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Annual Report 1942

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COMMUNITY ART PROJECT REPORT

1942

On October 23, 1941 the second series of the Community Art Project Wednesday Evenings was opened at the New Auditorium. It was the first of eight programs offered for \$1.00 and the response was extremely gratifying. There were 792 subscribers compared to the 485 subscribers of 1941.

Professor Downing and Mrs. Noble designed the folder which is enclosed with this report and contains the programs and notes.

In addition to the eight programs the WPA Symphony Orchestra presented a program March 25 which was included as one of the Wednesday Evenings. They played a delightful program of Brahms, Beethoven and Bach to an audience of 423 persons.

On the whole the programs were well received, but it was found that for the particular type of programs given by the Community Art Project the Auditorium lacked the intimate atmosphere needed. It was suggested that the programs for next year be held in the Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design and Alumnae Hall at Pembroke College.

In order to accommodate the number of subscribers we hope to have next season, two series have been planned. Either or both of these series may be subscribed to and four of the programs will be joint concerts with combined audiences. The joint concerts will be given at Alumnae Hall.

In addition to the series, the Community Art Project is sponsoring The Players in a comedy October 31. Half of the proceeds of this play will go for war relief for the United States.

It is hoped the play can be given at Faunce House, Brown University, and arrangements have been discussed to that effect.

The Calendar of Art Events has continued to lose money, the number of subscriptions not covering the expenditures necessary to publish it. It is planned to put out the Calendar in sheet form minus the articles and cuts. It will be published at the Community Art Project Office by mimeograph rather than by a printer, thus reducing costs to a minimum.

The Picture Lending Library, begun in October 1941, is flourishing. There are now eighty five pictures in the collection, all matted and framed by the Community Art Project staff. Pictures have been rented in Bristol, Westerly, Kingston (Rhode Island State College), Woonsocket, East Providence and at the Community Art Project Office in Providence. Ninety five pictures have been rented, bringing in a total of \$71.25.

We have had excellent publicity during the past year, and have received most creditable reviews, not only on the Art page of the Providence Journal, but in the Gravure, Society and Editorial sections.

On January 10, the Project sponsored two performances by the Puppet Theatre of Geddis and Martin of "Alice and Wonderland". Due to a heavy snow fall the audiences were small but the Project was able, through the ticket sale, to meet the expenses involved.

Harold Rose, who has worked with the Project since October 1941, has been called by the United States Army and to save expenses no one will be engaged in his place. Miss Jane B. Thomas, who replaced Miss Marjorie Whitmarsh in October 1941, assists Mrs. Noble at the Community Art Project Office. Mrs. Noble and Miss Thomas will assume the duties of Mr. Rose next year.

Due to gas rationing and the shortage of tires only two exhibitions have been sent to Army camps. As there was only one camp interested in receiving exhibitions we have not felt it advisable to continue them. This camp was Fort Wetherell, Jamestown, and not on any of the routes we take when exhibiting the Picture Lending Library.

Enclosed with this report is a list of the programs to be offered on the Wednesday Evening series for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Jean Noble

Mrs. Wesley Noble, Director
Community Art Project