

## **Visit Nationally Recognized Potters in Western Massachusetts 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Tour, July 24-25, 10 AM – 5 PM**

The Hilltown 6 will host its annual pottery tour and sale Saturday and Sunday, July 24 – 25, from 10 am to 5 pm. The public is invited to visit the studios of eight nationally known clay artists who live and work in the Hilltowns of Western Massachusetts.

Members of the Hilltown 6 are Robbie Heidinger, Christy Knox, Michael McCarthy, Hiroshi Nakayama, Mark Shapiro, Eric Smith, Constance Talbot and Sam Taylor.

The tour showcases handmade functional pottery intended for daily use, as well as sculptural and decorative pottery for display. Work will be for sale at each studio. The event is free of charge.

The Hilltown 6 was founded in 2007 as a way for the public to gain insight into the lives of ceramic artists. Eight potters now take part, displaying unique techniques and diverse expression.

See first hand the tools and techniques that are behind these world-class pots in the studio settings that inspire each of these talented potters. Each of these artists recognizes the importance of their working environment and has opened their studio to share this influence with the public. Take this opportunity to ask questions and discuss their latest body of work with the potters themselves.

Enjoy the beautiful summer landscape of Western Massachusetts in a 35 square mile area between Northampton and Pittsfield along State Route 9. While visiting all eight studios, keep an eye out for Hilltown 6 Pottery Tour signs, which will guide participants. A detailed map for the self-guided tour can be downloaded at [www.hilltown6.com](http://www.hilltown6.com).