

## **HEAD OF CERAMICS**

Peters Valley School of Craft seeks a knowledgeable teaching ceramic artist to manage the technical ceramics studio operations and to develop educational programs. Known for the intimate and immersive hands on, week-long summer programming, Peters Valley's programs have expanded to include virtual, shorter format and community programs. The workflow of this position requires facilitating visiting instructors as well as teaching weekly classes and special/group firings throughout the year. The Ceramic studio is fully equipped and requires a candidate who is skilled with a strong working knowledge of ceramic forming techniques, ceramic glaze chemistry, and solid atmospheric firing experience and knowledge, especially with wood fired kilns like the anagama and noborigama. Applicants should be active in the field, have a passion for ceramics education, mentoring and working with people. The Head of ceramics position is year-round, full-time and offers private housing, private studio, health benefits, retirement savings, and a base salary with opportunities to earn more through gallery representation. This position requires working on weekends and holidays during the workshop season / special firings.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Working with the Education Director to develop excellent, inclusive and relevant educational programs for a variety of formats including week-long intensives, short workshops, weekly classes, group firings, virtual programming and programs for special groups/retreats.
- Maintaining the studio and kilns for safety, cleanliness, environmental compliance, and good working order of equipment.
- Responsible for all kiln firing preparation including wood preparation, kiln shelves, glaze mixing and clean up.
- Ordering supplies and controlling inventories while managing a studio budget.
- Hosting visiting instructors and workshop students and ensuring the production of excellent workshop experiences for all.
- Selecting, mentoring and managing studio assistants during the busy summer workshop season.
- Teaching weekly community classes and workshops in fall, winter & spring.
- Preparing for and conducting special/group firing workshops.
- Overseeing ceramic artists-in-residence.
- Participating and helping to produce special events organized by Peters Valley such as the annual craft fair, benefit events and outreach events.
- Maintaining an active role in the field of ceramics and being an ambassador for Peters Valley.
- As a team member of Peters Valley School of Craft, participating as an active contributor and additional duties may be assigned.

## Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent studio experience. Master's degree preferred
- Knowledge of studio operations and maintenance & repair of studio equipment
- Proficiency with loading, firing, and maintaining atmospheric kilns especially wood fired and soda fired kilns as well as electric, raku, and gas fired kilns
- Strong working knowledge of ceramic forming techniques and glaze chemistry
- The ability to work independently as well as work well with others
- Good communication skills and the ability to address issues diplomatically
- Works well within a team environment
- Good organization skills
- Active in the field of ceramics

## Physical Demands:

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to sit and to work at a computer. The employee is frequently required to use hands to finger, handle, or touch objects, tools, or controls and to talk fluently and to hear. The employee is frequently required to stand and to walk in areas of the campus with uneven terrain. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move objects weighing up to 50 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision.

Peters Valley School of Craft champions the unifying power of art, craft, and creativity; celebrates the diversity of our shared humanity; and condemns racism and violence in all forms. We are committed to eliminating barriers to participation in all of our programs so that we can create opportunities for creative people and encourage BIPOC candidates to apply.

Send cover letter (including why you are interested in the position and particular strengths you have to fill the position), resume, artist statement, minimum of ten visuals of your artwork, two professional references and two letters of recommendation to [info@petersvalley.org](mailto:info@petersvalley.org)



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