

Kansas City Art Institute

Continuing and Professional Studies Safety Manual

Ceramics – Main Campus – Stern Building

Personal Protective Equipment

- Students will be provided with a dust mask. These masks should be kept covered and protected from dust.
- Students will be provided neoprene gloves for use when using glazes and other materials that are toxic through the skin.
- Closed toe shoes are required for the ceramics studio.
- Students should bring an apron or coveralls to protect their clothing from contamination.

Using Clay Materials

- Clay, glaze and plaster particles are very fine and can cause silicosis and scarring or other damage to the lungs
- Use ventilation when needed, turn on the ventilation system in the main lobby
- Measure and weigh materials under vent hood when possible
- Use precautions to avoid making and spreading unnecessary airborne dust
- Wear neoprene gloves when measuring materials, mixing and applying glazes. These will protect you from toxicity that can be absorbed through the skin.
- When cleaning, use wet mops and rags, and wear a dust mask.
- Mixing clays and glazes from powder poses additional hazards; therefore CPS classes will only use pre-mixed clays and glazes.
- CPS will not use glazes that contain lead or arsenic.

Using Electric, Gas and Other Kilns

- Kilns are potentially hazardous equipment. Your instructor will inform you of what parts of the firing process you can participate in. Do not alter kiln positions and settings.
- When working around heat, wear appropriate clothing, avoiding clothes made of synthetic fabrics that can burn and stick to the skin.
- Avoid looking into the kiln, or wear protective lenses.
- Firing clay bodies and glazes may produce carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, sulphur dioxide gases and other toxic fumes. Assure proper ventilation and avoid breathing fumes.