Holly Heaslip: Surface Design in Clay

In this workshop we will explore surface design techniques on clay. Students will make simple multi-purpose dishes and tiles to then decorate using the techniques of sgraffito, sponging, spattering, stenciling, and stamping. Our method of forming the small dishes and tiles will be the "Slab" method of rolling the clay flat first, and then shaping. For the surface design techniques no drawing experience is necessary. Sgraffito is an Italian method meaning to "scratch through." We will apply glaze colors and carve through the surface to create designs. Sponging is an Early American pottery technique using a sea sponge to add glaze to the clay's surface leaving a pleasing design behind. Spattering is done with a stiff brush along with a stencil to mask areas; it makes a beautifully soft design on the surface. For stamping we will use foam, rubber, and wood stamps along with found materials to leave impressions in the clay's surface. These are all fun and simple surface design techniques! Your pieces will then be fired and ready to take home at the end of your week. All materials are included.

BIO:

A Cape Cod native, Holly began her journey with clay as an apprentice at Brewster Pottery. Being completely smitten, she continued on to complete a Bachelor's degree in Art Education at Skidmore College. From there she went on to The School for American Craftsman at Rochester Institute of Technology where she received an MFA. The next years were spent teaching in New York State and as an Artist-in-Residence at Art Park on the Niagara River in Lewiston, NY. Eventually the ocean beckoned, and she returned home to Barnstable Village where she established her studio, Bay Scallop Pottery. Working on the potter's wheel and with hand building techniques, Holly makes contemporary functional ware. Her inspiration comes from life near the seashore. It is her hope that her pottery speaks in a clear quiet manner reflecting her love of place.
https://capecodlife.com/holly-heaslip-potter/