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ART CLUB COLLECTION

INTRODUCTION

The Art Club held its first meeting on 23 September 1898; Laura Anne Fry, artist and professor of Industrial Art at Purdue University, is considered to have been the primary organizer of the club. She later organized the Lafayette Art Association.

The Art Club was originally called the “Art League” until 1900 when the name was changed.

The collection contains minutes books, 1898...1963; yearbooks, letters, and financial records; exhibit programs; materials about Laura Anne Fry and Edna Browning Ruby. Included is the first yearbook, hand-written and designed by Edna Browning Ruby at age 11.

The collection was donated by the club in increments; the materials were organized and inventoried by Marybelle H. Clark (Mrs. Edison Clark) for TCHA in 1983. Mrs. Clark was the Art Club Historian at that time.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

1 records storage box
1 Hollinger document box

Collection was processed by Mrs. Edison Clark.

ART CLUB FILES

BOX 1

FOLDER 1: LAURA ANNE FRY

1. Emily McCormick’s 21 October 1983 Report, “Historical Sketch of Miss Laura Anne Fry—Years Before She Came to Purdue.” 15 pp. Includes pictures of Miss Fry and two of her plates plus Artists insignias (Hallmarks) found on Rookwood pottery.

2. Corinne Koerner, October 1983.

Copy 1. Copy of 15 April 1940 letter in longhand from Miss Fry to Mr. Purdy. 15 pp.

3. Copy 2. Typed copy of above letter. 3 pp.

4. Marybelle Clark, 4 May 1933. Report taken from Art Club records: "Miss Laura Anne Fry and the Art Club." 8 pp. Includes: p. 6—pictures of Miss Fry; p. 7—Picture of Ladies Hall where she lived; p. 8—Picture of old H.S. (If this is true, this is the place of the organization meeting called by Miss Fry and her cohorts for the Lafayette Art Association.)

5. A letter of appreciation written to be read at the last meeting of the Art Club (in May 1922) at which Miss Fry attended as she was retiring from Purdue and going home.

FOLDER 2- EDNA BROWNING RUBY (All material contributed by Florence Grimes.)

1. Article, 16 October 1917, Lafayette "Journal and Courier."

2. Article, February 1923, "The Indianapolis Star."

3. Stidham United Methodist Church.

[The above 3 items comprise 8 pp.]

4. A "Journal and Courier" 4 October 1980 clipping.

5. 3 pages of longhand information about Miss Fry.

6. 6 pages of large print giving location of her Lafayette Home, awards, etc.

FOLDER 3- BOOKLET

"Lafayette Art Association 1909 – 1968." By Lillian W. Toth

FOLDER 4- ART COMPETITION AND AWARDS (Conducted by Art Club in schools.)

1. High School Art in Tippecanoe County, 10-31 May 1970.

2. Thank you note from a winner.

3. The Art Club Sponsors The Fourth Annual Tippecanoe County High School Competition. 1971.

4. Greetings and Congratulations on having your art work selected for the FIFTH ANNUAL TIPPECANOE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL ART COMPETITION AND EXHIBIT. May _____.

5. 9 April 1972 letter to Ruth Bender thanking the Art Club for a \$75.00 check for award money for Tippecanoe County All Media Competitive Exhibition. From Suzanne Stafford, Director of Art Center.

6. 31 May 1971 letter to Olga of the Art Center. 1 p. concerning Art Competitions in the schools that the Art Club conducts annually.

7. 24 May 1971 letter to Mrs. Albert Toth from Olga Hughes concerning High School Art Competition.

8. Art Appreciation Short Course and Spring Tour of the Indiana Federation of Art Clubs, 16 May 1959. Organized by Florence Grimes, a member of both the Indiana Federation of Art Clubs and the Art Club. Four thank you letters to Miss Grimes for her splendid work, dated: 6 February 1958, 17 May 1959, 5 June 1959, and 19 June 1959.

FOLDER 5- ART ASSOCIATION ART EXHIBIT PROGRAMS (7 items)

1. First Annual Exhibit of the Lafayette Art Association – 1909. Miss Fry and her committee of Art Club members had this exhibit planned before she called together selected people for the meeting at which the Lafayette Art Association came into being and its officers elected.

