

# Dot Burnworth

## Stone Soup Pottery



I opened Sawmill Pottery on September 21, 2003. There are so many aspects to running this studio and gallery, but what I love most is the sense of community. While throwing pots is fun, without the amazing people I work with every day, I'd have given up a long time ago. I love the energy and inspiration I get from other potters in the studio. I am so proud that we are about to celebrate our 8 year anniversary!

I fell into pottery by accident. In 1994, while attending college at the University of North Carolina, I won a free class at a local arts center. I chose a pottery class and by the end I was hooked. While I continued to earn my degree in Anthropology and Communications, I simultaneously began piecing together a non-traditional education in ceramics. I was most influenced by my experiences working as an apprentice for Sally Resnick in Chatham County, North Carolina and studying under Jim Koudelka at the Oregon College of Art & Craft and Carolyn Judson of Bath, Maine.

My wheel-thrown, functional stoneware pieces are recognizable by their classic forms and bright, paintbox tones. Much of my work includes pierced patterns, using the negative space as an image in itself. I call my style "decorative functional" because I hope that my work will be used at the dinner table to enhance everyday living and also be elegant enough to become a decorative element in the home.

The gallery at Sawmill Pottery features work from many potters. I use the name Stone Soup Pottery when I am representing my own work. I create studio and custom pieces that are available in a wide range of color choices and are all food, microwave, and dishwasher safe. Collectible ornamental pots feature specialty fired finishes including raku, horsehair, and crystalline. Custom vessel sinks are available by special order.

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