

Alex Olson

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EDUCATION

Carleton College — Northfield, MN — Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art (Ceramics) *June 2018*
• Honors: *magna cum laude* (GPA 3.93)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Alex Olson Arts LLC — Self-Employed Artist *June 2013 – present*
• Craft ceramics and wooden vessels, and manage their distribution to customers and galleries
• Create written, photographic, and video marketing materials for personal website, newsletters, and social media

Freelance Photographer, Videographer, Website Contractor *September 2018 – present*
• Create portrait and documentary-style photographs and films for marketing and promotion
• Collaborate with clients to understand their needs prior to and during a shoot
• Organize and edit photographs and videos for delivery to clients according to set deadlines
• Design, edit, and update client websites to translate their ideas into digital realities

Ceramics Wheel-Throwing Instructor — Gasworks, NYC, Brooklyn, NY *April 2023 – present*
• Teach throwing, trimming, and glazing techniques to 12 beginner/intermediate-level students on a weekly basis through a mix of demonstrations and one-on-one guidance

Ceramics Workshop Instructor — Brooklyn, NY & Portland, ME *July 2022 – present*
• Demonstrate alteration techniques such as faceting, carving, and texturing
• Duration: 3–4 hours, Studios: BKLYN Clay, Ceramic Meltdown, and Portland Pottery

Workshop Assistant — Penland School of Craft, Penland, NC *April 2023*
• Assisted Hitomi and Takuro Shibata during their five-day “Making and Place” workshop by coordinating clay purchases, supporting students, making slips, and loading/firing a soda kiln

Ceramics Instructor — The Workshop MPLS, Minneapolis, MN *April – June 2021*
• Taught throwing, trimming, glazing, and basic hand-building techniques to six beginner-level students weekly

Social Media Manager — Creative Enterprise Zone, St. Paul, MN *August 2019 – April 2020*
• Designed and executed social media campaigns to promote and increase community engagement around events hosted by the Creative Enterprise Zone
• Crafted photographic and video marketing materials for the Chroma Zone Mural & Art Festival

Woodturning Instructor — Pratt Fine Arts Center, Seattle, WA *April – June 2019*
• Taught woodturning skills to five beginner/intermediate-level students on a weekly basis

Studio Assistant — Rat City Studios, White Center, WA *October – December 2018*
• Assisted ceramicist Deborah Schwartzkopf with upkeep, operations, and promotion of her studio
• Collaborated with three other assistants to package and ship artwork, complete construction projects, organize studio supplies, fire kilns, teach workshops, and install exhibitions

Ceramics Teaching Assistant — Carleton College, Northfield, MN *March – June 2018*
• Prepared and taught demonstrations to 15 students on throwing, hand-building, and alteration techniques
• Assisted with loading and firing kilns and mixing clay and glazes

Publications

2022 *Versatility and Mindfulness: The Ceramic Bowl*, Pottery Making Illustrated, May/June '22

Awards / Honors

- 2018 Sigrid and Erling Larsen Award in Creative and Performing Arts, Carleton College
Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
- 2017 Patricia V. Damon Scholarship, Carleton College
- 2015 Hyslop-Warnholtz Award, Carleton College

