



## SODA FIRING KILN POLICY

JAN. 2024

A Soda Firing will produce different effects than our standard High Fire firings. The results are more atmospheric due to the amount of soda ash introduced into the kiln at the top firing temperature. However, this advanced firing technique takes additional preparation and staff hours.

Soda firing is available to individuals registered in the current session of soda firing. As a community firing we will limit the amount of items individuals can have in each firing to allow for everyone to get their work fired.

It is the goal of ICCGS to produce 3-4 soda firings per year for the community. The cost of firing is \$0.10 per cubic inch; this fee supports the additional costs of staff hours required to fire the kiln. To allow for three firings a year, community members are asked to participate in firing and need to follow the following procedures:

### **COMMUNITY SODA PREPARATION POLICY:**

- 1- Community members must participate in at least one Soda firing-related workshop to understand the preparation and loading processes offered by ICCGS.
- 2- Community members will add wadding to their pieces to help save time. Wadding is available two weeks before the firing. All wadding must be completed one day before the loading date, at most the week before.
- 3- Individuals who will routinely add or participate in the firings may be asked to participate in training for such tasks as wadding, loading work, stacking shelves, and cleaning soda shelves.

### **Soda Kiln - Clean up policy:**

The Assistant Director will oversee the cleaning of the Soda Kiln within two weeks of the kiln unloading, including grinding/ scraping posts and shelves, putting away kiln furniture, and cleaning the kiln room. If an individual's artwork damages the kiln or kiln shelf beyond standard ware and tear, the artist is responsible for replacing the kiln shelf.

Kiln shelf and furniture grinding must take place outside while wearing a respirator and under the training supervision of the Assistant Director. Safety gear will be provided and is mandatory.

### **Damage Fees:**

Artists are responsible for any damage your artwork causes to the kiln during the firing. This includes any and all equipment used during the firing, i.e., replacement fees for broken or damaged kiln shelves or tools. Report any problems immediately in writing to the Assistant Director [mary@iowaceramicscenter.org](mailto:mary@iowaceramicscenter.org)

An additional \$25 cleaning fee will be charged per piece that causes damage to a kiln shelf or post. Individuals cannot fire or rent a kiln again until all damaged fees have been resolved. If a shelf is damaged beyond repair, the artist will be required to pay the cost of a new shelf for the studio. A new Silica Carbide Shelf (soda kiln) is \$180.00.



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No guarantee is offered, explicit or implied, regarding the quality or serviceability of fired work. Every precaution will be taken to ensure the best possible outcome for every firing. When you submit pieces for firing, you agree that you will not hold the studio, its staff, volunteers, or any other person associated with the studio responsible for work that is damaged or defective in any way while in the studio at any stage.

Burnouts of organic material, metal clay, toxic glazes, luster, heavy wax, and unapproved commercial glazes cannot be fired in the Soda or any kilns at ICCGS.

**\*Disclaimer** - There is a variety of work fired in ICCGS community firing. ICCGS is not responsible for damages to work outside our control or undesired results from the kiln. While mistakes can happen in ceramics, individuals are responsible for damage to ICCGS kilns, kiln shelves, or kiln furniture due to glaze, improper use of materials, or construction.

-Priority will focus on developing the community's understanding of the Soda Kiln process and the resources it takes to fire it successfully.

### **2024 Soda Kiln Schulde Schedule**

(Date subject to change; Kiln loaded by ticket dates and size)

#### **March Soda Kiln**

Wadding Workshop: March 16, 2024 (4-5 pm)

Wadding Dates: March 30 - April 5, 2024

Loading Date: April 6-11, 2024

Firing Dates: April 12-14, 2024

Unload Dates: April 29-21, 2024

#### **October Soda Kiln**

Wadding Workshop: September 7th, 2024 (9-10am)

Wadding Dates: Oct. 4-10, 2024

Loading Date: Oct. 11-17, 2024

Firing Dates: October 18 - 20, 2024

Unload Dates: October 25-27, 2024

#### **November Soda Kiln**

Wadding Workshop: September 7th, 2024 - (9-10am)

Wadding Dates: November 9-14, 2024

Loading Date: November 15-21, 2024

Firing Dates: November 22-24, 2024

Unload Dates: November 30 - Dec 1, 2024



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