

ON THE COVER

Charles Conner creates a visually stunning composiplacement of vanishing point anchored to the the dynamic, dark brushwork of the sleigh and balanced pathway. Conner's confident strokes lend great detail to scape with minimal effort. This painttruly gifted artist can work.

CHARLES CONNER (1857-1905) Country Lane Oil on Canvas 10" x 16"

harles Conner, a Richmond native, began sketching at an early age, but did not concentrate solely on art until later in his short life. Conner is thought to have produced only fifty paintings during his artistic career. Although Conner never recognized his considerable talent, he greatly influenced the *Richmond Group* of artists.

A completely self-taught artist,

Conner worked in the paint room at Hoosier Drill Company lettering and embellishing seed boxes and grain drill hoppers with small paintings. Conner and his brother, Albert, painted scenes along California's Pacific coast from 1887 to 1895. After his return to Richmond, Conner was encouraged by John Elwood Bundy, Ellwood Morris and Max Nordyke to show his painting *Wet Night in February* in an exhibition in Indianapolis, where the work was chosen for display at the 1904 St. Louis Exposition. Bundy once stated that he regarded Conner as "one of the strongest painters in the West".

Hoosier Art Collection of the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library

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- 2 Brown County Artists
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- 12 Kokomo-Howard County Artists
- 16 Other Prominent Hoosier Artists

Brown
County
Artists

Brown County Artists represented in the collection:

C. Curry Bohm

• The House of the Painter

Francis C. Brown

• Brown County Sycamore

Anthony Buchta

• Winter in Brown County

V. J. Cariani

Autumn Landscape

Lillian Fendig

Church Lane

Dorothy Frantz

Redbud Lane

Carl Graf

Autumn Sentinel

Glen Henshaw

• Baltimore

Georges LaChance

• Brown County Landscape

Fredrick Rigley

• Bonita Springs Interior

Derk Smit

• Peaceful Valley

T.C. Steele

• Talbot Place 1898

Will Vawter

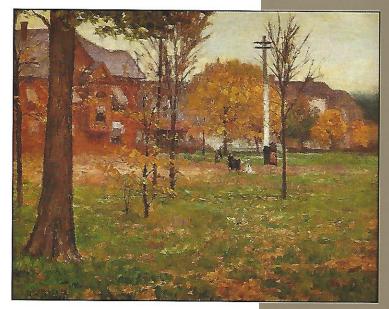
• The Doorway

E.K. Williams

• Village Spring Scene

Jan Wills

· October Ponds



THEODORE CLEMENT STEELE (1847-1926)
Talbot Place 1898
Oil on Canvas 22" x 27"

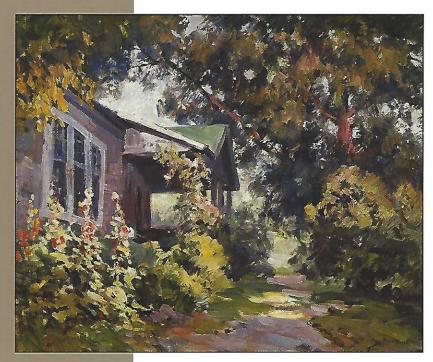
n example of things to come, T.C. Steele won his first art award at age 13 for a pen and ink drawing displayed at the 1861 Indiana State Fair. He went on to study at the Waveland Institute and at the *first* Indiana School of Art. He also studied in Chicago and Cincinnati. Recognizing Steele's potential, thirteen of his friends raised funds to send him (and his family) to the Royal Academy of Art in Munich, Germany, where he studied for five years.

Steele was instrumental in directing the nation's attention toward Indiana art and gained fame as leader of the *Hoosier Group*. He also was one of the founders of the John Herron Art Institute and the Society of Western Artists, an organization which provided traveling exhibition opportunities for artists.

In 1907, Steele built a studio and home in Brown County. This dwelling came to be known as *The House of the Singing Winds* because of the sound the wind made as it blew through the wire screen doors and windows of the house.

acknowledged as the "Dean of Indiana Artists", and this oil and early fall foliage mimics the feeling of passionate, though of hazy dimness. Balance is achieved sive foreground to classic work of

Vawter's effective



JOHN WILLIAM "Will" VAWTER (1871-1941) The Doorway Oil on Canvas 24" x 29"

ill Vawter was known best for his illustrations for James Whitcomb Riley's poetry books and for his paintings of rural Indiana landscapes.

