



# **Andrew N. Fitzsimmons**, Master

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Chenango Valley High School. Binghamton, NY.

## **Educational Philosophy**

As an educator, my goals are cemented in a traditional approach of understanding and developing skill level within my students and the artworks they create. I firmly believe in the process of creating art and look to guide my students in finding their visual voice. I expect my students to be able to make artworks that are structured around understanding material, mastering technique and methods.

The students I selected for the 2023 Master & Grasshoppers Exhibition understand artistic fundamentals of sculpting the human bust. The students created works that explored various subject matter, topics, and themes. They were successful in creating powerful works that represented the various stages of creation; sketched themes, building armatures, and sculpting the human form through blocking and mapping, to the final representation.

## **Artist Statement**

Currently (25 years) I teach ceramics and sculpture at Chenango Valley HS. I was an adjunct Instructor of art at SUNY Broome in Binghamton, New York for 13 years. I received my BFA in Graphic Design, my MA in Ceramics/Sculpture, and my MAT in Art Education from SUNY Oswego. I have lived in Owego NY since 2009, creating works for exhibitions, commissions, and sales.

My work is always evolving, experimenting, and exploring ways to create a visual impact. My work is cemented in a fundamental foundation of; technique, creative expression, exploration of shape and scale, and surface textures. My current work outside the classroom is centered around exploring the human form, and sculpting full figures and busts. My current series has an emphasis on exploring folklore, and mythology through storytelling. Using the mechanical and natural imagery to fortify the overall arching theme.