00am - 10:00am: Mug Drop-off

11:00am - 12:50pm & 2:30pm – 6:00pm: Mug Sale

*A showcase of mugs created by Michigan artists to support the educational programming of the Michigan Ceramic Art Association. Sponsored by Evenheat Kiln, [www.evenheat-kiln.com](http://www.evenheat-kiln.com)*

**9:00am - 9:50am**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 2nd floor, R2008

**Lecture: Art Education, Community, and Collaboration: The Kalamazoo Institute of Arts**

**Julie Devers**

*Devers will provide a lecture on the topic of community and clay at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts' Kirk Newman Art School. This community-based art center, housed within a prestigious Midwestern museum, offers a wide range of courses, strong student-instructor relationships, and a space for community, friendship, and artistic expression. In addition, Devers will discuss the Art School's exceptional anagama kiln, which draws students from near and far.*

**9:00am - 10:50am**

South Kohrman Hall, 2nd floor, K2101

**Demonstration: Design in the Clouds: Slip Casting and Production Methods**

**Hedy Yang**

*Yang will demonstrate her signature designed cloud vases. In addition to creating and decorating the form, she will discuss how she markets her work.*

Saturday May 17, Continued

**9:00am - 10:50am**

Richmond Institute for Design + Innovation, 1st floor 1040

**Demonstration: Merging Modern Technology with Practical Ceramic Techniques**

**Jerry Berta**

*Demonstration Description: Learn how to do virtual sculpting using Nomad Sculpt to create practical models, molds, jigs, stamps, and extrusion dies. A 3D resin printer will be used for detailed, fast printing. For best results, attendees should start using Nomad Sculpt prior to attending.*

**Demonstration: Pattern and Design: Beaded Clay Surfaces**

**Madeline Kaczmarczyk**

*Kaczmarczyk will demonstrate how she incorporates glass on post-fired ceramic pieces. Utilizing 3-D modeled stamps and forms based on original drawings, Kaczmarczyk will begin by creating surface texture on a clay piece. She will then demonstrate how she attaches the glass beads to a finished piece post-firing. A discussion of Kaczmarczyk's inspirations and ideas can translate to anyone's body of work.*

**9:00am - 10:50am**

South Kohrman Hall, 1st floor, K1150

**Demonstration: Ceramic Enameling 2D and 3D Wire Structures**

**Melis Agabigum**

*This demonstration will be an overview on the basics of enameling (fusing glass) on metal. Discussions of various surface textures from under- and overfiring enamel will also be discussed in relation to flat and three-dimensional surfaces.*

**10:00am - 10:50am**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 2nd floor, R2008

**Lecture: Vietnamese Ceramic Craft Culture**

**Micah Lewis-Văn Sweezie**

*Vietnamese ceramic production has persisted for over a millennium in Southeast Asia, withstanding numerous colonization and occupancies upon the land. Sweezie will provide an in-depth survey of Vietnamese ceramics highlighting history, culture, craft villages, and various production methods from this under-recognized community.*

**11:00am - 11:50am**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 2nd floor, R2008

**Lecture: Material Changes: Adapting and Updating Your Glazes and Clay Body**

**Steven Johnson**

*Ceramic materials come and go. Join Steven Johnson, General Manager at Rovin Ceramics (Ann Arbor, MI), for a presentation on how to make changes and substitutions to your favorite glazes and clay body and get an insider's perspective on the ceramics material industry and supply chain.*

**11:00am - 12:50pm**

Saturday May 17, Continued

South Kohrman Hall, 2nd floor, K2101

**Demonstration: The Figure: Hollow Construction**

**Benjie Heu**

*Heu will demonstrate how to make a hollow hand-built head, figure, or animal/creature. He'll also discuss and demonstrate how he uses underglazes to decorate his surfaces.*

**11:00am - 12:50pm**

Richmond Institute for Design + Innovation, 1st floor, 1040

**Demonstration: Wheels of Change - Throwing Large Vases**

**Ricky Blanding**

*Blanding will demonstrate his process of creating his large wheel-thrown vases. In addition, he will discuss his non-traditional path into ceramics and his ongoing social advocacy through his small business, Scrap Soils.*