2. Catalogue of Fifth Annual Exhibition – 1913. This catalogue lists the officers and Directors of the Art Association showing their make up contained many Art Club members.

3. Catalogue of the Sixth Annual Exhibition – 1914.

4. The Catalogue of the Ninth Annual Exhibition – 1917. Miss Fry is still the vice-president of the Lafayette Art Association.

5. Art Exhibition at Purdue Memorial Union in 1925. (Note: Miss Fry retired at age 65 in the spring of 1922 from Purdue and went home to live.) Art Club member Eleanor Brockenbrough is now Art Association Vice-president. The 17th Exhibition.

6. Catalogue of the Exhibition at Purdue Memorial Union – 1930.

7. Art Exhibition of the Lafayette Art Association...Purdue Memorial Union – 1925.

FOLDER 6- INSURANCE POLICIES. Insurance on pictures in YMCA Building.

1. No. 2026 Standard Fire Insurance Policy of the State of New York; Expires 19 June 1909; Amount \$4,000.00; Premium \$11.12 for 30 days; Robert F. Hight; No. 2026; Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, New York.

2. No. 86344 Standard Fire Insurance Policy of the States of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Rhode Island; Expires 19 June 1909; Amount \$4,000.00; Premium \$11.12 for 30 days; Robert F. Hight; Michigan Commercial Insurance Company of Lansing, Michigan.

3. No. 710137 Standard Fire Insurance of States of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Expires 19 June 1909; Amount \$4,000.00; Premium \$11.12 for 30 days; Robert F. Hight; Boston Insurance Company, Boston, Massachusetts.

4. No. 465638 Standard Fire Insurance Policy of State of New York; Expires 19 June 1909; Amount \$2,500.00; Premium \$6.95 for 30 days; Robert F. Hight; Cooper Insurance Company, Dayton, Ohio.

5. No. 8157448 Standard Fire Insurance Policy of States of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, South Dakota, Rhode Island, and North Carolina; Expires 21 June 1909; Amount \$7,500.00; Premium \$20.83 for 30 days; Robert F. Hight; The Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company – The Brockenbrough Agency, Insurance, Lafayette, Indiana.

All five of these insurance policies have attached Lightning Clauses.

FOLDER 7- ART CLUB NOTICES AND NEWSLETTERS SENT TO MEMBERS

There are 9 separate items in this folder; of special note are items 1, 3, and 4.

1. Meeting Announcement 7 May 1983 shows the design drawn by Miss Ruby on the first yearbook. Miss Ruby was a charter member and only 11 years old.

3. The Art Club presents Floyd D. Hooper, artist at Guest Day Luncheon 17 May 1972.

4. Picture of Mrs. Toth and her husband plus a summary of her two years as president of the Art Club.

FOLDER 8- "ART CLUB NOTES"

"For THE FIRST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS" – "List of members and associate members."

1. Title page "A" and 10 pages.

FOLDER 9- LETTERS

1. Letter to Lillian Toth, 25 August 1970 from Samuel G. Lutz concerning his mother, Mrs. Joseph Wilson, the first president of the Art Club.
2. Letter to Mrs. E. J. McCormick from Florence Grimes concerning 20 November 1982 meeting of the Art Club at Historical Museum which she hosted and paid all bills as a gift to the club.
3. Letter to Mrs. Symons 2 January 1962 telling the Art Club's activities for the year.
4. Letter of Resolution, Ida J. Bradford—the Art Club's first death, April 1902.
5. Letter to Mrs. Johnson 1 March 1912 from Ella Bond Johnston concerning the Exhibit.
6. Letter to Miss Eleanor Brockbrough 22 December 1925 concerning request for money for prizes for the Hoosier Salon.
7. Resolution of appreciation to Lillian Stewart and Grace Kidd September 1970 written by Lillian Toth.
8. Letter to Mrs. Stanley Barber from Lillian Stewart, 3 April 1976.
9. Letter to Ann Wurster 26 March 1970 from Art Center – Thank you for books.
10. Letter to the Women's Council 1 May 1912 from club saying with their formation to look after civic improvement, the Art Club will no longer work for civic improvement as a major goal, but will cooperate.
11. 3 letters concerning the Bronze Plaque the Art Club gave and installed at The Art Center in the summer of 1975. Plaque cost \$90.00 plus installation.
12. 5 letters to and from Floyd Hopper concerning program for the Art Club, dated May and June 1971 and April 1972, and a memo with no date.
13. Letter from Florence Grimes presenting name of Marybelle Clark for membership.
14. Note of Thanks from Lillian Stewart 29 October 1970 for hand-lettered certificate.
15. Letter from The Office of the Public Schools (R. F. Hight) 1914 (January 20) to Mrs. Ranson, Art Club, offering use of newly-equipped shops to Art Club members.

