**Intro Paragraph:**

Discovery, by definition, is the action of finding something unexpectedly or in the course of a search. Throughout the year I have discovered my strengths, weaknesses, talents, skills, etc. as they uphold to my abilities working with ceramics.

**Paragraph 1:**

WHAT: This project is a tall cylinder form that was made on the wheel and it is approximately 4.25 inches tall by 3 inches wide. The walls are uniform in thickness throughout and there are two leaves carved into the exterior walls of the project on opposite sides of the cylinder. There is also a curved horizontal line carved into the project that runs along the base, and the foot has half circle indents carved into the ring every half-inch. The interior is glazed in a yellow, as well as the horizontal curved line on the outer walls. The section of wall space between the yellow curve and the foot ring is glazed in shadow green, which compliments the two shadow green leaves. The surfaces around the leaves in between the top of the project and the curved horizontal line is covered in an off white glaze.

HOW: Wheel thrown, and hand altered. Used contrasting glazes (Yellow, Shadow Green & Off White), carving out shapes to create texture, and drawings (as in the leaves).

WHY: This is meant to be my “beginning” project, which demonstrates how I first started out in the beginning of the semester, not necessarily knowing what my plan was for projects, and making many mistakes. This was the first project that I truly allowed myself to discover my artistic imagination and see what I could make out of something so simple.

**Paragraph 2:**

WHAT: The project is a wheel thrown bowl/vase pot with a footed rings and lips. The bowl 5.2 inches wide by 4.2 inches tall, and has walls that are uniformly thick and smooth. It has a narrower base and wider top, and it also has a slightly flaring lip. The project is entirely covered in a matte turquoise glaze that turns out more green than turquoise or blue after the kiln.

HOW: Simple wheel thrown, and footed. Matte Turquoise Glaze.

WHY: This is the my first project that I feel truly represents and demonstrates my changing period, where I first truly started to understand how to form clay the way I wanted, and I discovered some elegant forms and shapes for my projects, quickly uncovering my favorite styles, colors, etc. This was my first large project as well.

**Paragraph 3:**

WHAT: This is an extra choice project that goes along with my theme of Discovery, and it is a small vase with a lip and no footed ring. It is extremely narrow, only 1 inch in diameter at the lip and 1.75 inches in diameter at the base, and it has a height of 4.5 inches. The vase has a wider base and very narrow top that ends in a outwardly flared lip. There are 8 curved lines that are carved into the outer side of the project that start from the base and move upward. The carved out lines in the outer surface of the project are glazed in off white, while the rest of the vase was painted in cobalt blue, so the thickness of the glaze is not uniform without the entire piece. The contrast between the white carved lives and the darker blue surface gives the project texture and emphasizes its increasingly narrowing width and height.

This is a choice project that is a small vase. The vase is taller than it is wide and is a mere 4 by 2 inches is dimension. The vase has a small base, and the lip of the vase is about the same size, it also has a bit of a "kite" shape in that it has a wider middle that its top or bottom. The texture of the surface of the project, both inside and out, is smooth. The interior and the top half of the project are glazed in cobalt blue, and the bottom half is glazed in an off-white color. The transition between the light and dark colors in the glaze emphasize the dimensions of the vase in that it marks the widest part of the project where the widening affect from the bottom up meets the narrowing section growing towards the lip.

HOW: Two wheel thrown project. Top one was hand altered with carvings lines dug into the exterior. Both glazed in Cobalt Blue and Off White.

WHY: Both of these projects were made simple in the attempt to push myself to the limits to truly see what my potentials were, these were my first intentionally small projects, and I tried to make them delicate and tiny, as in contrast to my previous projects that are large, heavy, and bulky.

**Paragraph 4:**

WHAT: This is a wheel thrown planter with a hand made clay nest piece that was slipped and scored on to the lip to make it a hand & wheel project. The planter is approximately 5.25 inches tall by 5 inches wide, and it has a planter ring along the bottom of it and a hand made clay nest with three balls of clay that represent bird eggs, and it is slipped and scored on to the lip of the project. The surface of the planter, both inside and out is smooth, with slightly defined lines, on the inside as result of the finger marks made when it was thrown. The nest is glazed in metallic brown, and the eggs are white. The entire surface of the planter is glazed in off white, and there are hand painted leaves and patches of grass stained in green, and a candy apple red stained heart on the bottom of the inside of the planter. The contrast between the white background of the planter and the dark nest, green leaves, and red heart, make the paintings and the bird nest stand out a lot.

HOW: Wheel thrown and footed. Glazed: Off White, Metallic Brown. Stained: Green, Candy Apple Red. Planter with hand made clay birds nest with three eggs.

WHY: This is the project that I feel shows my full potential as a ceramicist. This was the only project that I planned out, and took extreme care to pay attention to details on, at least much more than any previous projects. I really wanted to push myself and see how focused I could be on creating on perfect project at a time, I feel that it embodies my potential to discover my skills as a ceramicist.