

Claire Murdock

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Profile

I am a conscientious, committed and adaptable young woman, who aims to have a self-sustained business in the Applied Arts sector. I graduated with a second class upper division 2:1 BA (Hons) Degree in Contemporary Applied Arts; Ceramics at the University of Ulster in 2013. I have since undergone a further two years refined skills study on the prestigious DCCoI Ceramics Skills and Design Training Course in Thomastown in order to gain the skills required and pursue my business goals.

During my degree and two years in Thomastown I successfully combined my studies with work and other commitments showing myself to be, organised, self-motivated and capable of working under pressure. I have a clear, logical mind with a practical approach to problem solving and a drive to see things through to completion. I enjoy working on my own initiative or in a team.

In short, I am reliable, trustworthy, hardworking and eager to learn new skills.

Education

2014 to 2016 – DCCoI Ceramics Skills and Design Training Course, Thomastown – graduate July 2016

2010 to 2013 – University of Ulster, Belfast – BA (Hons) Contemporary and Applied Arts; Ceramics (2:1)

2009 to 2010 – Northern Regional College, Ballymena – BTEC National Diploma in Foundation Studies; Art and Design (Pass)

2002 to 2009 – Ballymena Academy Grammar School (GCSE: 2 X A / 4 X B / 3 X C Grades) (A Level: 2 X C / 1 X D Grades)

1995 to 2002 – Carniny Primary School, Ballymena

Certifications

Counterbalance Forklift License (Received 06/05/17)

Edge Award – University of Ulster (Received 03/07/13)

Principal's Award and N.E.E.L.B Award for 14 years unbroken attendance through primary and secondary education (Received 22/10/09)

Key Skills (level 3) Communication (Received 12/09/09)

Edexcel (Level 3) I.C.T. and C.A.D in Construction and the Built Environment (Received 06/07/08)

OCR (Level 2) I.T. Photoshop (Received 19/05/08)

Part-time/ Full-time Employment History

November 2018 – Present Rosegift Cottage Crafts
Portglenone

Main Job Title: Pottery Wheel Classes – Tutor
Part-time: Evening & Weekend Classes and parties
Skills Achieved: Tutoring all ages about clay, throwing on the potter's wheel, turning, finishing. Wedging and clay preparation. Kiln firing and glazing.

February 2017 – Present Ulster Ceramics Pottery Supplies
Swatragh

Main Job Title: General Worker
Full-time: Monday-Friday 8am – 4.15pm
Skills Achieved: Driving and operating a counterbalance forklift truck and reach truck within a compact but large warehouse, unloading/loading lorries working with machinery and pottery equipment, picking, packing and posting orders, labelling, construction and maintenance of wordpress website with woo commerce platforms, management of orders, payments, social media, advertising, running & teaching of practical skilled workshops & courses, glaze chemistry, firing kilns, mould making, kiln building repairing, stock management, answering phone calls & email queries in a professional manner

November 2014 – September 2015	<u>Manor House & Estate</u> Thomastown. Co. Kilkenny	Main Job Title: Gardener/groundskeeper Skills Achieved: Time management, heavy manual handling, meeting deadlines and requirements, meticulous and tidy upkeep of grounds
May 2014 – September 2014	<u>Moy Park Hatchery</u> Broughshane	Main Job Title: Hatchery Factory Worker Skills Achieved: Time management, working with heavy machinery and production equipment, meeting health and safety standards, sexing baby chicks, egg and hatcher experience, cleaning to meet contamination spot checks.
August 2008 – August 2014	<u>Ross Park Hotel</u>	Main Job Title: Waitress Other Positions: House Keeping, Reception & Silver Service Skills Gained: Teamwork, organisation, working and coping under pressure, dealing with the public.
August 2006 – August 2008	<u>Bagel Factory</u> <u>Fairhill, Ballymena</u>	Main Job Title: Supervisor Skills Gained: key holder duties, cash replenishment, decision making,
August 2003 – August 2006	<u>Utree Restaurant</u>	Main Job Title: Waitress for 2 years / Trainee Chef for 1 year Skills Gained: Health and safety knowledge, time management, working and coping under pressure.

