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Horse Hair Potter Connects Owner and Horse

June 6, 2011 – St. Louis, Missouri -- When horse owners lay strands of their horse's tail hair on a hot pot from Earth and Wheel Pottery, they create a custom pottery piece that will forever honor that horse. Sandy Schulz, owner of Earth and Wheel Pottery, has practiced the ancient art of horse hair pottery for more than 10 years.

"Each pot is completely unique, from the throwing of the pot to the application of the horse hair. I include the horse's name on the bottom of the pot. It's all a very spiritual experience," says Ms. Schulz. "Owners connect with their horse, the spirits and nature."

Native Americans made horse hair pottery in celebration of the birth of a great horse. Today many horse owners save the tail hair of their companion upon passing. It is that horse tail hair that provides a beautiful, unique vein effect on the creamy white pottery. The finished piece becomes a lasting memory of a much loved friend.

The horse owner is often involved in the final steps of the pot's creation. Sandy also regularly mentors students, artists and other potters on the decorating and firing techniques that she has perfected.

Earth and Wheel Pottery is located in Chesterfield, Missouri. Pottery styles include custom horse hair, ceremonial prayer bowls, purification bowls and masks. Artist, Sandy Schulz uses traditional firing, as well as Japanese Raku and Southwest pit firing. Ms. Schulz, a Best of Missouri Hands Juried Artist, is inspired by nature and continues to honor the ancient design techniques of Native American tribes.

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