"CROSS-POLLINATION: CERAMIC SEED POD PROJECT"

Project Description:

In this project, students will design and create a sculptural (non-functional) hollow form depicting an organic pod from an imaginary plant. Natural seed pods and found textural elements from nature will inform the pod. Real and closely observed form and texture will merge with invented and open-ended exploration to create either a singular pod or a series of pods.

Two combined pinch pots will create the basic form, which will be manipulated further through subtractive and additive methods. Goals for this project include creating a highly refined three-dimensional form as well as a varied, integrated surface texture. Preliminary planning will involve researching form and texture and creating sketches. Planning may also involve creating a maquette (small scale model or sculptural rough draft), before working towards the final form.

Self-Reflection:

Write a one-page (typed) self-reflection on both your process and resulting final product. Please embed images of your final sculpture(s) into your self-reflective paper. Address *some* of the following...

- Did you reference actual seed pods in creating the design for your final pod? Did you reference images online? Did you reference the works of other artists?

- Did you use the subtractive or additive methods when forming your pod?

- Did you integrate a variety of texture in your form? How did you use color to highlight texture?

- Did you create a maquette before beginning your final piece? How did the maquette inform the final sculpture?

- How did you decide on color additions? What were they? How does the addition of color interact with texture?

- Discuss the technical goal of *refinement*—how refined is your final pod? What was your process for refinement?

- How successful is your final seed pod in terms of *form*? Does it feel *balanced?* Is there a sense of *contrast*? Are certain features *emphasized*?

- Discuss how your chosen textures interact with the form. Does the texture enhance the form? Wrap around the form? Accentuate the form? Contrast with the form?

- Were you satisfied with the final seed pod? What works or doesn't work about it?

- If you were to do this project over again, what might you do differently?

- What challenges did you encounter while working on this project? How did you work through them?

- What did you enjoy most about this project?