

Late Fall 2026 SBMA

November 2 - December 13, 2026 | Enrollment Begins October 5, 2026

We have new class offerings for everyone to get into and explore!
Each SBMA student is eligible to submit to our annual Student/Faculty show!

Museum Members get a 20% discount on classes!

Active members, please select that you are
a member at checkout to receive your discount!

CERAMICS

All adult ceramics students must purchase a 25-pound bag of clay. Students have full access to studio glazes and equipment, one shelf, Open Studio schedule, and space in scheduled kiln firings. Beginning students should purchase a basic pottery tool kit for class (not included in the price of tuition). Clay is not included with the price of class, and can be ordered online under Clay Offerings (white stoneware, dark stoneware, and porcelain) under the Ceramics heading on the class registration page when you register for classes.

Intro to Potter's Wheel Level 1

Deborah Gardner
Sundays 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
$172 for members | $215 for non-members

This beginner-friendly class is perfect for those with little to no experience on the potter's wheel. Students will learn essential techniques like wedging, centering, shaping, trimming, and glazing to create functional pieces. With plenty of hands-on guidance, you'll gain the skills to bring your pottery ideas to life.

Intro to Potter's Wheel Level 2

Deborah Gardner
Sundays 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
$172 for members | $215 for non-members

This class is for the passionate potter looking to elevate their craft. Level 2 is tailored for those who have spent at least 6 months honing their skills on their wheel and are interested in more challenging pursuits.This class will push artistic growth as we dive into the intricacies of throwing thinner, mastering precise trimming techniques, and conquering the creation of larger forms and complex shapes. This course is designed to push the boundaries of your pottery skills.

Discovering Clay

Lisa Slomka
Mondays 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
$152 for members | $190 for non-members

Our six-week Intro to Ceramics course is perfect for anyone curious about working with clay. Through hands-on projects, you'll learn the basics of handbuilding while getting comfortable with the medium and our studio. Open to ages 15+, this class includes a block of clay and is recommended for beginners, though not required for other courses. (Not eligible for Open Studios.)

Next Steps in Clay

Norah Ruth Amstutz
Tuesdays 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
$172 for members | $215 for non-members

Working with artist Norah Ruth Amstutz, this class focuses on advanced ceramic techniques in an assisted studio setting. Advanced ceramicists will be able to learn techniques and further develop their personal skills and techniques with assistance from the instructor, who will guide them through highlighted advanced techniques in ceramics composition, along with techniques of technical glazing. This class is for the advanced ceramicist who focuses on ceramics and has a desire to heighten their studio practice.



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CERAMICS CONTINUED

Handbuilding

Jennifer Zona
Thursdays 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
$172 for members | $215 for non-members

Handbuilding is a pottery technique that uses only the hands, fingers, and simple tools—no wheel required. In this class, you'll learn pinching, coiling, and slab building, starting with pinching and progressing to more complex methods. These foundational skills allow you to create both functional and sculptural forms. No prior clay experience is needed.

Pottery Confidential

Laura Miller
Thursdays 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
$172 for members | $215 for non-members

A pottery class designed to show you all the tricks and secrets of clay. Explore wheel techniques, handbuilding, and glazing methods through various demonstrations. Students are welcome to bring project ideas, problems, and dreams to this class. Beginners are welcome.

Wheel Throwing Intensive Continued

Suzanne Hill
Wednesdays 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
$172 for members | $215 for non-members

Do you feel stuck in basic throwing land? Have you learned some techniques that just aren't working for you? Would you like to improve your throwing technique? Would you like to be able to work with larger pieces of clay? These are all things we will address and more in this 6-week throwing intensive. The course is designed for people who have been working on the wheel for at least 2 sessions and would like to take their skill to a higher level. Join instructor Suzanne Hill in this new offering!

Sign up for classes here!

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DRAWING & PAINTING

Fundamentals of Acrylic Painting

Kate Blalack
Saturdays 10:30 am - 1:30 pm
$140 for members | $175 for non-members

This 6-week class introduces teens (16 plus) and adults to the fundamentals of acrylic painting, integrating art theory to enrich technical instruction and personal expression. By course end, participants will have completed at least one finished painting, gain confidence in using brushes, understanding color theory and mixing, and applying composition principles informed by artistic theories. The instructor works with demonstrations and one-on-one apprentice-style guidance to help each student grow in their artistic journey.