Vawter was born in Virginia and moved with his family to Greenfield, Indiana, when he was six years old. Those who knew him recalled his developing artistic ability and occasional artistic forgetfulness; as a boy, he was known to absentmindedly wipe his paint brushes on the furniture or parlor curtains. Vawter illustrated for several publications and produced a children's book along with his sister, Clara, entitled *Of Such is the Kingdom*, later renamed *The Rabbit's Ransom*.

Vawter moved to Brown County in 1908 and lived there for over 30 years. His work was exhibited many times with the Hoosier Salon, including a special showing of 32 of his oil paintings at the 1932 exhibit.



EDWARD K. WILLIAMS (1870-1950) Village Spring Scene Oil on Canvas 30" x 36"

dward K. Williams was born in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. He studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and worked for thirty years as a commercial artist in Chicago. Williams moved to Brown County in 1927 and became involved with many organizations, serving as the president of the Indiana Artists Club and the Brown County Art Association.

Williams painted exclusively in oil before taking up watercolor, which he believed to be a more difficult medium. He never relied upon photographs, even for the winter landscapes he painted primarily in Wisconsin. He was known to bundle up, punch a hole in his mitten to fit his paintbrush through and work outdoors in the deep snow until his painting was complete.

Williams' work was displayed at the Hoosier Salon every year except one between 1928 and 1949.

of the natural

A strong impresbrushstrokes of



CARL CHRISTOPHER GRAF (1892-1947) Autumn Sentinel Oil on Canvas 25" x 30"

arl Graf was a Bedford, Indiana, native and studied for seven years at the Herron School of Art. He was a tall, thin man and was affectionately nicknamed "Shorty" by his friends. Graf went on to study at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and New York's Art Students League. He was awarded a scholarship to study art in Austria in 1914, but his father forbid him to go because he would have had to travel through war-torn Germany.

Graf's early works were exhibited in the annual shows of the Society of Western Artists. Graf was invited by T.C. Steele to go on a walking tour of Brown County; this led to many summer camping trips there. Eventually, he and his wife, Genevieve (Goth) Graf, lived in their Brown County studio home in the summer and the Goth family home in Indianapolis in the winter.

Graf's paintings won numerous prizes at the Hoosier Salon exhibitions. He was influential in organizing the first art gallery in Nashville in 1925 and was a member and organizer of the Indiana Artists' Club.



VARALDO GUISEPPI CARIANI (1891-1969) Autumn Landscape Oil on Board 12" x 13 1/2"

araldo Guiseppi (V.J.) Cariani was a native of Bologna, Italy, and came to America with his family when he was three years old. His early formative years were spent in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Cariani met artist Marie Goth when they were both students at the Art Students League in New York. After serving in World War I, Cariani wrote Marie that he was having trouble adjusting to civilian life. Marie's sister, Genevieve, purchased one of Cariani's sketches so he could visit Brown County. Cariani loved the area so much that he built a studio on the Goth property.

Cariani was one of only 20 artists from Indiana who were selected to exhibit at the 1933 Chicago World's Fair. He was well known for his cloud paintings and beautiful floral still-lifes.

V.J. Cariani
employed brilliant
hues in his painting
"Autumn Landscape". The use of
color was conceived
on the artist's
palette and applied
with bold and deft
brushstrokes. Warm
colors stir an active
foreground while
cool colors create
contrast and
distance in the
background.
Cariani's treatment
of the subject was
one of confidence
and intuition.

Richmond Artists

Richmond Artists represented in the collection:

John E. Bundy

• Forest Scene with Artist

Charles Conner

· Country Lane

Paul Conner

• Portico

W.A. Eyden Jr.

• The Approaching Storm

Florence Finnan

• Rockport Garden

Frank Girardin

• Summer Afternoon

Francis D. Gregg

• Blue Morning

H.R. Townsend

• Winter Passageway



JOHN ELWOOD BUNDY (1853-1933) Forest Scene with Artist Oil on Canvas 16" x 20"

ohn Elwood Bundy was primarily self-taught, yet he was the *Dean of Richmond Artists*, teaching many of the Richmond artists of his time. Bundy was also known as one of the leading artists in the Hoosier impressionistic tradition.

