

Pottery II
4th hour
4/26/16

Women's Education Vase

Throughout my project I referred back to the notes I took and to the suggestion of the other students around me. I originally was trying to find an idea by making a mind map of a broader topic, women's rights, and then narrowing it down from there. After making a mind map I was to make a presentation to show a group of people and get their reactions and ideas for my topic. After I got their ideas I reflected on them and found that most of the responses lead me in the direction that I had felt my project going. When I was creating the presentation I had chosen to use the topic of women's right to education and by discussing it with people from my class focused more on the people involved with furthering it and the things they've said. I found that when I discussed it with my class and got other people's views on the topic it was easier for me to come up with ideas for a project.

I thought a lot about the text we viewed at Iowa City throughout my project, it made me think a lot more about what makes a book a book. How far can you push a book till it's no longer considered a book? I was also very interested in the coptic vase that we saw, it was used to hold and contain text, like the binding and covers are to books. I feel that my piece was largely influenced by the coptic vase design and idea, I ended up sketching designs and ideas of different vases, similar to greek and roman vases, to come up with the design I wanted to create. I tied it into the idea of texts by putting names of some of the activists and quotes onto the outside of the vase. I came up with this idea by my research into women's right to education, I had come across many people who have been very influential in the fight for education and thought it would be a great idea to incorporate them into my project.

To create my project I had constructed it in three pieces. I started out by constructing the base and lower half of the body on the wheel, and when I was done constructing it I trimmed the base. I then used the piece to judge the measurements of the size to make the rest of the project. I then constructed the rest of the body on the wheel and make sure to make the width the right size to match up with the other half. When I trimmed the second piece I didn't make a bottom, instead cut out a hole that would be the width of the neck. The last piece I created was the neck, to construct it I just made a small bottomless cylinder on the wheel that was the same width as the hole on my second part. I then connected them all together to make the vase shape. I then pulled handles that looked good with the shape and size of the vase. When it was dried I used slip trail to put names of activists and quotes on it. I had some problems making the second piece the same width as the first piece, they ended up being slightly different widths, but I used a coyle to connect them and make them fit well.

A strength of my work I believe is the construction of the handles, because they are a good size for the size of the body and hold the piece well. I also believe a strength would be the shape of the piece, because I felt it worked well with what I had in mind. If I could go back and change a part of my project I would add a better base, because when I constructed it I had made a small base and it would have ended better if it would have been thicker and more prominent. I would also make the shape of the second half of the body less circular and more cone shaped, wider at the bottom and smaller at the top. I feel it would have made the shape less drastic. Over all I thought my project ended well and like where it ended up, even if I couldn't see where it was going at first.