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Slab-Built Tableware - Five-Day Workshop Supplies and Facilities Provided by Workshop Host

Supplies Provided by On-Site Host

- Cone-6 or cone-10 clay containing fine sand or grog (80-mesh or finer), 75# per participant, 150# for instructor.
- Decorating slips (white, black, and a few colors) - see STA slip recipe handout on the "Syllabi and Handouts" page of my website.
- One gallon white vinegar.
- Two gallons of joining slurry made in advance from the claybody. Cut a full 25# block of clay into thin slices and dry completely. Break up the bone-dry clay into smaller pieces (not crushed) and immerse in water with several inches of water covering the clay and let sit overnight. The clay will slake down to slurry by itself. Next day, drain off all excess water, mix with drill impeller mixer or hand blender until completely smooth with no lumps, add one cup of vinegar, add water carefully, mixing frequently, until slurry will not pour if you tilt the bucket, but will if you shake it.
- Approximately three dozen large sheets of poster board - get the cheap packages at Wal-Mart, Office-Max, or Staples.
- Two 4'x8'x1" (or four 2'x8'x1") and one 4'x8'x2" (or two 2'x8'x2") sheets of rigid construction foamboard to make slump molds. Make sure that it is the closed-cell pink or blue construction foamboard, not the small sheets of white Styrofoam or the crumbly white stuff. Check into pricing on the foamboard at Lowe's, Home Depot, or a good professional builder's supply to find the best price, and be sure to include the cost in the workshop fee, because the participants will each make a selection of foam slump molds and keep them.
- Several sheets of coarse sandpaper for shaping the foamboard.

Facilities and Equipment Provided by Host

- Digital projector, appropriately dark room with large screen or a large white wall.
- Large sturdy work tables for handbuilding and decorating. Heavy plywood-covered tables are best, but sturdy 3x6' folding tables will work, with no more than four participants per 4x8' table and two per folding table.
- 24" stool for instructor.
- Slab roller
- Twelve 36" by 24" (or whatever width fits the slab roller) sheets of unprimed 10 oz. canvas duck. "10-ounce" is a trade reference to the weight per yard for canvas sold in art supply stores. If you buy canvas from a fabric, sail or house painting supplier they might not that reference, but just get sturdy uncoated canvas while avoiding stuff that is excessively heavy – it should still be very flexible.

- Heavy-duty rolling pin with 12" by 3" body and bearing-mounted handles (unless I bring my own). If you are buying one, go to amazon and enter "Medium Commercial Rolling Pin by Thorpe" in the search box. This one's a beauty, and it isn't worth it to get a cheaper or smaller one.
- Two clear plastic lidded storage boxes (approx. 12x24x12" high for me to use as damp boxes).
- One plastic spray-bottle for vinegar water
- Several sturdy banding wheels (unless I bring my own).
- Two standard propane canisters for a hand-held propane torch (I'll bring the torch).
- At least eight approximately 24x36" pieces of 1/2" plywood for handling and flipping textured slabs. If you have 24x24" pieces they will work, but 24x36" pieces are better.
- A generous assortment of wareboards and bats for handling and flipping slab-built plates and bowls.
- Wood dowels - one 48" length each of 1/4", 5/16", 3/8", 7/16", 1/2", 5/8" and 3/4" - cut each one in half so you have a pair of 24" lengths of each size.