

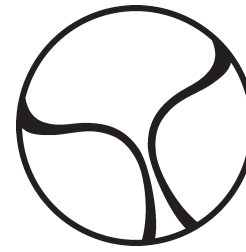


Ephraim Pottery

STUDIO COLLECTION 2021



Queen Bee Vase, see page 7 for details



This year's Studio Collection is extra special as it marks our studio's 25th anniversary. When Kevin Hicks started Ephraim Pottery in 1996, he longed for the clubhouse-like camaraderie of the art room where creatives collaborated and shared ideas.

Inspired by the Arts & Crafts movement archetype of upholding the ideals of hand craftsmanship and reverie for nature, he sought to build a different kind of pottery studio. In elevating artists through sustainable wages/shared profits and true creative collaboration, Ephraim's model has thrived.

Born during the uncertainty of the pandemic, this collection's development presented us with novel challenges. From virtual collaboration and impromptu home studios during quarantine, we flexed our way of pottery-making. We could not be more proud of our pieces stamped 2021. This collection is hard-won, historic—and it is our best yet! Included in the 2021 Studio Collection are six cohesive pieces inspired by the game of chess, an Artist Anniversary Limited-edition design, a redux of one of our earliest pieces, as well as a much-requested new frog vase—and several new art tiles.

This pottery is the privilege of our lives. Reflecting on the journey so far, we are overwhelmingly grateful for the support of our families, friends, and customers that have enabled the Ephraim Pottery dream to grow, evolve, and ultimately flourish.

We hope you enjoy this new collection!



Chess Vase Collection

The idea of making a chess set is one that has percolated for a long time at the studio. During the spring of 2020, as uncertainty amidst the pandemic grew, we sat in a circle in our parking lot—socially-distanced and masked—to brainstorm a nature-inspired, quintessentially Ephraim set.

As summer turned to fall, various iterations of chess pieces worked their way through the kilns and began to take on a life of their own. We noticed that these miniature pieces became more impactful rendered larger, so ultimately decided to offer these designs as stand-alone vases—six designs, in warm and cool glaze variations, inspired by the game of chess.

Chess is not just a metaphor for calculating strategy. A perfect game of chess is considered to be a draw—meaning when each participant plays without error, both players come out equal in score, but they have mutually elevated each other through the experience. In our studio, cooperation is key; competitiveness is often a hindrance. When we are at our best we have a sustainable operation that builds the esteem of the individual and we rise together.

There is an aesthetic of symmetry to chess by nature of the board, the pieces and the way the game is played. At the outset of a match, there is a tendency to play the game symmetrically. When one player “breaks symmetry”, they deviate from the pattern, thus forging a new strategy. We see ourselves in this concept as well. While we follow in the footsteps of hundreds of years of pottery-making, we seize opportunities to innovate. It excites us to be part of a tradition as well as trailblazers.

In addition to our studio mark and artists marks, the foot of each piece in the Chess Vase Collection is impressed with the Ephraim Pottery chess piece stamp.



King Vase, see page 6 for details



King Vase – Chess Vase Collection \$398

P22 An octopus is a fitting creature to represent the king in our chess-themed collection. These cephalopods are one of the most intelligent sea creatures and are known to be solitary souls who avoid confrontation.

A sinuous, winding octopus king tips his crown on this low-bellied vase. Ephraim artists individually hand-sculpt each octopus, constructing him from a wheel-thrown piece. Crenellation detail on the rim of the vase reinforces our king theme. We offer the King Vase in two distinctly different—warm and cool—glaze variations that provide a rich, interesting surface quality and atmosphere for this special piece.

Glacial, Prairie Shade (l-r) • 11.5"H x 5.5"W



Queen Bee Vase – Chess Vase Collection \$288

P23 The queen is the most powerful chess piece, so we knew she required a tour-de-force to represent her in our chess-themed collection. On this piece, a queen bee perches on a crown of Queen Anne's lace.

Graceful and understated, the shape of this vase perfectly suits the qualities of a queen, and allows both glaze variations—warm and cool—to play a starring role on the Queen Bee Vase.