Bundy was born in North Carolina and, at age five, traveled with his family in a prairie schooner to a farm in Monrovia, Indiana. At the age of twenty, he studied with Barton S. Hays, a portrait painter from Indianapolis, but Bundy primarily "worked out the problems alone". He spent a brief time in New York and was allowed the privilege of copying artwork at the Metropolitan Museum.

Bundy's teaching career began in 1886 with a small class in Martinsville. Between 1887 and 1895, Bundy was in charge of the art department at Earlham College in Richmond, a non-paying position. He retired in 1895 to open a studio and devote himself exclusively to painting. Although known for his hazy autumn landscapes, Bundy painted a number of fine portraits, still-lifes and winter landscapes.

work. One can feel



WILLIAM ARNOLD EYDEN JR. (1893-1982)
The Approaching Storm
Oil on Canvas 24" x 36"

illiam Eyden Jr., a Richmond, Indiana native, stated he chose a career in art over the concert violin because "art you can do forever".

Eyden's father was his first art teacher. Later, he studied under John Elwood Bundy and T.C. Steele, among others, in Indiana, and with William Merritt Chase at New York's Art Student's League. Eyden's paintings received awards in several Hoosier Salon exhibits, including the first one in 1925. For eleven years, during the 1940's and 1950's, Eyden owned a studio in New York, where he painted nine months every year. Some of his friends during that period included Judy Garland, George M. Cohan and artists John Sloan and George Bellows. In 1957, he retired to Indianapolis, where he continued to paint and teach students at his home studio.



PAUL CONNER (1881-1968) Portico Oil on Board 15" x 12"

aul Conner, who was born in Richmond, Indiana, was a music teacher as well as a professional artist. When Conner was 38 years old, he moved to Long Beach, California. He lived there for close to fifty years until his death in 1968. He studied painting under H.L. Richter and W. Clinton Conner.

Conner's work was exhibited in the first Hoosier Salon in 1925. He was a charter member of the Long Beach Art Circle and was honored by his fellow artists in 1967 with a reception at the Pacific Coast Club.

A creamy lightsource descends
from the left and
illuminates this
European landscape
by Paul Conner.
Brightened areas
are contrasted with
soft shades of blue
and violet. The
varied planes of the
stone surfaces are
amplified with
short, choppy
brushstrokes.
Compelling nega-

Compelling negative spaces are cut by columns that ascend and arc. Even though the scene is closely cropped, one feels a rhythm beginning to emerge.

KokomoHoward County Artists

Kokomo-Howard County Artists represented within the collection:

Mary Cox Beatty

• Tomorrow's Little League All-Star

Dixie Ben-Nett

- Gloucester Harbor
- A Little Piece of Winter

Malcolm Black

Spring Flowers

Helen Buckley

Carnegie
 Public Library

Debra Edwards

 Pink Petunias on the Patio

Ida Gordon

- Art Festival
- · Mixed Bouquet
- Nasturtiums

Clara Hamilton

- · Bundy's Woods
- Pink Roses
- Rear of Carnegie Library

Orville Jefferson

· Beech Grove

Misch Kohn

- The Cello Player
- · Dark Bird
- A Friend of the Family
- Letter from Japan
- Tiger

Leota W. Loop

- Autumn in the Beechwoods
- Bleeding Hearts in an Oriental Vase
- Blue and White Hyacinths
- The By-Road

• Floral with a Green Bowl

• Flowers in a Blue Vase

- Garden Flowers
- Nasturtiums in a Blue Vase
- Old-Fashioned Roses
- Peonies in a Blue Vase

Joyce E. Lytle

Healing Plant I

Suzanne Mays

• It's a Winter

Geraldine A. Scott

Fall Foliage

Val Walters

Blue Heron

Robert Wavra

Strawberries



MISCH KOHN (1916-) The Cello Player Lithograph

20" x 14"

isch Kohn was born Harris Kohn in Kokomo, Indiana. While attending the John Herron Art Institute, he adopted the nickname "Misch", which was given to him by his classmates. He went on to study color lithography under Francis Chapin and Max Kahn. Kohn is now a resident of Hayward, California.

As well as being an artist, Kohn has taught at the Institute of Design in Chicago and at California State University at Hayward. His work is included in the permanent collections of nearly every major museum in the country, as well as several museums abroad. Kohn has received numerous awards, including two Guggenheim fellowships and an honorary doctorate from Indiana University.

