## Audrey Kay Dowling Artist Statement 2023

My work is a reflection of who I am. I am a complex, creative, and searching artist. Many things make me tick. I get excited by new materials, exploring new places, looking carefully at things to find nuances of color, textures, unusual combinations visually, the news, politics, great conversations with friends, films that stick with me, books I can't seem to put down, and the endless visual and auditory variation of life created by water, rocks, woods, fields, streams, mountains, city lights, architecture, and people.

My art process is a little different than most artists because I don't lock myself into one way of expressing myself visually. On any given day I might decide to use clay, paint, or mixed media as I think about what I am trying to convey. Sometimes I work abstractly and other times I work in a much more realistic manner. Sometimes I am creating functional pots and other times I let the clay lead me through a sculptural journey. Paint sometimes is very precisely and slowly built up on the surface and other times I let the spirit of the moment come through my brushes in a flowing way that almost seems to just happen. I am fortunate because I have built up different studio spaces to work in over time and I have added materials and supplies for a variety of ways to create. That, and owning my own art gallery where I can freely express myself, having an place I can share the work I create with the public as soon as I finish a piece, gives me total artistic freedom which I love!