Voluntary Work

January 2005 – October 2006	<u>Cancer Research UK</u>	Skills Gained: creative thinking in presentation and display. Working with the general public in a charitable nature.
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Activities and Interests

- Pottery
- Strict Gym/weight training lifestyle, fitness and diet
- Sun, Sea, Sand. Sightseeing, Dining. Adventures, Animals, Cars & Mechanics & DIY
- Training and competing in strongwoman and bodybuilding shows and events - regionally and nationally
Irelands Strongest Woman 2014, 2015 1st place, 2016 2nd place
European Champion in Loglift and Deadlift for U64kg July 2016
2nd place Miss Toned Figure NI in both NABBA and PCA shows April 2017

Professional Activities

- Semi Finalist Contestant on 'The Great Pottery Throw Down' TV programme, Series 3 – January 2020
 - Craft stall at Countrysports Fair Weekend, Armagh – May 2019
 - Craft stall at The Wool Tower, Raceview Mill, Broughshane – December 2018
 - Craft stall at Artisan Market, Tower Centre, Ballymena – several weekends over Dec - Jan 2018 / February 2019
 - Craft stall at Raceview Mill, Broughshane – December 2017
 - 'Fairy trails' Craft stall at Galgorm Castle Fairy Trail Event – June 2017
 - 'Craftfest' Castleward, Strangford – Pottery Demonstrator and Craft Sales Stall – August 2016
 - Shortlisted and work selected for touring RDS Craft Awards Exhibition – August – November 2016
 - Shortlisted for Future Makers Award – May 2016
 - Selected Student Demonstrator at The International Ceramics Festival, Aberystwyth – June 2013
 - Pottery Night Class Demonstrator in PaintMeGlazeMe, Bangor – April 2012 – August 2012
 - Clay Workshop with P3 children in Loughview Integrated Primary School – December 2011
 - 'The Cape Table' Gallery in Bangor – Supplier of my work – October 2011 – January 2012
 - 'Transform' Exhibition in Portadown – Assisted in setting up – August 2011.
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Exhibitions

- 'The Art of Making' – Flowerfield Arts Centre, Portstewart – August 2019
 - '10 x 10 x 10 EXHIBITION' – The Puffin Gallery, Ballycastle – August 2018
 - 'YOUNG III – A New Generation' So Fine Art Editions Gallery, Anne Street, Dublin – February – March 2017
 - 'Spotlight' Finalist in Emerging Designer Award and Work for Kilkenny Shop, Nassau Street Dublin front shop window display and instore demonstrations – October 2016
 - RDS Craft Awards Exhibition, National Museum of Ireland – Country Life, Castlebar, Co. Mayo – August – November 2016
 - 'Cré' Graduate Exhibition, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny – July 2016
 - RDS Craft Awards Exhibition, Ballsbridge, Dublin – July 2016
 - 'Stepping Out' – Blue Egg Gallery, Wexford – April 2016
 - Ceramics Ireland Members Exhibition – Cowshed Gallery, Farmleigh, Dublin – June 2015
 - End of Year Show – Grennan Mill Crafts School – July 2015
 - End of Year Degree Show – University of Ulster, Belfast – June 2013
 - 'Contemporary Art Exhibition' – Rabbit Rooms, Bangor – August 2012
 - 'Contemporary Applied Arts Exhibition' – University of Ulster, Belfast – May 2012
 - 'Contemporary Applied Arts Exhibition' – University of Ulster, Belfast – December 2011
 - 'Fusion' – Space Craft NI, Belfast – June/July 2011
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Suppliers/Stockists List

- The Puffin Gallery – Ann Street, Ballycastle, Northern Ireland – March 2018 to Present
 - Gallery 1608 – Bushmills, Main Street, Northern Ireland – July 2017 to Present
 - Kilkenny Shop, Nassau Street, Dublin – September/October 2016
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Memberships

- Ceramics Ireland Member Since 2007
 - Craft NI Member Since 2007
 - Class Representative for Third Year Ceramics – University of Ulster 2009
 - Contemporary Applied Arts Society – Treasurer – University of Ulster 2008/9
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References

** Available upon request – also see contact details above of previous employers