



Clay Theatrics

Instructor Name: Deanna Wong

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Semester: SUMMER 2024, Session IV

Days: Monday to Friday, July 8-12

Time: 10am-12pm

Course Description:

Explore your inner storyteller! Students will create characters and sculpt them to life as masks and puppets. We will draw inspiration from historical Ancient Greek marionettes and dance masks from Papua New Guinea to the vibrant works of modern ceramics artists George Rodriguez and Kim Murton.

What will you learn?

Students will learn foundations in character development and sculpting in clay. By focusing on a character in a world that they create, students will explore how to transfer their ideas into a tangible reality with clay.

Materials

Materials will be provided by the Firehouse.

Class Schedule:

MONDAY: Mini masks. Students will brainstorm 3 to 5 characters that live in the same world and build small masks based on their descriptions. How is each mask form different based on the characteristic of the character? What attributes are emphasized? Is there variety in these pieces or are they similar and why?

TUESDAY: Finger Puppets. Similar to the first class, we will practice character creation by sculpting a set of small finger puppets. There will be more focus on the balance and proportion of these objects to fit their fingers. Students will be encouraged to paint any completed masks or puppets with underglaze, incorporating patterns if this suits their character.

WEDNESDAY: Design and build a large mask. Using newspaper, students will create a form to build on, stretching and emphasizing parts of their mask to better suit the character. The major focus on this class will be on form and proportion of their mask as a whole.

THURSDAY: Students will explore texture and color to add details to their mask. If there is additional time, students will be encouraged to sculpt set objects for their character's world and/or write a story involving their character. Bisque fire at the end of this class.



FRIDAY: Paint all objects with acrylic. If there is additional time, students will have access to create paper puppets with colored paper. The last 30 minutes of this class will be a show and tell for parents.