

Sam Wallace

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Biography/ Professional Experience

Samuel Wallace is a traditional Jamaican potter who learned to make pots with his extended family in the backyard pottery sheds in rural St. Elizabeth parish. Wallace became a resident artist at Baltimore Clayworks in 1993, after he found the organization in the yellow pages while looking for kiln rental. He was, at that time, producing highly decorated work of exquisite beauty from native Maryland stoneware gathered near Memorial Stadium in inner city Baltimore.

In the ensuing year, Wallace began to teach his ecologically harmonious way of pottery making to others, and with the support from the Folk Arts and Children's Programs of the Maryland State Arts Council, conducted several highly successful school residencies. By 1998, Samuel Wallace had led 28 school residencies and had been a presenter at the National Art Education Association Conference. In 1995, he was the centerpiece of a Baltimore Clayworks residency project, From the Ground Up, which placed Wallace for one month each in four of Maryland's most rural counties. He also presented a workshop for the New Hampshire Potter's Guild, and exhibited his work at Philips/Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire. Wallace was also a featured demonstrator of his techniques at the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts conference in New Orleans in 1995.

He has been artist in residence at The Village of Arts and Humanities in inner city Philadelphia and at Reynolds Homestead Art Center in rural Crietz, Virginia, both through the Artist as Catalyst residency program of the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation. For five years, he taught the after school and summer art component for Clayworks at the McKim Community Center in historic Jonestown, as well as the Saturday Bright Starts program for the Mayor's Advisory Committee in Baltimore City. Furthermore, he has conducted clay classes at School 33 Art Center in South Baltimore and at John Eager Howard Recreation Center in the Reservoir Hill neighborhood of Baltimore City.

In January 2015, Wallace led a group of his Baltimore students on a cultural exploration of his hometown in Jamaica. He shared stories of his early influences and arranged for several outings, including demonstrations and in-depth tours of his clay mentor's studio and that of another clay artist in a neighboring town.

Wallace continues to teach and exhibit his work largely in a residency format, while a resident artist and employed as technician at Baltimore Clayworks.

Exhibitions

2015

- Art & Nature, current work, Baltimore Clayworks Solo Gallery, Baltimore, MD
- Station North CSA (Community Supported Art), Station North, Baltimore, MD
- 35th Anniversary Show, Baltimore Clayworks Gallery, Baltimore, MD

2014

Ink and Clay, C. William Gilchrist Museum of the Arts, Cumberland, MD

2013

Jamaican Folk Art Pottery and Modern Technique, Artist Gallery, WEAA 88.9 FM

2011

- Maryland Made, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
- Ceramic Artists of Baltimore Clayworks, Clay Place at Standard, Carnegie, PA



2010

NCECA, Cultivating Clay & Community for 30 Years, Philadelphia, PA

2008

- Cups Galore, Webster University, Labadie, MO sponsored by Creative Ceramic Concepts and J.F.H. Studio
- Keystone Collection, Hawk Gallery, Pittsburg, PA in conjunction with the NCECA Conference
- 500 Plates & Chargers, Lark Publications

2007

- Clay In Common: Member Artists, NCECA Conference Louiseville, KY
- John P. Weatherhead Gallery, School of the Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, IN
- Serve It Forth, Cross MacKenzie, Washington, DC

2006

 New Directions, current work 13 Baltimore Clayworks resident artists, Baltimore Clayworks Gallery, Baltimore, MD

2005

- Maryland Clay, group exhibition of work by Maryland residents, juried by Jimmy Clark.
 George Peabody Library Exhibition Gallery, Baltimore, MD
- Featured on Channel 2 WMAR and Channel 13 WJZ demonstrating his technique to promote the NCECA conference
- Clay in Common, member artists exhibition in conjunction with the NCECA conference. Baltimore Clayworks Gallery, Baltimore, MD
- Coming Home: a Journey in Clay, group invitational using clay from the mine and displayed on-site at the mine. Stancil's Clay Inc., Cecil County, MD

2001

- Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, an exhibition featuring 10 selected artists from the Baltimore Clayworks, Inc. Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hagerstown, MD
- Baltimore Clayworks: Clay in Common, member artist exhibition in conjunction with the NCECA conference; Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte, NC
- Mugshot, invitational group exhibition, Ellipse Art Center, Arlington, VA

2000

- Maryland Artists, Howard County Arts Council, Ellicott City, MD
- Baltimore Clayworks: Then and Now, a Baltimore Clayworks retrospective celebrating its 20th anniversary. Baltimore Clayworks Gallery, Baltimore, MD

1999

- Teaching and Talking Through Clay, Howard County Board of Education, Ellicott City, MD
- Mid-Atlantic Artists, group exhibition, The Philadelphia Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

1998

- Contemporary African-American Artists, invitational group exhibition, NCECA, Irving Art Center, Irving, TX
- ArtScape Artists' Market with Baltimore Clayworks 1994–2008

1995

 Sam Wallace – Solo Work, invitational exhibition, Tennessee Arts Academy, Belmont University, Nashville, TN

1993

- Messages From Home, invitational group exhibition, NCECA, San Diego, CA
- Maryland Artists, invitational group exhibition, Abbey Festival of the Arts, Atlanta, GA
- Traditional Works in Clay, group invitational featuring traditional clay techniques,
 Phillips Exeter Art Center, Exeter, NH



Teaching Experience

Jamaican Coil: An Aerobic Experience, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore, MD, Ongoing

Teen Wheel, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore, MD, Ongoing

Artist in Education residency (MSAC) at Indian Creek Elementary, Montgomery County, MD, April–May 2011

Arts and Expression, at the Baltimore Talent Development High School in cooperation with Johns Hopkins University, 2003-2011

Artist in Residence at Indian Creek, Upper School, Anne Arundal County, MD, 2007

Artist in Residence at Indian Creek Elementary, Anne Arundal County, MD, 2002

Artist in Education residency (MSAC) at Bethesda Elementary, Montgomery County, MD, Feb. 2001

Artist in Education residency (MSAC) at Bryn Mawr School, Baltimore City, Sept. 2000

Workshop at Hampton University, Newport News, VA, 2000

Workshop at Lee Art Center, Arlington County, VA, 2000

Artist in Education residency (MSAC) at Potomac Elementary, Montgomery County, MD, 1999