

Glassboro Education Foundation, Inc.

Send the completed application to the attention of:

Mr. Craig Stephenson
Beach Administration Building
Joseph L. Bowe Blvd
Glassboro, NJ 08028

A. General Information

Applicant(s): Tyler Monaco

School: Thomas E. Bowe Middle School

Principal: Lauren Kerr

Grade Level or Subject: Grades: Sixth, Seventh, & Eighth, Subject: Art

Phone: (school) 856-652-2700 ext. 8135 (Home): 856-430-0041

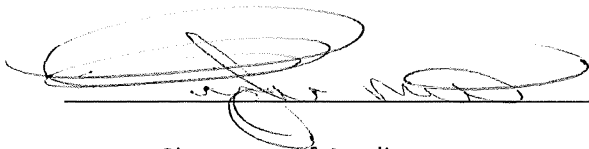
E-mail(s): tmonaco@gpsd.us

B. Statement of Assurances:

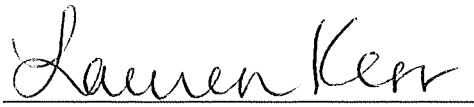
The applicant hereby assures the Glassboro Education Foundation that:

1. The applicant(s) meet(s) the eligibility criteria.
2. The activities and services for which the grant is sought will be implemented as written.
3. Any monies not expended within the school year shall revert back to the Glassboro Education Foundation, unless permission to carry it into the next school year is granted.
4. All publicity releases regarding a funded project will acknowledge the Glassboro Education Foundation and/or a particular mini-grant sponsor as the funding agency.
5. The grant recipient(s) will submit a final report summarizing the project's evaluation results.
6. The Board of Education authorizes the filing of this application.

We do hereby certify that all of the facts, figures and representations made in this application are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and that the assurances as stated above are understood and will be followed in their entirety.



Signature of Applicant



Signature of Principal

Please note: from this page on, please **do not include your name or your school** in any of your descriptions as all applications are coded to prevent bias.

C. Project Title and Description

Title of Project: Firing Creativity: Expanding Hands-On Ceramics Education

Subject Area(s): Visual Arts / Ceramics

Approximate Number of Students Participating: 249 students

Project Starting Date: January 2027 Project Completion Date: June 2027

Need: Describe the problem or deficiencies that exist which require the improvements described.

Hands-on ceramics instruction provides middle school students with an opportunity to explore three-dimensional art, develop fine motor skills, strengthen problem-solving abilities, and experience an artistic process that cannot be fully replicated through drawing, painting, or digital media. A functioning kiln is essential to providing these experiences safely, consistently, and successfully.

The kiln currently available for ceramics instruction has not been firing at full and consistent capacity for at least the past year. Its declining performance has created challenges when completing ceramic projects and has limited the reliability of the firing process. Students are challenged to apply learned techniques to increasingly complex ceramic projects. Younger students develop foundational hand-building skills through projects such as pinch pots, while older students apply more advanced techniques through functional clay mugs and slab-constructed sculptural portraits. These projects require students to apply scoring and slipping, texture, surface design, craftsmanship, glazing, and other learned techniques while progressing through the complete ceramic process.

Efforts have been made to determine whether the existing kiln could be repaired rather than replaced. However, components needed to restore reliable operation are not replaceable on the current model, and an electrical/control upgrade alone is not possible. Outreach to other schools with kiln programs has also been conducted to explore potential repair options and identify qualified service technicians. This research has shown that there are limited technicians available who service this specialized equipment, further restricting viable repair options. Based on these findings, replacement of the existing kiln has become the most practical path toward restoring dependable firing capabilities for students.

After students invest significant time and effort into their artwork, an inconsistent firing temperature can jeopardize the final outcome of that work. Improper firing can contribute to cracking, glaze defects, or other unsuccessful results that cannot always be corrected once the firing process is complete. A dependable kiln is therefore essential not only for completing the

curriculum, but also for giving students the opportunity to see their hard work successfully progress from an idea to a finished ceramic artwork.

During the current school year, approximately 249 students participate in the visual arts program and have the opportunity to engage in hands-on ceramics instruction.

Replacing the aging and increasingly unreliable kiln would address this instructional need by providing these students with dependable access to ceramics education. A new kiln would support current students while serving as a long-term investment in the visual arts program, allowing future students to safely explore clay, sculpture, texture, glazing, craftsmanship, and three-dimensional design through meaningful hands-on learning experiences.

Strategy: Briefly describe your plan to alleviate the need/problem.

Grant funding will be used toward the purchase of a new kiln to provide reliable firing capabilities for the visual arts ceramics program. The new equipment will replace the existing kiln whose declining performance has limited the consistency and effectiveness of the firing process.

Once installed and operational, the kiln will be incorporated directly into ceramics instruction and will support students as they progress through the complete ceramic process, including designing, hand-building, drying, bisque firing, glazing, and final firing. Students will be able to create functional and sculptural ceramic artwork while learning about clay properties, construction techniques, surface design, craftsmanship, and the scientific changes that occur when clay is exposed to high temperatures.