FOLDER 10- MARIAN BARBER'S NOTES ON ART CLUB. 1975-76

19 pages. (Contains a newsclipping and picture of S. Stafford.)

FOLDER 11- NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS of Art Club Activities

18 clippings.

FOLDER 12- BILLS SHOWING COSTS OF YEARBOOKS

For the years: 1913, 1914, 1916, 1919, 1927, 1934, 1936, 1937. 1954, 1955, 1957, 1958, 1960, 1965, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, and 1971. (23 items in all)

FOLDER 13- LISTS OF MEMORIAL BOOKS given by the Art Club to the Art Center.

FOLDER 14- INFORMATION ABOUT INDIVIDUAL ART CLUB MEMBERS

50 listed.

FOLDER 15- HOOSIER SALON – 3 programs and 1 article

1. Hoosier Salon pictures at Delphi Methodist Church 28 April 1946.
2. The Second Hoosier Salon in the Marshall Field Art Galleries, 8-20 May 1926.
3. The Hoosier Salon, 1928 at the Purdue Memorial Union, 27 February to 30 March.
4. An article about the Hoosier Salon on p. 5 in "Purdue Home Economics News" March 1930.
5. Hoosier Art Patrons' Dinner.

FOLDER 16- CONSTITUTIONS OF THE ART CLUB

The first hand-written constitution is not in this folder. The rest of the revised constitutions to the last revision in 1979 are in the file.

1. Second Constitution and By-Laws was printed (no date).
2. Constitution of 1912-13. 3 copies.
3. Constitution of 1927. 4 copies.
4. Constitution with no date.

5. Constitution 1942. 2 copies.
6. Constitution 1968. 1 copy.
7. Constitution 1971. 1 copy.
8. Constitution 1979. 1 copy.
9. A bill for 50 Constitutions in 1959, \$5.00. A bill for 100 Constitutions in 1928, \$8.00.

FOLDER 17- LETTERS

CONCERNING THE ARTIST FAMILY the Art Club helped during the First World War. The family was in France. 19 items.

1. Letter and envelope (1918 ?) from France. A photo is missing.
2. Form of "Relief Fund for the Families of French Soldier-Artists" 28 March 1919.
3. Letter and envelope from France, 1919.
4. Letter and envelope from France, 1920.
5. 25 November 1916 letter from France and envelope.
6. Letter from France, 1919, and envelope.
7. Letter from France 1921, and envelope.
8. Letter from France, 21 September 1918, and envelope.
9. Letter from France, 23 May 1920, and envelope.
10. Letter from France, 1920, and envelope.
11. Letter from France, 11 November 1919 (no envelope).
12. Letter from France, 6 October 1918, and envelope.
13. Letter from France 17 September 1918, and envelope.
14. Letter from France, 5 September 1918, and envelope.
15. Letter from France plus daughter's letter, 1919, envelope attached.

16. Letter from France, 1922, and envelope.

17. Letter from France, 1921, and envelope.

18. Letter from New York about American Artists War Emergency Fund, 5 September 1918.

19. Letter from new York about American Artists War Emergency Fund, 18 November 1917.

FOLDER 18- ART CLUB INSIGNIA

1. Letter from W. F. Hopson of New Haven, Connecticut, who judged the designs submitted by Art Club members, 31 October 1912.

