

The Legacy of the Hoosier Salon

The Hoosier Salon legacy began in 1925 when the “Daughters of Indiana” opened the doors to the first exhibition of Indiana contemporary artists at Marshall Fields and Company Galleries in Chicago. The high quality of art was applauded by critics and the public alike, the first exhibition included works by such notables as T.C. Steele, J. Otis Adams and Will Vawter, and was an unqualified success.

In 1940 the annual exhibit moved from Chicago to downtown Indianapolis, the same year that Psi Iota Xi included a second cultural project, the Hoosier Salon Patrons Association. The sorority’s support of the Salon began by purchasing three paintings each year to be presented to chapters through drawings at each Convention. The National President and National Project Chairman selected the paintings to be purchased. At the 1950 Convention, Psi Otes increased the contribution to the Hoosier Salon by giving an outstanding artist a “Jury Prize of Distinction”. Our support of the Art Salon continues with funding for their state art tour or giving prizes of distinction to Salon artists.

These paintings hang in schools, hospitals, libraries, and community centers in the states of our organization.