

Clay Studio Technician

Kimball Art Center | Part-Time up to 25 hours/week

About This Role

The Kimball Art Center is seeking a dependable, community-minded studio technician to support the daily operations of our ceramics program. This role balances hospitality and hands-on studio work—welcoming students, maintaining materials, mixing glazes, and loading kilns to keep the studio running smoothly.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone with strong clay studio experience who is interested in learning the operational side of a busy, community art center. The technician works closely with the Studio Manager and Education Director and is often the primary point of contact during evenings and weekends, so comfort working independently is essential.

Typical hours are Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, with occasional Monday availability and additional hours for events and the Arts Festival. Teaching is not a core responsibility, but the ability to substitute for classes across age groups is important, requiring solid ceramics knowledge and confidence leading a group.

What You'll Do

Studio Operations

Assist in maintaining a clean, safe, and well-organized clay studio. Operate and help maintain equipment including pug mills, electric and gas kilns, air compressors, angle grinders, and drills. Assist with kiln loading and firing. Support opening and closing duties for education classes. Maintain studio stock of recycled clay, glazes, chemicals, and dry materials. Uphold and reinforce studio policies.

Community & Education Support

Serve as a welcoming, reliable presence for students during class hours and events. Support the finishing and firing of children's and class clay projects. Opportunity to step in to sub for ceramics classes across age groups as needed. Assist the Education Department at the Arts Festival and special events. Participate in staff and education team meetings.

What We're Looking For

Required

At least 1 year of hands-on experience in a ceramics or clay studio. Proficiency in both wheel throwing and hand building. Beginning knowledge of kilns, glaze materials, and studio equipment. Friendly, approachable, and genuinely at ease around students and community

members. Self-motivated and able to work independently. Reliable availability Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, evenings and Saturday daytime, plus events.

Preferred

BFA in Ceramics or related field. Teaching or classroom experience in wheel throwing and/or hand building. Knowledge of glaze chemistry and basic glaze making.

Physical Requirements

Ability to stand and walk for extended periods. Ability to lift up to 50 lbs and move heavy objects. Comfort working with ceramics chemicals, gas, and related studio materials. Basic computer proficiency including MS Office, Excel, Adobe, and email.

Classification: Staff, Hourly

Reports To: Education Director and Studio Manager

Compensation: \$18/hour

Includes access to studio use and complimentary kiln firings with appropriate studio clay use, with opportunity to teach additional hours.

Duties may evolve over time. Evening, weekend, and occasional holiday hours are required.

To Apply: Send your resume and a note about yourself and your ceramics background to education@kimballartcenter.org

