

Woodturning

Rebecca DeGroot

June 20-26, 2021

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this class, you will be learning basic design concepts and problem-solving techniques to learn how to take simple domestic objects such as bowls or boxes and bring them to life with carving and sculptural additions.

We will be starting the week with the walking bowl. After working through basic bowl turning, you will then learn the strategic carving processes that will transform the foot of the bowl into individual hips. To create the legs, you will be turning a minimum of three matching spindles, cutting them apart, gluing them back together, and reinforcing the joints to create very angular legs on which your bowl will stand.

On day two, we will be moving on to a series of mushrooms: straight, curved, and walking. These can be as simple or as complex as you would like to make them. Again, we will be starting at the lathes, then taking them to the carvers, and finally to the wood burners to create a unique texture underneath the mushroom caps.

On the third day, we will be exploring the walking box. You will start by turning a box with a pointed or rounded bottom. The challenge of a curved bottom will give you a new design opportunity, breaking away from the traditional idea of a flat-bottomed box. You will be designing the sculptural leg forms and cutting them from a board, joining the separate sections, then carving them to the final shape. Once the hips on the box are carved, you will be able to suspend your box from the legs. On this piece, there will also be an opportunity to create a carved lid handle to add to the natural flowing characteristics of the walking box.

On the last two days, you will have the choice of returning to and exploring more in-depth techniques learned on previous days or taking the opportunity to create one of two new sculptural forms. Similar to the mushrooms, these forms are not necessarily utilitarian, but can be purely sculptural, letting your designs stretch to the confines of the materials being used. You will have the opportunity to discover and experiment with new sculptural components, play with forms, textures, colors, and the overall personalities of the pieces.

At the end of the week, you could walk away with up to seven new pieces, displaying mastery of simple turning, carving, and adding unique sculptural components.

Once assembled, these objects won't look like your average turnings, rather, you'll have a collection of unique and whimsical creations ready to encourage your imagination to run wild!

By making strategic sculptural modifications to turned objects, those of you interested in turning, carving, and sculpting will gain the experience and ability to push yourself out of your comfort zone and produce creations you never imagined possible.

MATERIALS LIST

- An assortment of *sandpaper ranging from 80 grit to 320 or higher
- *Come with ideas for your abstract turned and sculpted piece **OR** bring personal projects that you would like to modify by implementing techniques and processes learned throughout the week. (Please note no cocobolo, ash, or sycamore due to allergen issue)*
- Any turning tools you already own and can travel with.
- *Flash drive (to protect and save data to and from Library computers)
- *Padlock for your studio locker, if desired (For rent in the Supply Store for the week)

All Items marked with an "*" are available for purchase in the Supply Store

The Arrowmont wood studio is well equipped for virtually any type of turning. We are limited to specific types of tools and quantity needed for each class. If you are a beginning student or are traveling light, we do have tool kits that contain basic tools such as: bowl, spindle and roughing gouges as well as scrapers, skewers and parting tools. These kits are for student use.

COVID-19 UPDATE

In accordance to Arrowmont's COVID-19 policies, Arrowmont recommends that all students bring multiple face coverings in accordance to the CDC guidelines (2-ply, cloth face covering). Along with additional masks, students should consider bringing additional PPE that they may need personally, including but not limited to hand sanitizers and gloves. When asked to bring a respirator or N95 for class, please consider the best option for the supply in your area with health care workers in mind.

In addition to the new operating policies due to COVID-19, Arrowmont is providing additional information to students about materials and tools that will be provided in classrooms. If a student already owns the below items and can travel with them, the student can choose to bring these additional items. Arrowmont will provide these items to students but wants to ensure that all students feel comfortable while on campus as some of these items will be shared amongst a class and are not guaranteed to be one per student.

SUPPLIES

- Double ended calipers
- Hollowing tools
- Face shield
- Drill bits
- Hand drill
- Wood hand saw
- Hand sander block
- Files
- Wood burner

If a student chooses to mail tools and supplies to Arrowmont prior to the class, the packages will be placed in the student's classroom.

Please label packages clearly, including student's name and class week.

Students can mail packages to:

Arrowmont
C/O Student Name and Class Week
556 Parkway
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

MATERIALS FEES: \$75.00-\$100.00

Materials fees will be charged for materials used in the studio and/or provided by instructors for use in the studio by the entire class. In order to keep these fees as low as possible, fees are assessed on an individual class basis and may vary from class to class depending on the amount of materials used and the number of students in the class. Materials fees are paid on the last day of class.

The woodturning lab is one of the most advanced wood turning studios in the country. We are proud to have quality lathes for your use. The types of lathes are Oneway, Powermatic, Robust, Robust sit-down lathe, and Jet mini lathes. The spindle size for all the lathes are 1 1/4 x 8TPI except for the Oneway which uses a metric spindle 33mm x 8TPI. All the lathes come equipped with an Oneway Stronghold chuck, drive centers, cup centers, step centers, live centers, and other basic and essential items. The woodturning lab is not equipped with extra lathe accessories. You may wish to bring your own, which ever you choose is fine.

**The wood studio provides wood for each class as requested by the instructor. Our wood supply is of local indigenous woods. If you have access to wood in your area, and would like to bring your own to use or share with fellow classmates, please familiarize yourself with laws and regulations in bringing wood across state lines before doing so. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has requirements in place to help protect the environment locally and nationally that are regulated on federal and/or state levels.

If you have any questions concerning the wood studio or tools, please feel free to email Heather Ashworth, wood studio technician, at hashworth@arrowmont.org.

Please be advised that above course description and materials list is written and approved by the instructor.

If you have any additional questions about this class, below is the contact information for your instructor:

989-287-2352

rebeccaedg@gmail.com

www.rebeccadegroot.com