Art gallery exhibits clay invitational

By Cristina Flager

The Fine Arts Gallery opened its doors to the public Wednesday with a clay invitational show which will be on exhibit until Feb. 26.

The exhibit, organized by Jerry Hornig, associate professor of Fine and Performing Arts, includes clay works done by Nancy Monsebroten, professional potter and director of the University Craft Center at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks; Tim Crane, professor of ceramics and sculpture at Viterbo College, La Crosse, Wis.; Eric Jensen, professional potter for Lill Street Gallery in Chicago, Ill.; Shirley Johnson, a potter from Minneapolis, Minn.; Bill Kremer, professor of ceramics at the University of Notre Dame, Ind.; and Ron Meyers, head of the ceramics department at the University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.

Monsebroten's clay works include vases and bowls which have been inspired by the flat, open, snowy land of North Dakota, Hornig said. Monsebroten calls these pieces “Winter Berry Bowls” because they were inspired by snow drifts and the first spring flowers, Hornig said.

Monsebroten had her own pottery studio gallery in Washington, D.C. and her works have been exhibited in many galleries.

Crane's works are characterized by their tall hand built forms reminiscent of Japanese and Chinese bronze containers. Hornig said Crane will conduct a workshop at Creighton in February.

Jensen's ceramics include hand built porcelain open dishes. Jensen has conducted numerous workshops and exhibits throughout the country.

Johnson's pottery is characterized by being inexpensive, utilitarian pottery for daily use, Hornig said.

Johnson says she feels her pots are completed by the user, Hornig said. Her pieces exhibited in this show include cereal bowls, serving dishes and other utilitarian pots.

Kremer's pieces are large vases and ceramic bowls. He also makes sculptures in ceramics, wood and other materials. Kremer's utilitarian objects are also a characteristic part of his work. He has been exhibited widely across the country, Hornig said.

Meyer's clay pieces include big with drawings on them. "His clay have lots of soul," Hornig said. "Meyer has nice expressive use of the clay."

Meyer makes useful pottery through handling of clay and glass tec. Hornig said. Meyer is involved in programs at craft schools throughout the country.

The planning for this exhibit last September when Gallery Roger Alkin wanted to have a clay show at Creighton, Hornig said.

Horning, a ceramics expert, worked to organize the exhibit. All participants are artists Hornig has been meeting his artistic career.