**11:00am - 12:50pm**

South Kohrman Hall, 1st floor, K1118

**Demonstration: Jigger / Jollying for Vessel Consistency**

**Jacky Denaway**

*For potters interested in reproduction, the jigger arm is a wonderful time saving tool. Participants will learn how to create profile forms that are then utilized to make plaster molds. Denaway will then demonstrate the process of plaster mold making with the jigger arm and how to use the mold to make bowls and plates.*

**1:00pm - 2:30pm**

Western Michigan University Student Center, 3rd floor, Dining Center

**Lunch**

*Join us in the Dining Center for a wide variety of food options.  
Sponsored by AMACO Brent, amaco.com*

**2:30pm - 3:20pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 2nd floor, R2008

**Lecture: Demystifying Kiln Data: Building a Community-Driven Digital Pyrometer**

**Michael Lorsung**

*This presentation explores the journey of designing and building a robust, internet-connected, dual-input digital pyrometer for ceramic kilns. By breaking down the process in accessible terms, this talk aims to take the audience through the process of creating a digital pyrometer from open-source software and simple coding tools. This presentation is ideal for ceramic artists of all levels who are curious about incorporating digital tools into their practice. Whether you're a seasoned tech enthusiast or a complete beginner, you'll leave with a deeper understanding of how accessible and empowering technology can be in the ceramic studio.*

**2:30pm - 4:20pm**

Saturday May 17, Continued

South Kohrman Hall, 2nd floor, K2101

**Demonstration: Creating Personalized Templates for Slab Building**

**Susan McHenry**

*Customized templates for soft slab building can be mixed and matched in endless ways, allowing room for play and experimentation and resulting in more personalized pots. McHenry will demonstrate how to make custom templates that can be used to build either simple forms or more complex stacked and darted pieces. She'll then construct a few forms to illustrate how the templates can be modified during the building process. Finishing details like feet, lugs, and handles will also be discussed. Participants will come away from this presentation with inspiration and practical ideas for how to start using templates in their own practice or with students.*

**2:30pm - 4:20pm**

Richmond Institute for Design + Innovation, 1st floor, 1040

**Demonstration: The Ancient Future: Clay and Sound**

**Israel Davis**

*Music and clay are two of the most malleable, elastic, enduring, widely utilized, and shared materials. Davis will present his ceramic practice that delves into the making of percussion instruments with clay and rawhides. In addition, he will demonstrate the sounds and shapes that support his connection to past ceramic histories of instrument making and the communities they unite.*

**3:30pm - 4:20pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 2nd floor, R2008

**Lecture: Building a Community Ceramics Studio and Artist Residency**

**Henry Crissman and Virginia Torrence**

*Crissman and Torrence have spent the last eight years renovating their home and storefront in Hamtramck, Michigan, into what is now a vibrant community ceramics studio and residency space. The Ceramics School offers classes and memberships and hosts resident artists from around the globe. Crissman and Torrence will share their story and lessons learned and discuss their teaching philosophies, personal art practices, visions for the future, and the necessity of community art spaces.*

**4:30pm - 6:00pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 1st floor

Rose Netzorg and James Wilfrid Kerr Gallery

Eleanor R. and Robert A. DeVries Student Art Gallery

South Kohrman Hall,

K111 & K1206, 1st floor

K2121, 2nd floor

**Exhibition Receptions and Awards**

Saturday May 17, Continued

*Join us to view and celebrate the conference exhibitions: Michigan Mud 2025 Keynote Presenters Exhibition, Presenters Exhibition, Student Exhibition, and Mugs of Michigan Cup Show and Sale. Award Ceremony will take place at 5:15pm. Sponsored by Rovin Ceramics, [rovinceramics.com](http://rovinceramics.com)*

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**Welcome Breakfast**  
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Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 1st floor, R1004

**Keynote Presenter Demonstrations**

**Containing Emotion - Hollow Built Figures**

**Kyungmin Park**

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Saturday May 17, Continued

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Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI.  
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.  
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Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.  
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South Kahrman Hall, 2nd floor, K2121

**Mugs of Michigan Cup Show and Sale**

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**9:00am - 9:50am**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, 2nd floor, R2008

**Lecture: Installations and Disruptions**

**Shay Church**

*Church will offer a presentation focused on his larger than life clay and wood installation series created between 2006-2019. These temporary clay installations have included*

Saturday May 17, Continued

*life-size whales, elephants, wolves, and mythological creatures left to fall apart in abandoned buildings, parking lots, outdoor spaces, and galleries. Church will discuss how the series evolved, as well as the groups, organizations, spaces, and scenarios he collaborated with along the way.*