Autumn Wheat, Aqua (l-r) • 10.25"H x 4.5"W



Rook's Tower Vase Chess Vase Collection \$248

P24 In chess, the word rook comes from the Persian 'chariot'. Over the centuries this piece has evolved to resemble a castle. At Ephraim, we love to represent rooks—as in ravens, not chariots—and seized this opportunity to create a play on words as the rook figure in our chess-themed collection. On this piece a stylized, hand-sculpted raven perches atop a crenellated turret. Imbued with storybook charm, the Rook's Tower—offered in a warm sandstone-colored glaze and a cool stoney grey glaze—is a great conversation piece for your home.

Grey (opposite), Pumpkin (above) • 5.75"H x 5"W



Bishop's Poppy Vase Chess Vase Collection \$258

P25 To characterize the bishop in our chess-themed collection, we chose a bat—in all its robed glory—reaching for a poppy. The bat and the poppy, motifs that abound with Gothic style and symbolism, seemed a fitting representation of a medieval bishop. Our warm version features a red poppy and black bat against a rich, copper-patina glaze color, while our cool version represents a black bat amongst watery violet, periwinkle, and grey tones. Both renditions are wonderful, unique pieces to add to your collection.

Moonrise (*opposite*), Autumn Reflections (*above*) • 8.5"H x 5"W



Knight Vase – Chess Vase Collection \$238

P26 With segmented body armor and horse-like features, the seahorse is the perfect motif to represent the knight in our chess-themed collection of vases. On this piece, Ephraim artists soften the rigid sculpture of a nodding seahorse with a rounded wheel-thrown form and curvilinear carving to imply fluidity and movement. Both glaze offerings—warm sunny yellow and cool turquoise—provide an abundance of atmospheric context for our brave little seahorse.

Marigold (*opposite*), Ocean (*above*) • 7.5"H x 5"W





Ginkgo Pawn Bottle – Chess Vase Collection \$148

P27 There is something understated and humble about a ginkgo leaf that makes it a fitting motif for the pawn figure in our chess-themed collection. This sweet piece is larger than some of our usual miniatures, but smaller than the typical cabinet vase. Two delicate ginkgo leaves flutter at the neck of this small bottle form. We offer the Ginkgo Pawn Bottle in two traditional Ephraim glaze variations—warm Algae and cool Teal—making this piece an easy addition to your existing collection.

Algae (above), Teal (right) • 4"H x 3.5"W



River Reflection Scenic Tile \$38

P43 Italian cypress trees line the banks of a river, reflecting into the clear blue water. This tile offers a complex landscape in small scale—the perfect choice for those who love miniatures!

Chestnut • 3"H x 3"W

Ephraim Art Tile

Our traditional earthenware tiles and plaques are pressed, trimmed and glazed by hand. Handcrafted art tiles have a spontaneity and looseness not found in commercially manufactured tile. This makes each tile slightly different and uniquely beautiful.

ES3 Tile Stand \$28 • Shown holding a 3" x 3" tile • White Oak • 4.5"H x 2.75"W

Lavender Lace Wisteria Vase \$328

P28 Inspired by the beautiful florals and pastel colors of the historic Roseville Pottery, we designed this vase with a soft, vintage character. Wisteria blooms, sculpted with an impressionistic flair, cascade down both sides of this substantial piece.

Aqua, Off White (*opposite*) • 10"H x 5"W



Orchard Chickadees Tile \$68

P42 A pair of happy, little chickadees while the day away amongst fruit blossoms. This delightful vignette evokes a spring day and all the possibilities at hand when the sky is blue and the birds are chirping!

Light Blue • 5"H x 5"W



ES5 Tile Stand \$51

Shown holding a 5" x 5" tile • White Oak • 8"H x 5"W

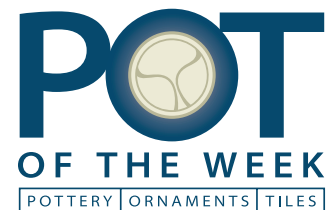


Apple Leaf Redux Vase \$158

P32 To celebrate our studio's 25th anniversary, we wanted to reimagine a piece from the very beginning. In 1996, the original Apple Leaf Vase was a major foundational design. Ephraim's founder and primary potter, Kevin Hicks, remembers the Apple Leaf Vase as the first piece on which the studio successfully rendered leaves in a style that looked lively and natural. These hard-won early techniques laid the groundwork for so much of what has become the 'Ephraim style.'

