



When you're stuck on observing a person's facial expression from a picture, ask your friends to make that face and look at him/her from different angles. 3D is more helpful than 2D. -YJ

Make the features overdramatic. It makes the sculpture more effective. Also make sure that you always have your unused clay wrapped up so it doesn't dry out. -SH

The best advice I can give would be to make sure you have a model in mind as you sculpt or else you won't be able to get the proportions, etc. right. Creativity still counts! Don't be scared to jump into the harder parts/don't put them off. -JH

This is going to sound weird but feel your own face (not in class :P) It's hard to sculpt a face if your hands don't feel what a face should feel like. -EM

Now here is a tricky way of making an artwork! Clay is the most difficult companion you can work with. When making anything that is clay related, make sure that you have a solid idea in your mind before taking out the clay because as soon as you take it out, the clock starts ticking so make sure you don't take that long when sculpting with clay. -AE

Do your best to ensure your clay doesn't dry out. Tie the bag really tight and compress the bag so all the air is out. Clay is hard to work with if it is dry, it crumbles and it hard to smooth. -MC

Don't play with the clay too much. It will dry out. -BB

Exaggerate the facial features and build the clay up. It might seem ridiculous at first, but it actually looks better in the long run. When doing the neck, don't stand up the head until it dries, otherwise it sinks down and flares out. -AS

Come up with the expression quickly before the shape of the clay is done because it'll be hard to change anything when the clay is getting dry. -JC

Put effort into making a distinct expression - not just making the face realistic. -ET

When making the clay sculpture you need to fully observe your model. If you run out of clay he'll give you more. Don't leave anything undone when you're starting to carve, it will dry out. -DM

Remember that you clay does dry and so sculpt it before it becomes so dry that it becomes too difficult to mold or starts to crack. -IW

Smooth out everything before throwing your project into the kiln and never leave you clay out always keep it locked tight in your bag or else your clay will dry out. -LC



Advice from former students  
Expressive clay sculpture