**9:00am - 10:50am**

South Kohrman Hall, 2nd floor, K2101

**Demonstration: Shopping is a Feeling**

**Amy Santoferraro**

*Objects can be charged with meaning, history, sentiment, and stories. Through her lifelong collection and cataloging of everyday objects found in thrift stores, dollar stores, and hardware stores, Santoferraro attempts to make sense of her surroundings through her interaction with the material world. She'll share images of her work, discuss her path and process of utilizing ceramic materials and popular culture components, and elaborate on how different places and materials present unique making opportunities and outputs.*

**9:00am - 10:50am**

Richmond Institute for Design + Innovation, 1st floor, 1040

**Demonstration: Slip Cast Wares and Printed Surfaces for Functional Pottery**

**Heidi Fahrenbacher / Bella Joy Pottery**

*Heidi Fahrenbacher of Bella Joy Pottery will be demonstrating her technical process for using screen printing and slip casting forms. Through the use of these technical methods Heidi will share how this has developed her thriving and productive studio business.*

**9:00am - 10:50am**

South Kohrman Hall, 1st floor, K1118

**Demonstration: Petals of Porcelain: Simple Mold Making for Multiples**

**Blake J. Williams**

*Various hand building and mold making techniques with white clays for floral inspired ceramic and mixed media sculpture and installations.*

**10:00am - 10:50am**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, R2008

**Lecture: "After Evergood— Creating a Classroom Art Collective"**

**Sarah Lindley**

*Professor Sarah Lindley will talk about her course Clay in Community and creating a classroom art collective where students worked together to create After Ever Good, a*

Saturday May 17, Continued

*ceramic response to a problematic mural in the campus dining hall. The course is a research-informed hands-on clay class where students work collaboratively to develop large-scale ceramic projects in response to social issues. Course content includes socially-engaged and activist art practices, shared space, exchange, student experiences at Kalamazoo College, and initiatives to address/remove problematic art in public settings.*

**10:50am - 11:30am**

**Break**

*Please transition to the WMU Student Center Ballroom (2nd floor) for the Keynote Panel Discussion featuring Paul Briggs and Kyungmin Park.*

**11:30am - 12:45am**

Western Michigan University Student Center, 2nd floor, Ballroom

**Keynote Panel Discussion: Finding Your Community**  
**Paul Briggs and Kyungmin Park**

**1:00pm - 2:30pm**

Western Michigan University Student Center, 3rd floor, Dining Center

**Lunch**

*Join us in the Dining Center for a wide variety of food options.  
Sponsored by AMACO Brent, amaco.com*

**2:30pm - 3:20pm**

Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, R2008

**Lecture: Identity and Performance: Clay Utilized as a Time-Based Material**  
**Lauren Kalman**

*Kalman will discuss her multimedia practice focused on performance and identity utilizing ceramics and pottery. Her conceptual work manifests as performance, video, vessels, garments, images, collaborative curatorial projects, and functional objects. The expansive opportunities for ceramic thinking are largely related to the connections between clay and the body. Kalman uses her body in both making and performing, with her body literally embedded in the ceramic object. She will discuss artworks that reframe and complicate historic interweavings of craft and the feminine body.*

**2:30pm - 4:20pm**

Saturday May 17, Continued

South Kohrman Hall, 2nd floor, K2101

**Demonstration: Improvisational Pottery**

**Virginia Torrence and Henry Crissman**

*Join Torrence and Crissman for a dueling wheel throwing demonstration where they'll discuss and exhibit their unique approaches toward throwing and altering vessels.*

**2:30pm - 4:20pm**

Richmond Institute for Design + Innovation, 1st floor, 1040

**Demonstration: Intricate Forms and Surface**

**Claire Thibodeau**

*Dive into an array of surface design techniques, concentrating on both wheel-thrown and slip-cast forms. Thibodeau will explore intricate surface treatments, sharing her methods and the diverse materials she employs to develop rich, layered imagery.*

**2:30pm - 4:20pm**

South Kohrman Hall, 1st, floor, K1118

**Demonstration: Painter's Palette: Mono-Print Transfers on Clay**

**Nathan Goddard**

*Goddard will demonstrate how to create Mono-Print Transfers and quick draw screen printing using Speedball Underglazes. Wheel throwing and altering techniques will also be demonstrated.*