

Kentuck Clay Co-op Community Rules

The Kentuck Clay Co-op is a respectful community in which all members do their part to make the experience of working (and playing) here pleasant and conducive to the members' growth as artists.

*We have two mottoes. The first goes to our passion: "**Carpe argillum!**" (Seize the clay!) The second, so well formulated by Kentuck Festival Artist Dr. Bob Shaffer, goes to the responsibilities of being a member and the consequences of shirking them: "**Be nice or leave.**"*

Here are some guidelines to the kind of nice we require. If you have any question feel free to ask the shop tech, shop manager, or Kentuck executive director. We will be happy to help.

Personal behavior

Don't smoke in the Co-op. Anything. Ever.

Don't unilaterally "borrow" anything from the Co-op or from other members. Don't steal anything, either.

Write your name on any tools you plan on leaving here. Tools can all look alike, so make it easy to identify yours.

Don't eat in the Co-op—there's too much danger of accidental contamination of materials.

Drink only from spillproof containers, and only water. Again, we're going to err on the side of caution when working to keep materials free from contamination.

Take your finished work home. Your shelf space here is only for work in progress.

Do not store work on any shelves but your own. Especially not the metal shelves that belong to the UA class sharing The Clay Place. They are sharing their tables, stools, and some equipment, but the metal shelves are strictly for their use.

Be courteous of others' work space. When you set up for a session, be mindful of the possibility that others will come and need space too, and set up your area as efficiently as possible.

When you finish a session, before you leave, clean work tables and any other areas that need cleaning. Strive to leave the Co-op better than you found it—do more than your share.

Plan to listen to your music through headphones. Only play music/radio/whatever aloud if everyone working in The Clay Place at the time agrees.

Safety

For the comfort and safety of both people and animals, pets, sadly, are not allowed in the Clay Place. If you must bring your pet with you (for example, if you must medicate it), it must be crated at all times.

Follow all of the instructions you received in the Co-op orientation to avoid dust hazards.

Don't shake rags or mops inside. Don't trim dry clay on the wheel—it puts clay dust into the air and your lungs.

Do wet or damp cleanup to keep the dust out of the air and out of your lungs—because once in your lungs, it never leaves.

Streamline yourself before you sit down to the wheel to prevent anything getting caught in the spinning mechanism. Leave your jewelry at home, tie back your hair if it's long, roll up your sleeves—anything swinging forward or protruding from your hands (such as a ring) can get caught and pulled off—or out. Neither one is a happy scenario.

Wear closed-toed shoes—heavy pieces and sharp tools can fall on your bare feet and give you a painful injury.

Be sure you remove all tools from clay you put into the clay recycling container—forgotten tools can cause severe puncture injuries when people start working that clay.

Clay Storage and Reclamation

Write your name and type of clay on all bags of clay you purchase and store here so we can make sure that kiln loads are made up of pieces with the same firing needs.

Put all used clay into the designated recycling container and be sure it is free of tools and other debris.

Do not put any fired clay into the reclaim clay.

Access

The shop tech, shop manager, or other qualified staffer must be present for Co-op members to enter The Clay Place to work.

The Clay Place is closed to Co-op members during UA class time. In Spring 2011, the class meets Tuesdays from 12:00-2:00 pm and Thursdays from 11:00 am-3:00 pm.

To qualify as a staffer, a Co-op member must be at least 19 years of age and must have sufficient clay experience and

personal maturity to serve in that position, as judged by the Co-op Membership Committee which consists of the shop manager, the shop technician, the studio artist in pottery, and the executive director of Kentuck.

Individuals must be 19 years of age to become independent members of the Co-op.

Individuals under 19 must be sponsored by a parent or guardian who will be responsible for any damages or other liabilities incurred by the sponsored member.

Sponsored members under 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian when working in The Clay Place.

Visitors may work in The Clay Place if they

- are sponsored by a Co-op member,
- pay a day-use fee of \$15, which includes the use of one shelf for the day,
- complete the Co-op orientation and sign a waiver
- abide by all Co-op rules.

Children who are not members of the Co-op may come to The Clay Place only when they attend classes, camps, or special events.