

In 1919, the Hibbing Public Library Board of Trustees and the library director, Dorothy Hurlbert, invited a Chicago art dealer to exhibit, a collection of American paintings at the library. During the exhibit four thousand people came to view and vote on their favorite paintings. After the votes were tallied, the Library Board decided to purchase several of the paintings.

Since 1919 other paintings have been added to the library's art collection.

**Autumn Melody by H.M. Kitchell**

Kitchell is an impressionist. In this painting, he shows an image of nature in rich and subdued tones.

**Evolution by Anna S. Fisher**

Fisher painted the ship "The Evolution" in Gloucester, Massachusetts.

**Her Only Son by Alice Schille**

Schille used watercolors in her painting of a peasant woman of northern France with her son by her side.

**Autumn Woodland by J. E. Bundy**

Bundy is a realist, revealing nature exactly. As a boy in Indiana, Bundy loved the woods and would draw and paint the forest. During his teens, Bundy became friends with James Whitcomb Riley. They painted together until Riley took up writing.

**The Pinto Pony by Eanger Irving Couse**

Couse, a son of a merchant, was educated in Michigan and studied art in the Academy of Design in New York and Academie Julian in France. Sometime after 1892 he returned to the United States and stayed with the American Indians. He painted several pictures of life and scenery of the West. "The Pinto Pony" is just one of his works depicting life of the American Indian.

**Halt on the Carry by Arthur Fitzwilliam Tait**

Tait, immigrated from England to United State in 1850. His art is almost entirely self-taught and usually depicts landscapes and animals. "Halt on the Carry" was shown at the National Academy in New York and was owned by a wealthy New Yorker before being bought by the Hibbing Public Library. At the time of its showing this painting was said to be an instant favorite with the outdoors men of Hibbing.

**Girl with the Beads by William J. Edmondson**

Born in Norwalk, Ohio, Edmondson studied art at the Julian Academy in France. His works won many awards and have been displayed in several museums.

**Dawn Twilight Wisdom by Clarence C. Rosenkranz**

This Duluth artist created a seven-panel mural for the North Hibbing Library. The mural "Genius of Minnesota" represents the industries, resources and interests in the state. The murals were removed from the North Hibbing Library when the building was torn down, and were restored by the Hibbing Historical Society. Three of the panels are on display at the Library. The others are on display at Hibbing High School, and First Bank Minnesota. The mural "Wisdom" was donated by the Hibbing historical Society in 1994. It is in the stairway to the mezzanine.

**Hugh Reynolds Paintings**

The Library owns two oil paintings and one print by local artist Hugh Reynolds. An oil painting of the Hibbing businesses along Third Avenue close to the Sunrise Bakery in the 1970's and an oil painting of Chisholm, Minnesota are displayed behind the front service desk. Also displayed is a print of a Reynolds' painting depicting Howard Street in 1938. The three works of art were donated by the Friends of the Hibbing Public Library.

**North Hibbing Library by Dushan Surla**

Local Hibbing artist, Dushan Surla, used photographs to create an oil painting of the North Hibbing Library. The painting was donated to the Hibbing Public Library in 1990 by Dushan and Louis Surla in memory of their parents, Mike and Helen Surla.

**Frank Hibbing by Robert Mitchell**

Made of iron ore, this is one of several working models made while Mitchell created the bronze statue of Frank Hibbing at Frank Hibbing Park. The bust was donated to the Library by Martin Golob in 1993.

**Moonlight Road by Joseph H. Boston**

Boston's painting depicts the Adirondack Mountains in the moonlight.

**The Pool by Jessie Arms Batke**

Batke was born in Chicago, Illinois, and was a student at the Art Institute of Chicago. Batke uses tempera, a plaster like medium, to create a decorative painting of two birds by a pool.

**The Bird Crystal Northern Lights by Joseph Bogdanich**

An emigrate from Yugoslavia to Ely, Minnesota, Bogdanich turned artist after leaving work as a miner. He first worked with oils before turning to sculpture.