

snow farm

THE NEW ENGLAND CRAFT PROGRAM

5 Clary Road · Williamsburg, Massachusetts · 413-268-3101 · snowfarm.org



Studio Overview and Student Supply List

Workshop: Make Your Own Steel Stamps with: **Nicholas Downing**

Date: June 15-16, 2019

Studio Location: Jewelry and Metalsmithing Studio

Class Description:

What do a Navajo silversmith, a leather saddle maker, and a Coptic book binder have in common? They each use steel stamps to emboss and embellish their wares. In this class, learn how to forge, file, harden, and temper your own steel stamps. Plus, learn to use them individually or in combination to make amazing patterns and designs on ferrous and nonferrous metals, leather, and other materials.

Supply Information:

Your supply fee includes high carbon steel in various sizes, plus basic studio consumables. In addition, your instructor requests that you bring the following materials:

- Any favorite tools that you would like to work with (optional)
- A sketchbook or notebook and favorite drawing or writing utensils (optional)
- An apron or clothes you don't mind getting messy (Snow Farm aprons are available for sale)

Additional Material Information:

A limited variety and quantity of sterling silver stock is typically available for purchase at current market price. Please ask your instructor for details.

Open Studio Guidelines for the Ceramics Studio:

Open studio is available 24 hours per day throughout your workshop. Instructors will outline safety guidelines for students who are staying to work, including any tools that should not be used without the instructor present. We suggest *bringing a cell phone in case an emergency arises and you need to contact the on-site coordinator*. Please also note the following guidelines:

- There is to be no consumption of drugs or alcohol in the studios, nor shall students work with studio equipment when under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- The last person in any studio is responsible for turning off indoor lights and closing the doors.

Instructor Info:

Email: downingarts@gmail.com

Website: <https://downingarts.com/home.html>

Bio: Nicholas Downing has been forging iron in some capacity for over half of his life. He first tried blacksmithing in a middle school industrial arts class and he has been accumulating equipment and knowledge ever since. Nicholas is a graduate of the University of Southern Maine where he studied Sculpture and Art History. He has attended classes at the Landis Valley Museum in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Deer Isle, Maine, the Maine College of Art in Portland, Maine, and the New England School of Metalwork in Auburn, Maine. He works as a studio technician, jeweler and blacksmith and teaches and demonstrates in and around New England.