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For Immediate Release

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### **Fireshadow Pottery known for "Primitive Elegance"**

Seagrove, NC - Mo McKenzie and Sally Larson, of Fireshadow Pottery, located at the most southern end of Pottery Highway 705 in Eagle Springs, North Carolina are known for their "Primitive Elegance" style of pottery. Shapes and glazes reflect their interpretation. "They are like pieces that were dug from the ground by archeologists re-capturing the beauty of the patina of time", explained Sally.

"I didn't know that I wanted to do this, but I wanted to do something creative. Sally and I used to visit potters in Seagrove and thought we'd like to explore playing in clay. I was a commercial photographer, which is creative, but usually under control of an art-director, too mechanical", explained Mo.

They are known for making one of kind pieces with an Asian and southwestern influence. Mo and Sally took one pottery class at Montgomery Community College learning the basics of throwing, glazing and firing. Learning the production process was helpful but they felt at the end of the class everyone's pieces started to look alike—without distinction. They decided to go out on their own. They rented a space near their home and worked every day while holding down jobs. They did this for about 2 years and then purchased a home at their current location in Eagle Springs. The next four years were spent remodeling the property, including the house, the garden and their retail shop while making and selling pottery off their front porch.

Mo and Sally's approach to being potters is to create pieces that come from their imagination and their enjoyment of the creative process. They wake up with ideas and get excited to explore new creations. "We don't go by a set schedule, although we do get going by about 9AM every day. We go until we get tired and start crunching pots. You know, they collapse on the wheel."

"The best part of being a potter, besides the fantastic folks we call customers and friends, is opening kiln the day after we fire to see what we've got. It's Christmas morning!"

They mix all of their own glazes, including Fireshadow Red, which Mo credits Sally with creating (by accident). "We are always experimenting, starting with what we have and playing with it to come up with something new. Unfortunately you can only determine if something works when you fire and that's only 3 or 4 times a month", Sally said. "R&D's a really slow process!" added Mo .

For more information about Fireshadow Pottery, please give them a call at (910) 673-8317, or check out their web site at [www.fireshadow.com](http://www.fireshadow.com). For a listing of all of the members and the events presented by the Seagrove Area Potters Association (SAPA) please go to [www.discoverseagrove.com](http://www.discoverseagrove.com). Explore America's largest community of Working Potters. Discover Seagrove.

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