



# Annette (AJ) Keesee

**Two Visions Pottery**  
Hours by Appointment  
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I like to describe my work as funky and functional. I make decorative wall pieces of many kinds. My latest pieces are plaques, about 8" by 10", in red clay with textured backgrounds and whimsical themes or motifs from nature. These are decorated with slips and under glazes. I also create sun and moon faces and other wall pieces that incorporate faces in the design. Most of my work is electric fires to cone 05 or cone 6. Almost all of my work is hand built earthen ware or stoneware. I use slabs that are humped or slumped into molds then decorated with hand made clay or wooden stamps or sprigs from home made clay molds. My functional pottery ranges from large serving bowls, plates, and vases to household items like butter dishes, soap dishes, salt and pepper shakers, towel holders, and magnets.



## Artist Bio

Annette J Keesee is a Georgia native, but grew up in Greensboro, NC. AJ earned her nickname and a teaching degree at Appalachian State University. She enjoyed an introductory pottery class at ASU. She began teaching and didn't touch clay again for 20 years. Earning a masters degree from East Carolina University along the way, she taught elementary school for 26 years, mostly in Brunswick County, NC. Before retiring in 2000, she took a beginner pottery class one summer. This rekindled her love of clay and artistic spirit. She built a studio and started a pottery business with her daughter. Thus the name of the business, Two Visions Pottery. Ms. Keesee has taken classes continuously since 1997, through Orange Street Pottery in Wilmington, Jeffcoat Pottery in Calabash, and currently at the Odyssey Center in Asheville. She has also attended and staged numerous workshops with internationally known artists. Through the Associated Artists of Southport, AJ Keesee exhibited and sold her work at the Franklin Square Gallery in Southport, NC for 10 years. AJ won two first place awards, one third, a merit, and two honorable mentions in coastal area

art shows. Two Visions Pottery has juried into the Azalea Festival Master Crafts show 3 years in Wilmington, NC. AJ continues to sell her pottery at Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, NC. Her move to Leicester in December 2007 has been an exciting life change. She sold her home and studio in Supply, NC to her daughter, to help the struggling younger artist advance in pottery. It was like coming home to move to the Asheville area, since Ms. Keesee's father was born and grew up in nearby Fairview. AJ is excited about being a part of the mountain art community and finds fresh inspiration daily in the beautiful surroundings near Leicester.

## Artist Statement

For me clay is the most intimate medium for exploring my artistic imagination. I strive to make my pottery tactile and intriguing. I am inspired by the 3 dimensional canvas that is clay to experiment with textures, colors, and surface decoration. I enjoy experimenting with different firing methods. With natural forms, new and traditional patterns, familiar figures and whimsical images I hope to enhance and enrich people's lives.

