



### **Artist Instructor Profile – Sara Lerner**

Sara Lerner’s excitement about teaching ceramics today is just as vibrant as when she first became involved with the Armory 27 years ago. An original, founding instructor of its extraordinary Ceramics Department, the Armory Art Center holds a special place in her heart for its position as a tangible staple for the artist community.

“The Armory’s place in the larger community is paramount,” said Lerner, who brought ceramics to the Armory Art Center in 1993. “Art matters...is a vital force, it unifies people.”

To her, art is a means to celebrate and heal. “Art gives (us) the chance to rediscover passion and spirit,” Lerner said. “Things may come and go, but our art will remain to tell the cultural and social stories of our time.”

Lerner said, for her, the realization that she was, ‘an artist,’ was natural: “When does a fish know it’s in water?” she laughed.

“I have always preferred working with my hands,” she said, noting that the first time she touched clay at the age of six... “I immediately fell in love!”

Lerner translates that love and passion into her Armory classroom. There, students of varying skill-level, find an approachable and inspiring learning environment. Lerner points that there is much to learn in the process of ceramics, from the skill of working with clay and glazes, and technical aspects of design, form, shape, proportion, function, surface.

“I believe my unique approach in the classroom is my patience and full presence with my students,” she said.

In return, Lerner finds time spent with students, “...joy shared that expands. It feels good to be together making pots.”

Lerner looks at the Armory as that special place that makes art available for everyone and feels that there is no better time than now to get involved by taking in an Armory exhibition or experiencing a class.

“It’s never too late – or early – to learn something new,” she said. “Play, have fun, let it out. Why wait? It’s good for you!”

*Article by Laura Louise Tingo, JSS Marketing & Public Relations*

About Sara Lerner:

Sara Lerner was born in Rome, Italy and raised in Palm Beach where she took her first pottery class at age 6. It was love at first touch and she has been making pots ever since. Sara graduated from the University of Miami with a BFA in Ceramics and she helped build the ceramics department in the early Armory days from 1993-2003. Sara has taught in Palm Beach County, Miami-Dade County and exhibited nationwide and internationally. Sara also practices and teaches yoga and draws upon her skilled eyes and hands in both yoga and ceramics. Sara primarily creates elegant and rustic utilitarian pots as well as large decorative vessels inspired by her love of plants. Sara feels deeply honored to make ceramic art for people's homes and hearts.

Instagram: @saralerner ceramics

Learn more about the Armory Art Center and our classes at [armoryart.org](http://armoryart.org)