



# James States, Master

North Penn High School. Mansfield, PA.

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## Why I Chose Liam Nickerson

I have selected Liam Nickerson for the 2024 Master and Grasshopper Exhibition. Liam demonstrates many fine qualities as an artist and a student. He is hard-working, dedicated, and committed to creative exploration. It is his pursuit of creative exploration that I believe is his strongest asset. Liam strives to find out more every day. His willingness to try new techniques, delve into unknown materials, and explore concepts sets him apart from his classmates. Whether it's foraging for clay in the wild, pursuing a possibly outrageous idea, or attempting a technique that he has never tried before, Liam creates art with a certain fearlessness. Concern for failure seems to not cross his mind. I believe that Liam understands something that many students never grasp-that creating is its own reward. While the finished product can be important in the visual arts, Liam recognizes that the process of making art is a worthwhile experience.

## Artist Statement

My current ceramic work is an exploration of function, surface, and materials. One of my favorite aspects of ceramics is that they are one of the few art forms that are explored through touch. Function, visual aesthetic, and tactile response are intertwined. To that end, I try to make works that provide a specific function, while incorporating textures and surface treatments that will be pleasing/interesting, not only to the eye but to the touch. In doing so, I hope to provide a memorable and thoughtful interaction with the work.