With the Apple Leaf Redux Vase we have built on the form and sculpting technique of the original and added our signature buds, providing a pop of color. This cabinet-sized vase is offered in our full line of classic Arts & Crafts colors.

Algae (opposite), Organic Green, Autumn Reflections, Curdled Teal (above l-r) • 5"H x 4.25"W



Interested in seeing exclusive new Ephraim Pottery designs each week? Sign up for our Tuesday email newsletter to see the POT of the Week—a new release available for one week only—as well as insights into our artists and processes.

Click on "Ephraim Email Signup" at ephraimpottery.com and receive 10% off your next order when you subscribe!

Artist Anniversary Series

It is our tradition at Ephraim that artists commemorate each five year milestone at the pottery with a special limited-edition design available for one year only. Several artists celebrate anniversaries in 2021, including Kevin Hicks, Ephraim's founder, who celebrates 25 years.



Kevin Hicks

I am constantly struck by how fortunate I was to have a family that encouraged me to pursue art as a serious career choice when too often well-meaning parents counsel children that art is a 'hobby' and not a practical way of life. I was also lucky to grow up near a vibrant production pottery that taught me the trade and inspired my vision for a modern, collaborative artisan guild.

I enjoy the process of making things by hand. The first time I watched an artist throw a pot on the wheel I felt transcended

and the experience ignited a fierce desire to learn more. I thrive on engineering ways to throw bigger, more complex pieces. After over 30 years of throwing, ceramics is a never-ending source of inspiration. The more I work in ceramics and collaborate with fellow artists, the more ideas flourish. I am so thankful to have found people to work with who are inspired by similar ideas and that we have been able to come together in a harmonious way to build the Ephraim Pottery studio.

Owls' Duet Taper Candle Holder and Vase

Artist Anniversary Series \$398

P33 With Ephraim Pottery's 25 year anniversary, Kevin Hicks—Ephraim's founder and owner—marks 25 years of pottery-making at the studio with his innovative Owls' Duet Taper Candle Holder and Vase. Kevin enjoys pushing technical boundaries, which he did here by combining the functionality of a taper candle holder with a vase. Kevin liked the idea of two perched owls illuminated by a flickering candlelight. He imagines a night scene where a pair of owls call to each other as they protect their nest. The stylized owls, trees, and leaves, as well as the tonal glaze application enhance the uniqueness and antique-quality of this very special piece.

Owls' Duet Taper Candle Holder and Vase is a limited-edition design available for only one year, through March 2022.

