

TAYLOR WOODRUFF

Studio Technician · Studio Monitor

Tri-lingual ceramicist and studio technician with seven years of hands-on practice in handbuilding, wheel throwing, and atmospheric kiln firing. Soda kiln operator and studio monitor at Cal Poly Humboldt from 2021 to 2024, with direct experience supporting students, maintaining studio environments, and managing equipment. Ceramics artist in residence at AIR Vallauris, France. Committed to craft, community, and making studio spaces work well for everyone.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Ceramics Artist in Residence

AIR Vallauris, France · Spring 2026

- Fabricated a collection of hand-built sculptures and thrown vessels, experimenting with techniques for texture development.
- Upheld studio and shared-space cleanliness and safety standards.
- Conducted instructional demonstrations and workshops for the public.
- Formulated glazes from dry materials, using established and custom recipes.
- Contributed to the organization of gallery events and exhibitions.

Studio Monitor, Ceramics Department

Cal Poly Humboldt, Arcata, CA · 2021–2024

- Oversaw daily studio operations: kiln loading/unloading, scheduling of firings, equipment upkeep, and student support.
- Served as the primary operator of the department's soda kiln.

Wildland Firefighter & Smokejumper

WA · AK · CA · 2013–2024

- Twelve years in wildland fire suppression, including seven years as a smokejumper.
- Team coordination, high-pressure decision-making, rigging parachutes, and maintaining harnesses and safety equipment in remote environments.
- Welcomed the public and routinely led tours of the North Cascades Smokejumper Base.

Route Setter

Far North Climbing Gym, Arcata, CA · 2017–2025

Freelance Interpreter & Translator

English / Spanish · 2017–present

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, French and Studio Art — Cal Poly Humboldt, Arcata, CA, 2024

Lifelong artist with extensive experience in ceramics, painting, and drawing studios.

CORE SKILLS

- Hand building, wheel throwing, and surface decoration
- Gas, electric, and soda kiln operation
- Glaze mixing
- Studio and equipment maintenance
- Leadership and team management
- Collaboration within diverse groups
- Level head in stressful work environments
- First Aid / CPR certified
- Fluent in Spanish and French (C1) and English (Native)

AWARDS

Sondra Schwetman Technical Award for Sculpture, 2022 — In Whose Grip

REFERENCES

Dan Molyneux

Ceramicist & Lecturer, Cal Poly Humboldt

Contact available on request

Eric Thorp

Loft Foreman, North Cascades Smokejumper Base

Contact available on request

CONTACT

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