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The Teachers

Herbert Sanders (1909-1988) is best remembered for his research and perfection of crystalline glazes and for research in lusters. He was a long-time teacher at San Jose State University, where he established the ceramics department in the late '30s. He left for war service, then served as director of the School for American Craftsmen when it was at Alfred. He returned to Ohio State University, from which he had graduated in 1933, and there, in 1951, became the first person in the U.S. to get a Ph.D. in ceramics. The following year he became the department head at San Jose. In 1958 he had a Fulbright fellowship to Japan and then wrote *The World of Japanese Ceramics* (Kodansha, 1967). He also published *The Sunset Ceramics Book* (1958), a primer, *Glazes for Special Effects* (1974) and others.

Sanders showed his work in Ceramic Nationals from 1933 on, earning several awards and inclusion in the 1937 Scandinavian tour. His forms were classic and conservative, in the Ohio State style, distinguished by his ability to control the placement of crystals on the surface. In the '60s he showed tall, narrow vessels that were glazed only on the inside and featured incised markings in the unglazed interior. He was the first teaching potter in the Bay Area to work in all temperature ranges, but stoneware was slow to be added to his classes at San Jose because of lack of facilities. After making the school a ceramic center for Northern California, he retired in 1974.