Patina Green • 11.75"H x 6"W

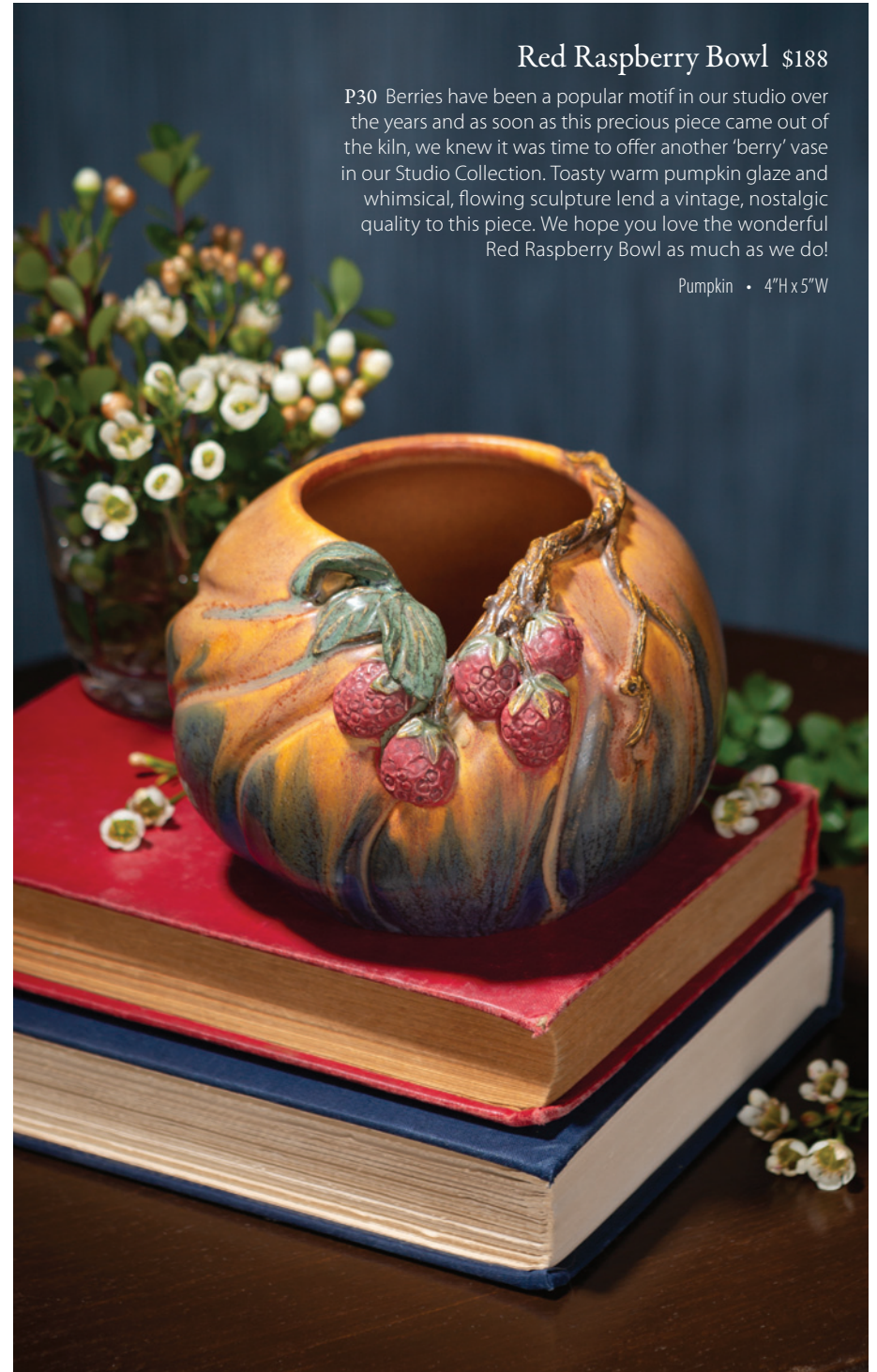




Regency Poppy Vase \$248

P29 This elegant poppy design adds to our growing Rhythm Line. The pieces in this collection forego traditional sculptural elements in favor of streamlined forms, artistic abstractions, and incised, patterned black linework reminiscent of a musical staff. The Regency Poppy Vase channels graceful 1920's Deco style to represent the state flower of California—the California Poppy.

Chestnut (above), Seaspray Blue (left) • 6.75"H x 3.5"W



Red Raspberry Bowl \$188

P30 Berries have been a popular motif in our studio over the years and as soon as this precious piece came out of the kiln, we knew it was time to offer another 'berry' vase in our Studio Collection. Toasty warm pumpkin glaze and whimsical, flowing sculpture lend a vintage, nostalgic quality to this piece. We hope you love the wonderful Red Raspberry Bowl as much as we do!

Pumpkin • 4"H x 5"W



Hop-Along Cabinet Vase \$188

P31 Each Ephraim frog has an abundance of personality and this small vase is no exception. A little, green frog visits a pair of ladybugs on the side of this cheerful, vibrant piece. If you are a fan of frogs, this one's for you.

Curdled Aurora (above), Dusky Olive (left) • 5.5"H x 4.5"W



Pine Branch Tile \$58

P40 Sometimes nature in its simplest form is best. On this tile, a branch of pinecones is centered in a four-inch square composition, creating a pleasing vignette which complements our full range of pine-motif designs. The Pine Branch Tile is offered in three glaze colors—Chestnut, Indigo, and Teal.