"The Cello Player"

"The By-Road" is unusual since Leota Loop was primarily known for her still-lifes. Yet, her command of pigmentation was consistent throughout her body of work. This pastoral autumn scene is made effective through Loop's use of an overlapping and directional dry-brush technique that enhances the painting's depth



LEOTA WILLIAMS LOOP (1893-1961) The By-Road Oil on Canvas 25" x 30"

eota Loop was born in Fountain City, Indiana, and moved to Kokomo with her first husband around 1920. She studied with Olive Rush while in her teens and later with William Forsyth, T.C. Steele, Will Vawter and Randolph Coats.

During her years in Kokomo, most of her paintings were of large, summer garden flowers. In 1939, she moved to Brown County. She opened a studio in Nashville, Indiana, and began concentrating on landscapes. Her paintings were exhibited several times at the Hoosier Salon exhibition; one of her florals, *Iris and Peonies*, was purchased from the Hoosier Salon in 1937 by Governor Townsend and her landscape, *Quietly Tucking Us In*, received the prize for most popular oil painting in 1941.

al Walters is an instructor of drawing and painting at Kokomo High School and has been an associate faculty member at Indiana University at Kokomo. He has also worked as a book illustrator and greeting card designer. Walters has won many awards for his drawings in the annual Hoosier Salon exhibition.

VAL WALTERS (1941-) Blue Heron Silverpoint Pastel

21" x 12"

A realistic technique defines this graceful rendering of a "Blue Heron". The limber form is drawn with short, calculated marks inspired by keen observation.

ebra Edwards is an art teacher at Indiana University at Kokomo and has taught privately and in the public school system. Her work has received honors at the Indiana State Fair Art Show and several Kokomo Art Association exhibitions. Edwards works in a variety of media including oils, loom weaving, pastels, palette knife, batik and sculpture.

DEBRA EDWARDS
(1954-)
Pink Petunias on the Patio
Oil on Canvas 31" x 18"



Debra Edwards
paints this still-life
in a representational manner, but
chooses to elongate
the shapes to portray
an atypical view of
a typical subject.

Other Prominent Hoosier Artists represented in the collection:

Prominent Hoosier Artists

Joy Adams

Taking a Break

Ruth Anderson

- After the Rain
- In for the Night
- Kid Capers
- Snowscape

Ruth A. Baker

· Winnie-the-Pooh II

William Borden

Aunt Maude's

Betty C. Boyle

The Escape

Francis F. Brown

- Landscape with Figures
- Untitled Landscape
 Garden View

Harold Buck

 Aggregates Nina Conner

Colonial Metal

Harry Davis

· West Side Drugstore

Jan Davis

Curiosity

Connie Jo Deering Sunshine

and Leaves

Jerry A. Dunbar

Spanish Flavor

Mary Eggert

Evening Dogwood

E. Gaye Eilts

Last Flowers

Julia Faucett

• Strati

Myron Finchum

- Glass Space
- Silent Excitement

Margery Gates

On Ice

Eleanor Grieb

Colors and Shapes

Louise B. Hansen

Abandoned

John T. Hodgin

Troll Bridge

Floyd Hopper

· Autumn in the Ravine

Patricia Landrem

Curiosity

Helen Marsden

- Forest Scene
- St. Basil

Joe Mayberry

Pour Power Eveyn McConnell

Wilbur Meese

• Stone and Wood Barn

George Jo Mess

 Houses in France with Outside Stairway

Doris B. Myers

• Iris #2

Nancy A. Noel

· Dolls

Stan Obermueller

Indiana Woods

Rob O'Dell

 Pemaquid Point Lighthouse

Steve Polomchak

• Winter Church Scene

Marilyn Price

• Sequestreum

Joel W. Reichard

End of an Era

Lyle Reith

After the Snowfall

J. Anna Roberts

Excalibur

Rick Rush

- Indy 500
- National Champion Hoosiers 1987

Karen Shand

Tiger Lily

Joe Shell

 West Central Indiana Summertime

K.P. Singh

- The Elliot House
- · Kokomo, Howard County, Indiana

Martha Slaymaker

- Counterpoint
- In the Beginning II
- In the Beginning III
- Labna
- · Pueblo Women

