

Coil-Building Narrative Figurative Sculpture - A Workshop with Adrian Arleo
Workshop will take place in the NEW Clay Studio Sculpture Room at 1110-A Hawthorne St
August 10th-14th, 2026 - Class meets daily from 10am-5pm

Included in class fee: Workshop clay, access to general workshop tools, boards, turntables, plastic.

Firing services for completed works can be arranged for an additional fee. If this is a service you are interested in arranging, please contact our Studio Manager, Joseph Pesina to enquire about processing & firing rates - studiomanager@theclaystudioofmissoula.org

What participants are expected to bring?

- assortment of clay tools
- texture making objects/tools
- 1lb box of super or original Sculpey polymer clay for making sprig molds
- apron
- sketch pad and pencils
- Reference materials; drawings, photos, books. (Photos should be printed out and put in plastic sleeves, please do not rely on iPad/tablet/phone for source imagery during workshop)

Tentative Schedule

Demos and presentations can be shifted as needed.

One hour for a lunch break will occur each day, approximately mid-way through the class.

Monday Aug. 10th

- Introductions and studio information
- Slides on contemporary figurative ceramic sculpture; looking at expression and surface embellishment to create evocative and/or narrative figures.
- Slides of wall sculptures
- Sketches and maquettes for helping to develop ideas
- Demo video on Seated figure
- Slides on building several human and animal forms
- Getting started on your pieces- Adrian will help individuals with the “engineering” for getting started.
- Consider the wall as an option

Tuesday August 11th

- Demo video on Seated dog (if there's interest)

- Ways to work on the wall, and hanging options
- As times allows, Adrian will build demo piece and show sectioning and internal support techniques
- Work on pieces, assistance as needed

Wednesday August 12th

- Head and face demo
- Texture Demo, developing surface imagery
- Work on pieces, assistance as needed
- pm Adrian can show slides of her work (?)

Thursday August 13th

- Attaching head to body, gesture, eyes...
- Hand and feet demo
- work on pieces, assistance as needed
- Discussion on low fire glazes, Terra Sigillata, wax encaustic, casein paint.

Friday August 14th

- Finish work
- final discussion/critique
- clean up studio!