Acrylic Painting 2

Kate Blalack
Tuesdays 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
$140 for members | $175 for non-members

This 6-week class designed for teens (ages 16+) and adults is designed for students who have completed the Fundamentals of Acrylic Painting course or have a basic understanding of (and experience with) acrylic painting. Building on foundational skills, students will explore more advanced techniques while developing their own artistic voice and personal style. Senior students are encouraged to enroll who are working toward portfolio completion for college entrance.

Landscapes in Soft Pastels for Beginners

Cathy McCormick
Tuesdays 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
$140 for members | $175 for non-members

The luminosity, portability, and immediacy of working in soft pastel will become your new joy. Step-by-step instruction using landscape images develops technique, composition, and color use for those who are new to the pastel medium. This class is taught by an award-winning pastel artist who is the president of the Northern Indiana Pastel Society. A warm, welcoming atmosphere is emphasized.

Continuing Practice in Soft Pastels

Mary Firtl
Tuesdays 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
$140 for members | $175 for non-members

This afternoon class is for those experienced in soft pastels, with weekly discussions, demos, and exercises. Participants should be comfortable with the medium and open to new approaches such as sketch-based work, painting with the opposing hand, or intuitive painting. Students will also explore historical and contemporary pastelists while enjoying time for personal projects, individual guidance, and group discussion in a supportive environment.



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DRAWING & PAINTING CONTINUED

Drawing New and Continuing

Morgan Watters
Thursdays 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
$140 for members | $175 for non-members

This is an introductory class, so no previous drawing experience is necessary in order to succeed. The class is designed to introduce fundamental skills, concepts, and techniques of drawing. Through representational drawing and a variety of media (pencil, charcoal) students will focus on principal aspects of visual art, such as composition, line, form, proportion, and value. Toward the second half of the session, as students' skill level continues to develop, an emphasis will be placed on the application of these skills.

Painter's Choice

David Lester Learn
Wednesdays 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Regular Tuition: $175

Calling all novice and veteran painters working in oil, acrylic, gouache, or tempera! This class is structured for independent work, collaboration, and mentorship between students and the instructor, with demos and discussions decided based on students' interests. This is a great choice for self-driven painters to learn new techniques.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Intro to Black and White Analogue Photography

Krista Kuskye
Thursdays 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
$140 for members | $175 for non-members

Whether an introductory student or an experienced shooter, all are welcome! Students will be encouraged to develop their own unique style while learning composition, how to expose correctly, process film, and create images in the darkroom. Class culminates with a series of prints showcasing students' artistic abilities.
*A basic 35 mm camera is required. There are limited cameras available for students to use, please inquire at education@southbendart.org for more information.

Intro to Experimental Darkroom Photography: Pinhole Photography, Photograms, and Chemigrams

Hannah Toepp
Tuesdays 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
$156 for members | $195 for non-membe

Intro to experimental darkroom is a place for discovery and fun in the photo darkroom. No darkroom or photography experience of any kind is needed to take this class. We will learn the basics of the darkroom and approach photography in different experimental ways from making your own pinhole camera to creating photograms and chemigrams in this experimental class.



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FIBER ARTS

Weaving New and Continuing

Andy Boze
Wednesdays 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
$140 for members | $175 for non-members

Learn the art of hand-weaving using traditional techniques on a multi-shaft floor loom. Beginning students may choose either a scarf or table-runner project that will enable them to understand the basic process. Those with experience will have the opportunity for individual consultation about materials, pattern structures, resources, planning and designing their own projects, and more. The studio has all of the necessary tools, but students are responsible for supplying their own yarn.

JEWELRY & METALS

Jewelry New and Continuing (Ages 18+)

Joanne Birdsell
Thursdays 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM
$148 for members | $185 for non- members

This six-week class is for both beginning students and those who would like to continue working in the studio to strengthen their jewelry making skills under the supervision of an instructor. Beginning students will be introduced to the basics of metal smithing through jewelry making starting with learning the basics of sawing, filing, soldering, and creating textures on metal. Continuing students will be exploring more advanced techniques in soldering and finishing, as well as new techniques such as cold connections, form folding, and advanced coloring processes. Each student can go at their own pace with plenty of personal attention. Communal studio tools will be available for shared class use.

