

Sean Whalen

whalenbuilds.com
316-633-6213
spwhalen@gmail.com

Education

- 2024 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Ceramics, Social Practice Minor, Kansas City Art Institute (KCAI), Kansas City, MO
- 2022 Faculty Led Travel Program, Ceramics/Social Practice, Instituto Allende, San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico

Exhibitions

- 2024 *Baby I Left My Heart in the Hotbox*, Stern Ceramics Building, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
- 2023 *Slicing, Dicing, Pinching, Poking*, Stern Ceramics Building, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
- 2022 *MUD!*, Stern Ceramics Building, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
Crusty, Musty, Lusty, Stern Ceramics Building, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
Winteractive, Mineral Hall, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
SOUNDWAYS: The World Through Sound, 90.1 FM, Kansas City, MO
RECREO, Instituto Allende, San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico
Queer Ecologies, Kansas City Center for Inclusion, Kansas City, MO
Particulate, Stern Ceramics Building, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
- 2021 *Long Hold*, Stern Ceramics Building, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
- 2019 *Wichita Studio School Holiday Sale*, Wichita Studio School, Wichita, KS
22nd Annual National K-12 Ceramic Exhibition, NCECA, Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN

Residencies

- 2025 Project Network Artist in Residence, Guldagergaard Ceramics Research Center, Skælskør, Denmark (November 1-December 15)
Volland Foundation AIR, Volland Foundation, Volland, KS (October 1-15)
Pine Meadows Ranch Center for Arts and Agriculture AIR, Pine Meadows Ranch, Sisters, OR (June 10-July 9)

Workshops and Lectures

- 2025 Wattle and Poop Windbreak Workshops, Pine Meadows Ranch, Sisters, OR
Teaching community members how to build with willow wattle and cow dung infill
Waldo Neighborhood Cob Oven Workshops, Kansas City, MO
Engagement with KCAI Elective students
Wattle and Daub Cottage Workshops, Kansas City, MO
Teaching Wattle and Daub construction methods and materials
Visiting Lecturer, Van Go, Lawrence, KS
- 2024 Earthen Plastering Workshop, Manheim Gardens, Kansas City, MO
Teaching earthen plastering and plastering the cob oven at Manheim Gardens
- 2023 Social Practice Capstone Panel, H&R Block Artspace, Kansas City, MO
Cob Oven at Manheim Gardens Workshops, Manheim Gardens, Kansas City, MO

Honors and Awards

- 2025 Koch Cultural Trust Enabling Grant
- 2019 KCAI President's Scholarship Award, NCECA, Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN
Alfred University William C. Higgins Memorial Scholarship Award, NCECA, Minneapolis

Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN

2016 ICT Soup Art Grant Runner-Up, Harvester Arts, Wichita, KS

Professional Experience

2024-Current Whalen Art Handling and Installation LLC, Lawrence, KS
 Owner/Operator
 Commercial/residential art installation, art transport
 Gallery Installation/Reclamation, Sherry Leedy Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO
 Gallery Installation/Reclamation, H&R Block ArtSpace, Kansas City, MO
 2024-2023 Durwood Internship, H&R Block ArtSpace, Kansas City, MO
 Curation & Gallery upkeep
 2023 Studio Assistant, Andy Brayman/The Matter Factory, Independence, MO
 Mold Making & Slip casting
 2022-2023 KCAI Reclaim Work-Study to Casey Whittier, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
 Management of reclaimed studio materials (reconstitution, storage)
 Brick Making with reclaimed materials (glaze/clay)
 Studio upkeep
 2022 KCAI Glaze Material Research, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
 Creating test tiles to test high fire slips and glazes
 Wichita Empty Bowls, Groover Labs, Wichita, KS
 Outreach to individual artists and collectives and the collection of donations
 Throwing Demonstration
 End of Semester Exhibition Committee, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
Winteractive, Mineral Hall, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
 Organizer/Curator
 2019-2020 Studio School Resident, Studio School, Wichita, KS
 Studio Construction/Management
 Private tutoring
 2019 Wichita Empty Bowls, Go Create, Wichita, KS
 Outreach to individual artists and collectives and the collection of donations
 Throwing Demonstration

Collection

2022-2024 Ceramics Department Teaching Collection, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO

Skills

Ceramics Clay & glaze mixing, mold making, slip casting, electric and gas kiln firing, alternative firing methods (low-fire raku, pit, barrel), alternative kiln building, teaching, studio-assistant work
 Building Natural building techniques (cob construction, wattle/daub, roundwood timber construction, strawbale construction, earthen plasters)