Cecilia Slusser

· When Winter Comes

Thomas Thiery

 Grand Masters of Washington Square

Leah S. Traugott

 Dale's Scarf Joseph Trover

• Beeches in Winter

Betty Wade

Sitting on the Edge

Clifton Wheeler

- The Little Waterfall
- Smoky Mountain Valley

Bill Zeigler

Desert Shrubs



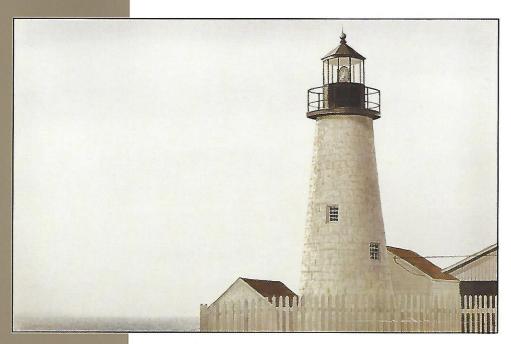
HARRY A. DAVIS (1914-) West Side Drugstore Acrylic 24" x 33"

arry Davis graduated from the John Herron Art Institute in 1938. After winning the Prix de Rome that same year, he attended the American Academy in Rome, studying art for three years. In 1941, Davis became the artist-in-residence at Beloit College in Wisconsin. During World War II, he served as a combat artist.

Davis taught at the Herron School of Art for 37 years and held a professorship from 1970 to 1983 with the IUPUI system. Since 1960, he has concentrated on three themes: trees and woods, the youth culture and disappearing landmarks of the Midwest. Davis has exhibited artwork in many shows, including the annual Hoosier Salon, and has won numerous awards.

technique. Cast

The painting
"Pemaquid Point
Lighthouse" depicts
an actual scene on
the Maine coastline. Great attention has been given
to the composition
in this work. The
asymmetrical
arrangement of the
geometric forms
and the tight
cropping of images
increase interest
and drama.
Realism is obtained
by Rob O'Dell's
careful dissection of
light and dark,
resulting in texture
and contour.



ROB O'DELL (1938-) Pemaquid Point Lighthouse Watercolor 15" x 22"

ob O'Dell was born in Decatur, Illinois. He studied at the American Academy of Art, with an emphasis on a commercial art career. Nationally recognized watercolorist, Irving Shapiro, also instructed O'Dell. He worked as a layout artist in Chicago for five years after completing his schooling.

Rob O'Dell now lives in a century-old farmhouse in Ladoga, Indiana, and is restoring a turn-of-the-century building into a studio and gallery. O'Dell's art has won awards in many exhibitions, including the Hoosier Salon, the Wabash Valley Exhibition and the Indiana State Fair. As well as painting, he teaches watercolor workshops.



NANCY A. NOEL (1945-) Dolls Acrylic on Canvas 35" x 46"

ancy Noel was born in Indianapolis and now lives in a secluded 22-acre home near Zionsville. She attended St. Mary's school at Notre Dame and later graduated from Mount St. Joseph College in Cincinnati. Noel began her career by doing \$15 pastel portraits for visitors to the Indianapolis Museum of Art's Lilly pavilion.

Recognized for her American Realist posters as well as her paintings, Noel attempts to balance her aesthetic nature with her strong business sense. She attributes her fame to her gallery showings in New York City. The theme of Noel's work varies, from exotic animals to floral still-lifes to sensitive children's portraits.

Nancy Noel is able attention and

Careful blending from the upper left that further the carving of forms. A the frontal space evidence of human



CLIFTON A. WHEELER (1883-1953) Smoky Mountain Valley Oil on Board 19" x 28"

lifton Wheeler studied art under William Forsyth at the John Herron Art Institute and under William Merritt Chase, Robert Henri and Kenneth Hayes Miller at the New York School of Art. He visited Europe twice with Chases's art classes, where he met Gertrude and Leo Stein and German glass-designer Max Jung. Following his studies, he returned to Indiana, living in Mooresville and later in Irvington, near Indianapolis, where he resided the remainder of his life.

Wheeler taught for many years at the Herron Art Institute and Shortridge High School. During the summers, Wheeler traveled to different mountain ranges to paint, particularly the Great Smoky Mountains. His first visit was with a librarian group, including the head of the Indianapolis Public Library, Charles Rush.

