

## Guadalupe Ceramics Program Orientation

**How it works:** Each grade level has 2 clay projects per year, one in the fall and one in the spring. Each project has 2 sessions. In the first session you mold raw clay, wait 3 weeks for the molded project to be fired in the kiln, and then glaze the fired project.

**Scheduling:** Have your teacher identify times that will work for the class. You should allow at least an hour with the class. You will be given access to the Guadalupe Clay calendar, and then you look for a free block of time that will work for your class and edit the entry with your class info as indicated.

Check out the [Ceramics](#) web info under the Guadalupe Home & School Club [ghsc.net/ceramics](http://ghsc.net/ceramics) site. Read through the **Handbook**, **Glazing** and **Molding** sections for details.

Also on the website are the project sheets that have instructions on creating each project and a list of equipment needed for the project.

Familiarize yourself with the locations of the equipment and glazes in the room. Please make sure that you clean the mats with the scrubbing brush and the rollers with a wet towel so that the next class has clean equipment.

**Molding** projects go on the boards labeled with **Teacher Name & Date**. Glazed projects should be allowed to dry so that they are not dripping prior to placing on boards. Do not put wet glazed projects on the boxes—the boxes are for projects that have been fired in the kiln and are ready for the next stage or to be returned to the students.

**Glazing** projects-- you should choose 4-6 colors for the project and glaze in the clay room in small groups. Give the children a time limit so that everyone has time to decorate their project. Pour a small amount of each glaze into the bowls as the glaze is ruined if the colors are mixed.

For colors used as a **base coat** (like green for frogs) pour **¼ cup at a time**. You can always add more.

For colors used as an **accent** (like blue & red for gingerbread men) use **1-2 Tablespoons** at a time in the small ½ cup bowls.

Clean the rims of the glaze containers with a wet sponge after each pour to ensure a tight seal when done. Put projects on board, again labeled with **Teacher Name & Date**.

**Clear coat:** Ceramics parents clear coat the projects once the children are done decorating with glaze. You only need to clear glaze the parts of the project **not covered** in glaze by the kids. Do not allow the children to glaze the bottoms of the projects unless directed to do so by the project instruction sheet (like gingerbread men). Please use THIN coats of clear glaze on the bottom.