



Artist Bio: Tim Smith

Tim takes great pride in sharing his life with his wife, Peggy, and their daughter, Caitlin, along with their two grandchildren, Kaylee, who is 16, and Silas, who is 10. After graduating from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Tim relocated to Sanibel in 1983, where he began his career as a production potter at A Touch of Sanibel Pottery. His profound passion for clay and unwavering commitment to the arts have significantly enriched the local community.

In addition to his pottery work, Tim has served as an adjunct professor at Edison Community College. In 1994, he played a pivotal role in establishing the Arts Program at Cypress Lake High School Center for the Arts, which has since become the premier hub for fine and performing arts in Lee County. Over the past 31 years, he has dedicated himself to educating others and vigorously advocating for arts and culture throughout the region. For many years, Tim has organized trips for high school art students to experience Art Basel in Miami Beach, one of the world's most prestigious art exhibitions. This opportunity exposes them to new possibilities, ideas, and creative mediums. In 2019, he made significant advancements by founding the Sanibel Pottery Studio School, creating a vibrant space for ongoing creativity and education. Regrettably, in 2022, Hurricane Ian devastated the business. Tim's work has been on display in museums and galleries throughout the country.

It's truly a joy to witness my students shaping their creations, take ownership of their work, and embrace the risk that comes with the possibility of starting over. They challenge themselves to create something better, fostering focus and empathy, while integrating various themes and ideas. I learn so much from their creativity and enthusiasm. Clay isn't merely an art form; it's a therapeutic journey that nurtures not only artistic skills but also mental well-being. - Tim Smith