2. Letter from Hopson dated 3 February 1913.

3. Hopson's envelope for the 1913 letter.

4. Two copies of Art Club insignia.

FOLDER 19- REPORT OF ART ASSOCIATION TO ART CLUB

1. 14 February 1929 report of Art Association to Art Club.

2. One of the first, perhaps the original copy, of the Articles of Association of the Lafayette Art Association, Indiana.

FOLDER 20- TREASURER'S RECORDS

1. Bank book – first date 1914.

2. Treasurer's book – started year 1913-14 through 1932-33.

3. Receipt book – 1925-27.

4. Receipt book – 1931.

5. Receipt book – 1933. 1 item 1934.

6. Miscellaneous checks and checkbook record 1965-69.

7. Folded sheet – treasurer's report covering year 1938-39.

FOLDER 21- TREASURER'S RECORDS

3 packets of cancelled checks approximately 1 inch in thickness.

FOLDER 22- FLORENCE GRIMES ESTATE MATERIAL

1. Includes two papers presented by Mrs. Joseph F. Buck, 1935, 1938

IN BACK OF BOX 1

58 copies of Art Club duplicate yearbooks tied together.

BOX 2 (Inside Box 1)

YEARBOOKS

First yearbook hand-made by Miss Ruby in separate folder with first hand-written Constitution by Miss Baird.

Yearbooks start with 1899-1900 and go through 1981-82. The only missing yearbooks are for the years: 1908-09, 1958-59, and 1959-60.

BOX 3

SECRETARY BOOKS (5 in number on 30 October 1983)

Book I – 23 September 1898 – 15 May 1905

Book III: 26 September 1913 – 26 May 1926.

Book IV – 17 September 1926 – 15 May 1926.

Book V – 18 September 1936 – 18 May 1945.

Book VI – 21 September 1945 – 17 May 1963.

BOX 4 (from accession 87.007)

FOLDER 1- Miscellaneous Programs and Brochures

1. "A History: The Lafayette Art Association" 1968.
2. Art Exhibition of the Lafayette Art Association... Purdue Memorial Union, Purdue University, May 1925.
3. Lafayette Art Association Fiftieth Anniversary Dinner, 1959
4. "Indiana Collects" 1979
5. Lafayette Art Association: A ¾ Century Survey"

6. Lafayette Art Center

FOLDER 2- Treasurers (Cash) Books

1. Cash Book 1898 to 1913
2. Cash book 1957- 1979

FOLDER 3- Report on Washington, D.C. Art Show of April 20- May 8, 1986. Official Copy for The Art Club's archives at the Tippecanoe County Historical Association. Includes photographs, a guest book and typed documents. Removed from its original acidic folder and photo sleeves 2/24/2017.

FOLDER 4- Report on Washington, D.C. Art Show of April 20- May 8, 1986. Copy for regular files of Club. Removed from its original acidic folder and photo sleeves 2/24/2017.

FOLDER 5- Miscellaneous Documents

Includes newsletters and handwritten histories of the club. 1935- 1984.

FOLDER 6- Miscellaneous Postcards and Programs

Meeting Minutes books:

Ledger: Art Club Minutes, 1903 to December 27, 1912

Binder: Art Club Minutes, October 18, 1963 to May 1976

Binder: Art Club Minutes, September 1976 to 1983

PEOPLE

Fry, Laura Anne

Ruby, Edna Browning

Clark, Marybelle H.

McCormick, Emily

Koerner, Corinne

Grimes, Florence

Toth, Lillian W.

Bender, Ruth

Stafford, Suzanne

Hughes, Olga

Hight, Robert F.

Lutz, Samuel G.

Bradford, Ida J.

Wilson, Mrs. Joseph

Symons, Mrs.

Johnston, Ella Bond

Brockenbrough, Eleanor

Hopper, Floyd

Stewart, Lillian
Ranson, Mrs.
Wurster, Ann
Barber, Mrs. Stanley
Kidd, Grace

CLASSIFICATION

Art
Organizations/Professional

SUBJECTS

Arts
Organizations – Art Club

SEARCH TERMS

Art Club
Art League
Lafayette Art Association
Hoosier Salon