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BY FALLON CARNEY AND
AMARIS BROWN

KALEN THORNTON

KALEN
THORNTON HAS
A PASSION FOR
NOT ONLY ART
BUT FOR HIS
STUDENTS TOO



All because of the inspiration of just two people in his life, his grandmother and her mother, ceramics teacher Mr. Kalen Thornton decided to take the next step into his art career.

“They were both oil painters and so that is where I got an appreciation for art at a young age but it wasn’t until highschool to where I got to try and develop my own style and medium preferences,” Thornton said.

However, he doesn’t just teach students and create art at school, he also has a studio at his house to create things. Thornton has made an at home company using his own wheel, clay, and kiln calling his company “Mr.T-Pots”.

“It is my job and I get to use art to influence young people on a daily basis and this specific type of art that I do are things that people actually use and appreciate on a daily basis,” Thornton said.

Thornton makes all different types of pottery, from plates to mugs to vases, but mostly what he is known for are teapots.

“My favorite piece that I have made is my Shakespeare teapot because it basically forced me to do research I wouldn’t have done otherwise. I learned about some new pottery techniques in the process, like the handle and the gold overglaze,” Thornton said.

In his classes, he teaches about the skills and principles of ceramic art.

“My favorite favorite part about ceramics is that pieces that are made can be functional when you are done. You don’t just get to look at them, you get to use them. I think it creates a new appreciation for 3D art,” Thornton said.



1. THE IMPACT
OF ART

Ceramics Teacher Kalen Thornton has had an impactful life from ceramics, not just through teaching but through his at home company using his own wheel, clay, and kiln calling his company “Mr.T-Pots.” PHOTO COURTESY OF MR. KALEN THORNTON

Special Instructions

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