Wheeler's work won many awards and he was one of two artists chosen to display art at the world's fairs in New York and San Francisco.

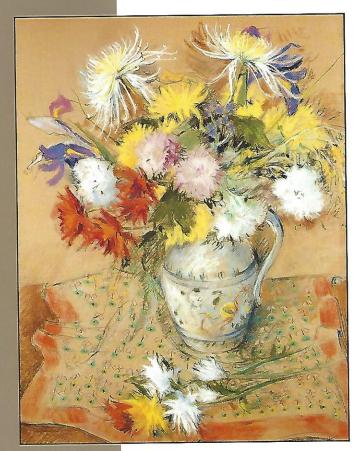


WILBUR MEESE (1910-) Stone and Wood Barn Watercolor 21" x 29"

t the age of seven, Wilbur Meese displayed his artistic leanings by painting green stripes down the backs of his family's hogs. During the Depression, several women in his church sold a friendship quilt to provide the funds for his first semester at art school. He studied at the Circle Art Academy, Butler University and the Cleveland Art Institute.

Meese worked as a commercial artist, designer and art director for Eli Lilly and Co. until his retirement in 1983. To prepare for retirement, he began painting and exhibiting watercolors. In 1976, one of Meese's paintings was chosen for the cover of the Indiana Bell telephone book. His work has received awards from the Hoosier Salon, Indiana Artists Club and the Indiana State Fair, among others.

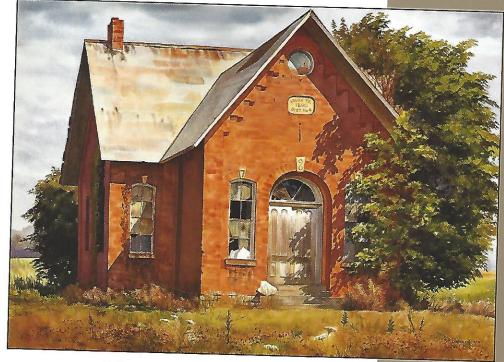
"Dale's Scarf" by
Leah Traugott stirs
the viewer with its
vibrant hues and
expressive modeling.
The perspective and
composition funnels
attention downward
from the exciting
floral bouquet to the
delicate scarf and
loose flowers.
Traugott's gestural
linework and color
patches allow the
viewer to glimpse
into the artist's



LEAH S. TRAUGOTT (1924-) Dale's Scarf Pastel 23" x 17"

eah Traugott is a graduate of the Herron School of Art. She has taught watercolor and pastel for a number of years at the Indianapolis Art League and was an Assistant Professor of Sculpture at Herron. Traugott also served a three year term as a visual artist panelist for the Indiana Arts Commission.

Traugott has a very artistic family. Her grandfather was a Parisian dress designer, her father won a scholarship to the French Academy at the age of 14, her daughter is a sculptress and her son is the Curator of Exhibitions at the University of New Mexico Fine Arts Museum.



JOEL W. REICHARD (1909-) End of an Era Watercolor 21" x 29"

oel Reichard is a native of Bourbon, Indiana. As well as studying under William Forsyth at the John Herron Art Institute, he studied under Geisburg and Arsfeld at the Chicago Art Institute. For many years, Reichard spent his winters in his current home in Silver Springs, Florida; during the summer and early autumn, he would use the studio he set up in a house trailer and travel and paint throughout Brown County.

Reichard's paintings have received numerous awards, including many from the Hoosier Salon and Indiana Artists exhibitions. One of his watercolors received first prize in New York's Grand Central Gallery's National Exhibition in 1979. He has gained renown for his work in watercolor and oil landscapes and also in the area of portraiture.

he Kokomo-Howard County Public Library continually strives to present the best in Hoosier art to the community. Several months out of the year the library assembles exhibitions from work contained within it's Hoosier Art Collection. Many of Indiana's most outstanding past and present artists are represented in this acclaimed collection- regarded as one of the best in Indiana.

There are several ways that you can support and complement this endeavor. By making a monetary donation to the library's Gift and Memorial Fund, additional works of art can be purchased. Hoosier art that meets the library selection criteria can also be donated. Gifts of money or artwork can be bequeathed as part of estate planning. With your kind and generous contributions, the Hoosier Art Collection is assured of remaining an asset to the community and state.

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