

## Seven Potters “Paramitas”

The ancient Hindu word for high “virtue” or “paramita” originally referred to character virtues that could be strengthened with practice. Assess competence in skills such as:

1.

To prepare, handle, and wedge clays.

2.

To center and form a wide number of large and small soft pottery shapes on demand, and to remove fresh thrown pots from the wheel head while soft without deforming them.

3.

To trim, carve, and “tap” leather hard pots back on center of potters wheel. Pots must not be too heavy with uneven walls either.

4.

To repeat the same measured shape in multiples of thirty to fifty at a sitting with no drying “s” cracks or lip cracks a few days later. To prepare and attach secure handles to

ware. To match lids to jars so they fit correctly before and after fire.

5.

To pour glaze over pots with control of every drip. To apply a perfect even line around the top rim of ware. To attain “perfect brush control.” To apply surface treatments.

6.

To prepare surfaces of ware for kiln fire. To mix and apply glaze to a variety of clay surfaces and textures. To pour, spray, dip, brush, and burnish glaze and clay as appropriate. To position pots to advantage in the kiln.

7.

To determine and adjust firing atmosphere, fuel, temperature, timing, cooling, finish, and presentation of work.

