

Meet the impressive artists who received this year's Ellice T. Johnston Scholarship for Ceramic Arts, June Sherman and Monica Kyle. The committee was impressed by each applicant's artwork and dedication to continuing education in ceramics. Their applications checked every requirement, creating a tie-situation. Fortunately, the Clayfolk Board came to the rescue and allowed two scholarships to be awarded. Each artist received \$2000 to use towards their education in clay.

June Sherman, from Talent, Oregon, is a sophomore at Chapman University pursuing a BFA in Studio Art. She plans to use the award to continue working and growing as a ceramic student. June says, "I hope to become a full-time business owner and ceramicist. I've always had a deep passion for creating and making art, even when I didn't fully realize it...ceramics is my therapy. When I put my hands on the clay, my negative thoughts are immediately relieved. I don't have to focus on anything else except what is right in front of me. I have learned so much about myself and what I am capable of achieving."

<https://juneshermanart.myportfolio.com/ceramic-works>

Monica Kyle has lived in the Applegate (Southern Oregon??) for twenty years and is returning to college to complete a BFA at Southern Oregon University. She has been invigorated by learning more about formulating glazes and handbuilding. A natural leader in the studio, her professor, Michael Parker called Monica "completely fearless in her making." Monica's work has centered around handbuilding "organic forms that tell stories of lived experience, the beauty of working hands, and our relationship with feminine form and vessels. Capturing the process, symbolism, and history of art and ancient craft traditions in mixed media continues to inform and inspire my art practice." With the Clayfolk award, Monica plans to attend an ecology/ art summer school in County Clare Ireland or workshops at Anderson Ranch in Colorado.