## Cameron, Corrina

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My name is Corrina DiLella Cameron, but you can call me Corrina. I'm an artist and high school teacher currently living and working in London, Ontario. My relationship to clay began in Grade 5 when the local Tillsonburg Station Arts Centre came to my school and taught us how to hand-build mugs. I kept that first mug for many years and was fascinated by how a squishy lump of clay had become a shiny rock-like and (semi) functional vessel. It was magical!

Years later when choosing a university, I was drawn to Lakehead's HBFA Visual Arts program in part because of their ceramics department. My ceramics professor Sarah Link created a welcoming and playful environment to experiment and push the boundaries of clay. At first I was terrible on the potter's wheel, finding success much easier with slab work, but I was determined to succeed at the wheel. Sarah let us use the ceramics studio 24/7, so I went in on weekends and evenings to throw, only stopping when the sides of my hands had been worn raw. I had the privilege of studying under her for three years before having to transfer to York University for medical reasons. I finished my HBFA in Visual Arts at York and then moved to London for my BEd at Western University.

Though I had heard of the London Clay Arts Centre, I lived in London six years before I finally signed up for a pottery class. And boy was I rusty! I am grateful for my patient teachers Shelley Boa, Jordan Scott, and Brian Barry for helping me get back on the horse after so many years away from the wheel. Since becoming a member of the London Potters Guild my focus has been on mastery of technique while exploring my own voice in ceramics. As I grow in my abilities, I hope to expand not only my repertoire, but also my courage to experiment with the many possibilities within this art form.