Selected Exhibitions

- 2023 *Gasworks NYC Holiday Pop-Up Sale*, Gasworks NYC, Brooklyn, NY
Cup & Mug, Puerh Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY
Cup: The Intimate Object XIX, Charlie Cummings Gallery, Gainesville, FL
KC Clay Guild Teabowl National, Centered Earth Gallery, Kansas City, MO
Last Call VIII, Companion Gallery, Humboldt, TN
Brimful: An Invitational Exhibition of Handmade Cups, Indiana University East, Richmond, IN
Winter Warmers Benefit Cup Show, Good Earth Pottery, Bellingham, WA
- 2022 *LUSH 2*, Lighthouse ArtCenter, Tequesta, FL
Clay National XVI: Say It With Clay, Carbondale Clay Center, Carbondale, CO
KC Clay Guild Teabowl National, Centered Earth Gallery, Kansas City, MO
Cup: The Intimate Object XVIII, Charlie Cummings Gallery, Gainesville, FL
Winter Warmers Benefit Cup Show, Good Earth Pottery, Bellingham, WA
- 2021 *KC Clay Guild Teabowl National*, Centered Earth Gallery, Kansas City, MO
RCS at Good Earth Pottery, Good Earth Pottery, Bellingham, WA
Small Treasures 2021, Wood Symphony Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Cup: The Intimate Object XVII, Charlie Cummings Gallery, Gainesville, FL
Off Center, Blue Line Arts, Roseville, CA
Cheers! Drink Up!, Commonwheel Artists Co-op, Manitou Springs, CO
Hand to Mouth, Sweetwater Center for the Arts, Sewickley, PA
Flair with Dinnerware, International Ceramic Arts Network, Westerville, OH
Dirty South Cup Competition, River Oaks Square Arts Center, Alexandria, LA
- 2020 *Luminous: Holiday Show*, Rat City Studios, Seattle, WA
KC Clay Guild Teabowl National, Centered Earth Gallery, Kansas City, MO
Kindled Spirits, Good Earth Pottery, Bellingham, WA
The Woodfired Cup, Smallest Museum in St. Paul, St Paul, MN
- 2019 *Seward Park Clay Studio Holiday Sale*, Seward Park Clay Studio, Seattle, WA
Ellis Walker Group Show, Ellis Walker Gallery, Bowling Green, KY
Mug Madness 2019, Salt Stone Ceramics, Seattle, WA
Ramen Bowl Show 2019, Nidec-Shimpo Ceramics, Minneapolis, MN
- 2018 *The Art Of Giving 2018*, Wood Symphony Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Seward Park Clay Studio Holiday Sale, Seward Park Clay Studio, Seattle, WA
Holiday Art Exhibit, Schack Art Center, Everett, WA
Simple Cup Show 2018, Kobo Gallery, Seattle, WA
Annual Cup Show, Studio 550 Art Center, Manchester, NH
Cup: The Intimate Object XIV, Charlie Cummings Gallery, Gainesville, FL
Community Cup Showcase, Dubsea Coffee / Rat City Studios, Seattle, WA
Small Treasures 2018, Wood Symphony Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
RAW Seattle presents CONNECT 2018, Club Sur, Seattle, WA
BAM ARTSfair, Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA
Out of the Woods - Traditional Form Revisited,
AAW International Woodturning Symposium, Portland, OR
AAW Gallery of Wood Art, Saint Paul, MN
Tying a Loop & Watching it Close, Perlman Teaching Museum, Carleton College
- 2017 *Untitled (Junior Art Show)*, Boliou Hall, Carleton College
- 2013 *Turnings*, Kirsten Gallery, Seattle, WA

Ceramic Workshops

- 2023 Reduction-Cooled Train Kiln Firing, Lindsay Oesterritter, Oki Doki Studio, Germantown, NY
Reduction-Cooled Train Kiln Firing, Caroline Roberts & Nikita Nenashev, Oki Doki Studio, Germantown, NY
Reduction-Cooled Soda Kiln Firing, Andrew Sartorius, Oki Doki Studio, Germantown, NY
- 2022 Soda Kiln Firing for Clay Body Effects, Andrew Sartorius, Oki Doki Studio, Germantown, NY
Soda Kiln Firing for Glaze Effects, Andrew Sartorius, Oki Doki Studio, Germantown, NY
Reduction-Cooled Train Kiln Firing, Caroline Roberts, Oki Doki Studio, Germantown, NY
- 2021 Reduction-Cooled Train Kiln Firing, Emma Kaye, Oki Doki Studio, Germantown, NY
Train Kiln Firing, Andrew Linderman, River Song Pottery, Plano, IL
- 2019 Train Kiln Firing, Amy Song, River Song Pottery, Plano, IL
Train Kiln Firing, Jonathan Pacheco, River Song Pottery, Plano, IL

Woodturning Workshops

- 2021 Woodturning Master Class: Seminar, David Ellsworth, Anderson Ranch, Aspen, CO
- 2016 Woodturning Master Class, David Ellsworth, Anderson Ranch, Aspen, CO
- 2015 School of Woodturning, David Ellsworth, Ellsworth Studios, Quakertown, PA

Gallery Representation

- 2019 – present The Grand Hand Gallery, St Paul, MN
- 2019 – present Ellis Walker Gallery, Bowling Green, KY
- 2019 – 2021 Kansas City Clay Guild, Kansas City, MO
- 2018 – 2021 Kobo Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2018 – 2020 Schack Art Center, Everett, WA
- 2016 – 2019 Rob Schouten Gallery, Langley, WA
- 2016 Northwest Woodworkers Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2013 Kirsten Gallery, Seattle, WA

Studio Experience / Coursework

- Use of Electric, Kick, and Treadle Wheels
- Operation of Electric, Gas, Soda, and Wood Kilns
- Glaze and Claybody Formulation
- Woodturning, Fine Furniture Building
- Drawing, Watercolor, Bookbinding, Printmaking
- Digital & Film Photography, Darkroom Processing
- Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom, Illustrator; Final Cut Pro
- Filmmaking, Time-lapse Photography, and Stop-motion Animation

Links

- Website: www.alexolsonarts.com
- Instagram: [@alex.olson.arts](https://www.instagram.com/alex.olson.arts)
- Youtube: bit.ly/AOAYoutube