Indigo (above), Chestnut (left), Teal (right) • 4"H x 4"W



ES3 Tile Stand \$28

Shown holding a 4" x 4" tile • White Oak • 4.5"H x 2.75"W



Snowdrop Deco Tile \$88

P41 Designed to complement our Blooming Lotus Tile, this tile features a stylized snowdrop bloom. Strong lines and a confident glazing scheme make this tile especially eye-catching.

Teal • 8"H x 4"W

ES4X8 Tile Frame \$144

Holds an 8" x 4" tile • White Oak • 9.5"H x 13.5"W

ESL02_13 Frame Stand \$110

Shown with an 8" x 4" framed tile • White Oak • 13"H x 6.75"W



Blooming Lotus Tile \$88

N52 The Blooming Lotus tile offers strong symmetrical, Art Nouveau design. Crisp, white lotus flowers are set-off against a pale blue sky and surrounded by an intricate frame of Teal, Chestnut and Black

Teal • 8"H x 4"W

ES7 Tile Stand \$56 • Shown holding an 8" x 4" tile • White Oak • 10"H x 5"W



Meet the Artists

Ephraim Pottery is defined by the sensibilities and honed techniques of each of our members. It is a beautiful—and novel—model for an art pottery, as both new and veteran artists exert a symbiotic influence on one another.

We grow and evolve through our collaborations; building and refining our common aesthetic to create innovative, fresh artwork. Our ten artists work together in Ephraim's rural Wisconsin studio.



Moonlit Mission Tile \$88

N53 The Moonlit Mission tile features a bat spreading its wings among two poppies, rendered in low-relief sculpture. This strong diagonal composition is finished in tones of orange, yellow, and grey.

Desert Sun • 5"H x 7"W

ES5X7 Tile Frame \$144

Holds a 5" x 7" tile • White Oak • 10.5"H x 12.5"W

ESL02_13 Frame Stand \$110

Shown with a 5" x 7" framed tile • White Oak • 13"H x 6.75"W

Ephraim Woodwork

Our frames, stands, and shelves are handmade with traditional Craftsman-style mortise-and-tenon and tongue-and-groove joinery. John Raymond, Ephraim artist, uses an ammonia fuming process to darken the quarter-sawn white oak.



Lasting Designs

While the pieces displayed in this catalog showcase our 2021 Studio Collection, we continue to produce evergreen favorites from previous collections like the Wildflower Cabinet Vase, Flowering Fuchsia Bottle, and other timeless designs featured here.

N29 Wildflower Cabinet Vase (2020) \$188 • Leaf Green • 7"H x 3.25"W

U02 Lidded Ginkgo Urn (2014) \$368 • Autumn Reflections • 12.5"H x 6.375"W

K28 Frog's Life (2017) \$158 • Organic Green • 4.25"H x 4.5"W



These popular offerings from years past complement our 2021 Studio Collection and are available until no more than 500 pieces are crafted, at which point the design is retired. Visit www.ephraimpottery.com to see our full collection of art pottery, tiles, and tableware.

N28 Flowering Fuchsia Bottle (2020) \$298 • Chestnut • 10"H x 5.25"W

M28 Tritone Vase (2019) \$188 • Cranberry (*above*), Chestnut, Teal (*online*) • 4"H x 4"W

K24 Bowing Pine Vase (2017) \$148 • Pacific Batik (*above*), Autumn Wheat, Dusky Olive (*online*) • 6.5"H x 4.25"W



Ephraim
ELEMENTAL

NF701 Mod Bottle Vase \$34

Storm Blue, Teco Green, Malachite, Yellow Oxide,
Comet Orange, Violet Flame (clockwise from top)

Holds 9 fluid ounces • 4.25"H x 3.25"W

Ephraim Elemental is the functional line of wheel-thrown tableware from Ephraim Pottery. Intended to be beautiful in both form and function, these pieces are handmade from stoneware clay fired to a higher temperature and finished with our food-safe, watertight glazes.