Because the kiln is durable instructional equipment rather than a consumable resource, the impact of the grant will extend beyond a single lesson or school year. The equipment will support multiple ceramics projects throughout the academic year and provide future students with continued access to hands-on three-dimensional art experiences.

Because the total estimated project cost exceeds the amount available through this grant, additional funding will be pursued to support the remaining cost. Potential funding sources will include support from the PTO, additional grant opportunities, and available district-level grant funding. Opportunities to involve students in supporting the ceramics program, including the possibility of a student pottery fundraiser, will also be explored. This multi-source funding approach will allow the requested grant funds to serve as a significant contribution toward making the kiln replacement possible.

**Glassboro Education Foundation
Grant Application**

D. Objectives, Activities and Evaluation Techniques (This page may be duplicated if necessary)

Objectives	Program Activities to Accomplish Objectives	Completion Date	Evaluation Techniques
Students participating in ceramics instruction will successfully complete at least one ceramic artwork that progresses through the complete ceramic process, including construction, bisque firing, glazing, and final firing.	Students will receive instruction in clay preparation, hand-building techniques, texture, scoring and slipping, craftsmanship, drying procedures, glazing, and the firing process. Students will design and construct original ceramic artwork and observe how their work changes throughout the ceramic process.	May 2027	Student success will be evaluated through completed ceramic artwork, project rubrics, teacher observation, and student reflection. Students will demonstrate their understanding of clay construction, craftsmanship, glazing, and the firing process through the successful completion of at least one ceramic project. Program effectiveness will also be evaluated by documenting the successful completion of scheduled bisque and glaze firings and comparing the reliability of the firing process with the limitations experienced using the previous kiln.

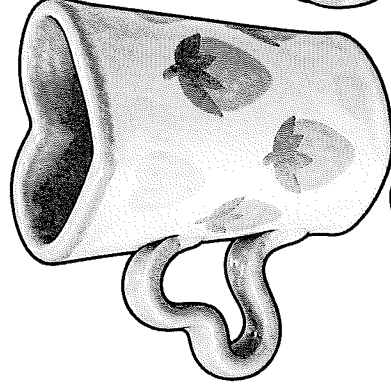
E. Itemized Budget

Materials/Equipment		Services		Evaluation Techniques	
<u>Item(s)</u> <u>L&L Easy-Fire e23T-3 Kiln, Model</u> <u>e23T-3, 6.7 cu. ft., Genesis</u> <u>Multi-Zone Touchscreen Control</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>\$4,428.00</u>	<u>Item(s)</u> <u>Kiln Delivery, Installation &</u> <u>Training</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>\$515.00</u>	<u>Item(s)</u> <u>No additional costs</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>\$0.00</u>
		<u>Existing Kiln Removal &</u> <u>Disposal (optional)</u>	<u>\$350.00</u>		
<u>Sub-total:</u>	<u>\$4,428.00</u>	<u>Sub-total:</u>	<u>\$865.00</u>	<u>Sub-total:</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<u>Grand Total:</u>					<u>\$5,293.00</u>

The requested \$2,500 grant will be applied directly toward the purchase of the new kiln. Funding for the remaining \$2,793 will be pursued through additional sources, including PTO support, district-level grant opportunities, additional external grants, and potential fundraising opportunities connected to the ceramics program.

Images 1–3 — 8th Grade: Hand-Built Clay Mugs

Students applied hand-building, scoring and slipping, surface design, craftsmanship, and glazing techniques to create functional ceramic mugs.



Images 4–5 — 6th Grade: Pinch Pots

Students explored foundational hand-building techniques while applying physical texture, form, craftsmanship, and glazing to create original pinch-pot designs.

