



# Mark Corwine, Master

Wellsville Secondary School, NY.

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## Why I Chose Brooklyn Burdick

Brooklyn is a reserved, quiet, and pleasantly polite student who never has needed a prompt to get to work. She has always taken the challenge of any assignment and made it her very own. She works through problems persistently and has never given into failure. Her hand-building technique is very accomplished and continues to improve with her consistent work ethic.

Brooklyn's work which is distinctly her own, often has an engaging mystery and narrative quality that I find fascinating and not typical for most students I have taught in high school. She has never seemed at a loss for ideas and responds to suggestions with her own sensibilities intact while addressing those counsels. Although I often don't know what is going on conceptually with her work the evidence is compelling enough that I don't need to.

I honestly look forward to seeing where Brooklyn's ideas and skills will lead her the rest of this school year and hope to see these continue in one of my classes next year.

## Why I Chose Macy Wyant

Macey is one of those students that consistently brighten my day with a welcoming and generous nature, genuine smile, and positive sense of humor. I have had the privilege to have Macey as a student for the past 3 years and admit these last couple of years have been the most trying in my teaching experience, which makes those attributes that much more meaningful.

Aside from Macey's endearing personality she also is an accomplished artist who is always making, exploring ideas, and working on enhancing her skills. She readily embarks on challenging sculptural ideas and if, or maybe more accurately when, she becomes frustrated or bored with the process will move to the wheel and bang out numerous pots before returning to finish what she started. Her skills both in hand-building and on the wheel consistently have improved in this back-and-forth play, as she is never not producing.

I know I have used the phrase "A pleasure to have in class" on countless report cards and that it may seem contrived, however in Macey's case it is most sincere, and I hope to have that pleasure again next year.

## Artist Statement

The decorative work is a presentation of skill, evolved aesthetic, and a love of making. The former has developed through formal education and applied practice. My aesthetic has been developed through the same means but preceded and augmented by my upbringing in a home that valued history, collecting, antiquities, conversation, crafts, and the decorative arts. The latter is self-explanatory. Making pots allows for all these facets to combine, with the outcome being both functional and ornamental. This duality is echoed throughout history and somehow connects me with this past as well as my own. All my work is one of a kind although classical proportions and forms coupled with visceral expressionist elements such as the glazing or surface textures are evident throughout much of my work. Most all the work is assembled from thrown and hand-built red earthenware, occasionally press-molded elements are used, however, I will use any process that suits my ideas.