

*This month's feature...*

## **Ceramic Supply Inc. Welcomes New Repair Technician, Ryan Soper**

Ceramic Supply Inc. is pleased to announce that Ryan Soper has joined the company as our Repair Technician. Ryan brings extensive experience in equipment repair and technique from his background as a sculpture shop technician. He holds an M.F.A. in Sculpture from Rutgers University and has interest in a



variety of the arts. After earning his B.A. degree from Wichita State University, he worked in product design in Seattle for a company that

See Ryan's sculptural work at  
[www.Ryansoper.com](http://www.Ryansoper.com)

manufactures eco-friendly messenger bags and purses. His sculptural work employs fabrics and metals. He is also an accomplished musician, specializing in synthesized music. He applies his skills in electronics not only to kiln maintenance, but to designing and making his own musical instruments. He recently moved to Queens, where he is setting up a new studio and workshop for his various creative endeavors.

Ceramic Supply Inc. is a major supplier of kiln and ceramic equipment in the New Jersey/New York area. Our customers include not only independent artists and studios, but also many public school districts. Ryan has identified a need for a systematic and reliable repair and maintenance

service for the equipment used by our customers. Since he joined us this summer, he has outlined plans for an overhaul of our repair department. "I want to be a resource for art teachers by safely speeding up the learning curve for using the equipment. The greater the level of comfort teachers have, the safer and more successful they will be," he says. He has developed a 10-point safety check that he provides with every service call. Ryan has found that it is very helpful for teachers and administrators to have a written report of issues. This added value to the service call is an asset that gives the school a better picture of its equipment and what can be expected in the way of maintenance costs.

Ryan offers a variety of services. He repairs all manufacturers of kilns, wheels, and slab rollers. Furthermore, he provides a variety of consulting services. He offers kiln tutorials for those considering a purchase, inspections of existing equipment, and set-up consultations for new purchases. He is skilled in kiln ventilation and is factory trained by both Skutt and L&L kiln manufacturers. An open and engaging young man, Ryan enjoys interfacing with his customers. "I especially like being back in the academic milieu," he says. "The people I meet on the job are interesting and devoted to their art." The same can be said of Ryan. Ceramic Supply Inc. is glad to have this skilled and dedicated addition to our staff.