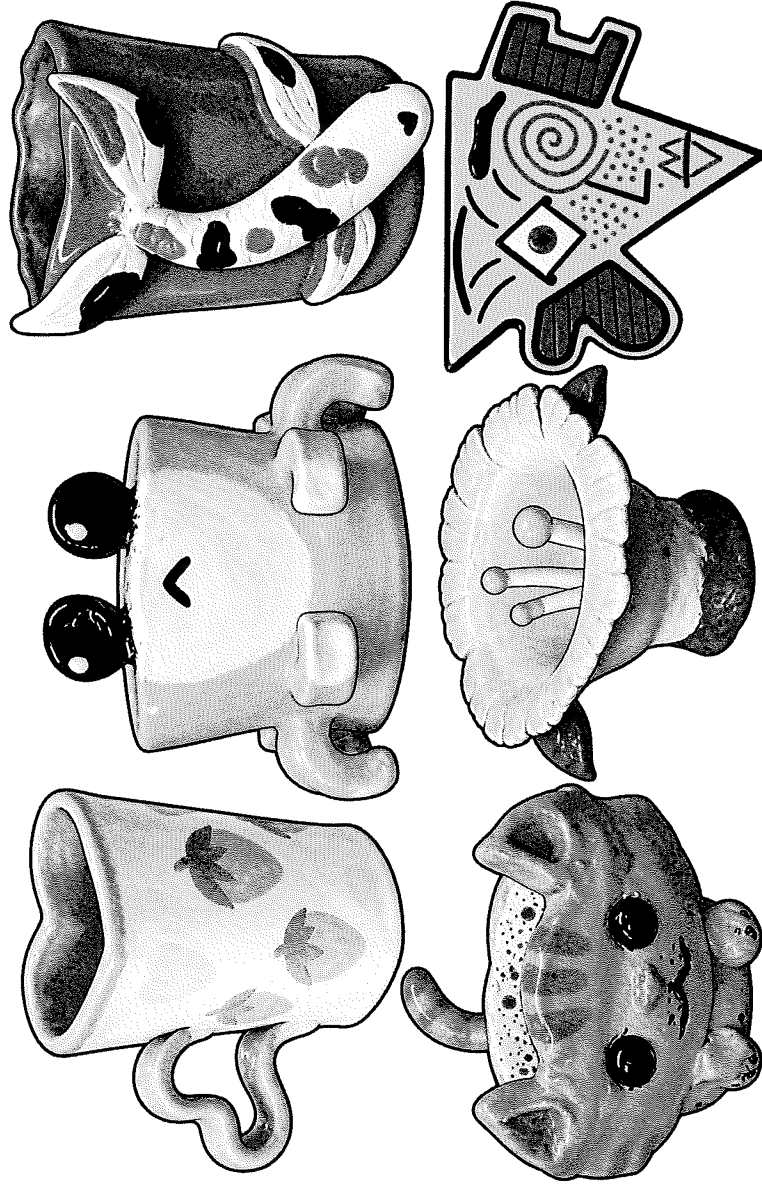
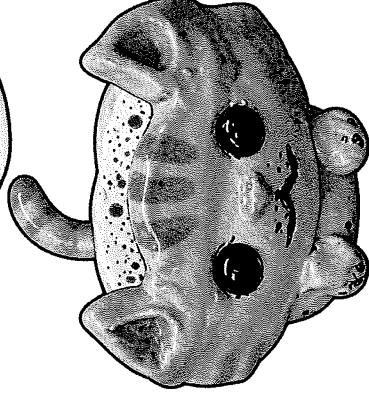


Image 6 — 8th Grade: “Roll-a-Picasso” Slab Portrait

Students used slab construction techniques to create an original three-dimensional portrait inspired by the abstract characteristics of Pablo Picasso’s work, incorporating shape, form, texture, and surface design.



These examples represent the range and complexity of ceramic work created by students at multiple grade levels. Students progress from foundational

hand-building experiences to more advanced functional and sculptural works that require planning, technical skill, craftsmanship, glazing, and multiple firings. Reliable kiln performance is essential to ensuring that students can successfully carry their artwork through the complete ceramic process and see the results of the time, effort, and skills they have invested in their work.

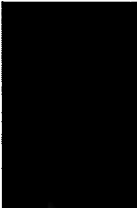
Appendix B: Vendor Quote Regarding Kiln

The Kiln Guy LLC
1915 N Charlotte St
Pottstown, PA 19464 USA
+12676269591
sales@thekilnguy.com

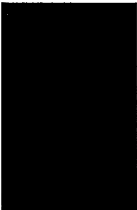


Estimate

ADDRESS



SHIP TO



ESTIMATE # 1393

DATE 05/19/2026

EXPIRATION DATE 08/17/2026

PRODUCT/SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
e23T-3-208-1Ph	L&L Easy Fire - Model e23T-3 Part #K-E-2313121 Medium (6.7 cubic feet) Cone 10, 2350F, 1290C Genesis Multi-Zone Touchscreen Control	1	4,428.00	4,428.00
Electrical Requirements: 208 Volts, 1 Phase Breaker Size: 60 Amp Wire Size: 6 Gauge Receptacle: NEMA 6-50R				
Kiln Install	Kiln Delivery, Install & Training	1	515.00	515.00
Kiln Removal & Disposal	Kiln Removal & Disposal ***Optional***	1	350.00	350.00

This is a QUOTE.

SUBTOTAL 5,293.00
TAX 0.00
TOTAL \$5,293.00

This QUOTE is the final price for the kiln.

ELECTRIC REQUIREMENTS FOR (208v 1Ph) Power Supply
(6) GA WIRE, (60) AMP BREAKER, NEMA (6-50R)
RECEPTACLE W/ GROUND PRONG ORIENTED AT 12
O'CLOCK

New L&L (e23T-3-208-1Ph) Kiln. Delivery & Install included.
Removal of old kiln is optional.

*Once deposit is received, changes cannot be made to the order. Cancellation of order will result in forfeiture of deposit.