NF320 Journey Bowl \$88 • Holds 24 fluid ounces • 4"H x 6"W

NF540 Journey Mug \$48

Holds 17 fluid ounces • 5"H x 4"W

NF530 Faceted Bud Mug \$48

Holds 14 fluid ounces • 3.75"H x 4.25"W

The modern form of this line creates the perfect canvas for rich, colorful glazes with a matte, stony texture. Inspired by the fire, clay, and mineral oxides inherent in the ceramic process, we present pieces elemental to the rituals of daily life—from microwave to dining table to dishwasher.

Unique Qualities of Handmade Ceramics

No two pieces of the same design look exactly alike, that's part of the magic of handmade ceramics. Because we lean away from technologies like molds, templates, and casts, each piece is wholly unique. Minor variations in size, decoration, color and finish are intrinsic to our pottery. Please expect and embrace the variation inherent in our process. We guarantee that all items shipped are first-quality, and will accept your return or exchange within 30 days.

Dust your Ephraim art pottery with a dry, soft cloth. We recommend a liner for use with water and no exposure to extreme elements, as traditional earthenware art pottery is porous.

Handmade takes time. From our hands to your hands, our pieces generally require four to six weeks to complete. We ship to all addresses within the continental United States and try our best to ensure successful delivery to other locations around the world, whenever possible.

Shop Stamps

Ephraim stamps the foot of each pot and the back of each tile to assure authenticity. We introduce new studio marks each year, allowing collectors to determine the year that the studio created their piece. In addition to the impressed studio mark, we stamp the foot with initials of the potter, sculptor, and glazer who created each individual piece along with any special edition or Experimental marks that apply.

The example below shows all of the Ephraim shop stamps on the foot of a vase created in 2021.

25 EPHRAIM POTTERY XXI

The large Ephraim Pottery studio mark includes the Roman numeral XXI to represent the year. Every piece of pottery created in 2021 bears this mark.

AS

The potter's mark shows initials inside of a circle stamped into the clay, indicating who threw the form. (AS = Alek Schroeder)

LK

The sculptor's mark shows italicized initials impressed into the clay, indicating who sculpted the piece. (LK = Laura Klein)

AH

The script initials stamped in glaze note the artist who glazed the piece. (AH= Alex Hanstein)

E

This vase also bears a stylized E in an oval. This is the Experimental Pottery stamp which indicates that this is a prototype or one-of-a-kind piece.



Thank you for choosing Ephraim Pottery

When you choose Ephraim Pottery, you choose to support working artists who continue the tradition of handmade American art pottery and woodwork. Each piece is lovingly crafted with a passion for capturing the fleeting, awe-inspiring beauty of our natural surroundings. Thank you for joining us in exploration as we sculpt our spot in the American artistic heritage.

SHOP THE 2021 COLLECTION AND MORE AT OUR TWO RETAIL LOCATIONS
Due to Covid, both galleries are temporarily open by appointment ONLY. Please call before you visit.

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STUDIO & GALLERY

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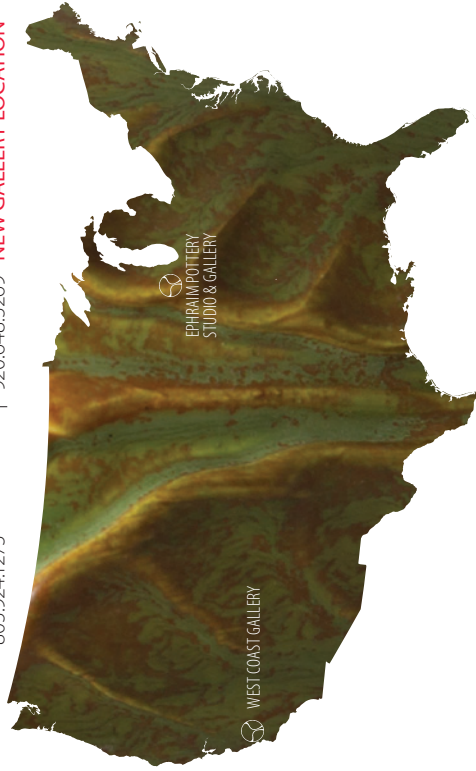


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