TEEN & YOUTH CLASSES

Supplies and materials are included in the cost of all teen and youth classes!

Youth Ceramics

(Ages 9-12)
Iryna Gillis
Saturdays 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
$120 for members | $150 for non-members

Do you feel stuck in basic throwing land? Have you learned some techniques that just aren't working for you? Would you like to improve your throwing technique? Would you like to be able to work with larger pieces of clay? These are all things we will address and more in this 6-week throwing intensive. The course is designed for people who have been working on the wheel for at least 2 sessions and would like to take their skill to a higher level. Join instructor Suzanne Hill in this new offering!
Join us for a fun, winter-themed ceramics class for kids! Young artists will learn hand-building techniques while creating cozy mugs, and whimsical winter-inspired clay creations. Kids can let their imagination run wild, build new skills, and are eligible to submit their artwork for our Student & Faculty Exhibition. Clay and all materials are included!

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TEEN & YOUTH CLASSES CONTINUED

Youth Drawing & Painting Still Life Lessons

(Ages 9-12)
Agnes Kukawska
Saturdays 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
$104 for members $130 for non-members

Get ready to explore and experiment! In this class, kids will practice drawing and painting things they observe in still-life projects and then dive into the exciting world of abstract art and collage. It's all about having fun, trying new ideas, and showing off your creativity while learning about the elements of art! Students will even have the chance to submit their artwork for our Student/Faculty Show! All materials are included.

Teen Drawing & Painting Still Life Lessons

(Ages 13-18)
Agnes Kukawska
Saturdays 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
$104 for members | $130 for non-members

Artists often begin by looking closely at the world around them before moving into abstraction. In this class, teens will explore both approaches—starting with still life drawing and painting, then experimenting with abstract art and collage. Along the way, students will build skills, express their own ideas, and even have the chance to submit their artwork for our Student/Faculty Exhibition. All materials are provided!

FALL WORKSHOPS

Stained Glass Suncatcher Workshop

(Ages 18+)
Nancy Jackson
Saturday October 10, 2026 |12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
OR Sunday October 11, 2026 |12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
$100 all inclusive | membership discount does not apply

This beginner-friendly workshop introduces students to the art of stained glass using the copper foil technique. Participants will learn foundational skills including glass cutting, grinding, foiling, and soldering while creating a pre-planned stained glass Halloween-themed piece. This workshop is accessible, with an emphasis on safety, creativity, and hands-on learning. You can choose between the Saturday workshop or the Sunday workshop that best suits your schedule.

Students will create a small stained glass suncatcher using pre-cut and pre-ground glass pieces. Participants can choose from a pumpkin, a ghost, or a spiderweb!

- Single session
- Pre-cut glass provided
- Focus on foiling and soldering
- Beginner-friendly

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OPEN STUDIOS

$132 or members | $165 for non-members

Open Studio Passes

Open Studio passes are available from ***September 8 to October 18, 2026.*** Studio hours will be posted at the front desk and on our website once classes begin.

Visit southbendart.org/education and click on ***"Open Studio Schedule"*** for full details.

Please note: Open Studios are ***only for artists who have previously taken classes at SBMA*** and are familiar with the studio space. Only prior students may purchase an Open Studio Pass. Clay is not included in the price of Ceramics Open Studios.

Ceramics Open Studio Pass
$160 for members |$200 for non-members

Weaving Open Studio Pass
$132 for members | $165 for non-members

Jewelry & Metals Open Studio Pass
$160 for members | $200 for non-members

Printmaking Open Studio Pass
$132 for members | $165 for non-members

Darkroom Open Studio Pass
$152 for members | $190 for non-members

2D Open Studio Pass

CLAY PRICING

Dark Stoneware $30.00

White Stoneware $30.00

Porcelain $38.00

SHEIN TRUST

A special thank you to the Shein Charitable Trust for supporting SBMA Education Department's initiatives and projects.

Scan the QR code to get started on your creative journey!
Education@southbendart.org

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