



## Guide to the Iowa City Public Library Permanent Art Collection

The permanent art collection of the Iowa City Public Library contains over 40 pieces of original art work, in a wide range of media, displayed throughout the building. Many of these works were given to the Library by community groups, local artists, and Library patrons. A few pieces were originally acquired as part of the Library's Art Purchase Prize competition. Several pieces were either commissioned by The Library Board or created to commemorate the grand re-opening of the Library in June 2004. A large number of the artists represented are Iowans who have lived and worked in the Iowa City area and have received significant recognition for their work.

This self-guided tour begins in the Library lobby. The numbers correspond to those on the maps of the Library in this brochure.

IOWA CITY  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

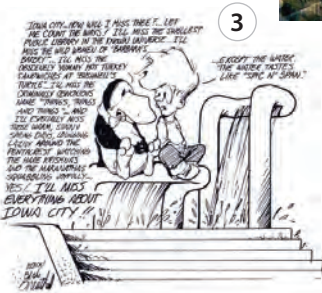




1. *This Library* a poem by Marvin Bell. Bronze, 2004. Written by Iowa Poet Laureate Marvin Bell to commemorate the grand re-opening of the Library building on June 12, 2004. Cast in Bronze by Max-Cast, Inc. in Kalona, Iowa.



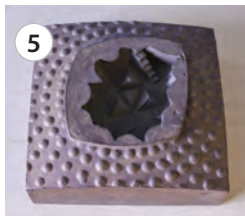
2. *Artist Approaching Middle Age* by Mauricio Lasansky. Intaglio, 1970. The artist established the print workshop at the University of Iowa in 1945 which later became known as the Iowa Print Group. Currently he is Professor Emeritus at the School of Art and Art History at the University of Iowa. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schulman.



3. *Iowa City... How Will I Miss Thee?* by Berke Breathed. Original cartoon, 1985. Published in the *Iowa City Press-Citizen* on May 16, 1985. The artist, creator of the nationally syndicated cartoon strips Bloom County and Outland, and winner of the 1987 Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Cartooning, was Iowa City's cartoonist-in-residence from 1981-1985. The cartoon was the artist's farewell to Iowa City.



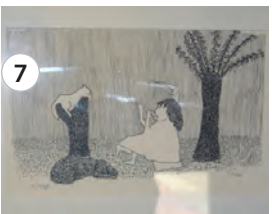
4. *Books* by Elliko Shimosato-Shutt. Collage and paint, 1991. This work was acquired for the Art-To-Go Collection as one of the 1991 Art Purchase Prize Competition winners. It was transferred to the Permanent Art Collection after the artist's death in 2003.



5. *Altar* by Eric Shaw. Iron sculpture, 1986. The late artist was a life-long resident of Iowa City, and studied sculpture at the University of Iowa. Gift of Ed and Karen Arensdorf, friends of the artist.



6. *Ellen Buchanan Mosaic* by Karla McGrail. Tile mosaic, 2004. Commissioned to highlight the entrance to the Ellen Buchanan Children's Room in the newly remodeled Library. The artist lives and works in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



7. *For Hazel* by Kay Burford. Pen and ink, undated. A drawing created for late Children's Librarian Hazel Westgate by Iowa City artist Kay Burford.

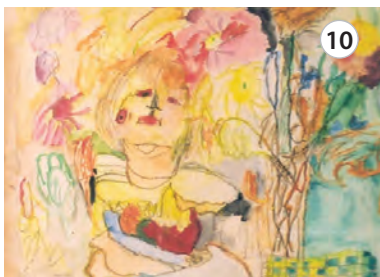


8. *Not all Dragons Are Alike* by Hazel Westgate. Turkish Ghiordes knots, 1984. The late artist spent more than 30 years as Iowa City Public Library's children's librarian. For many years she donated one of her rugs annually to the State Library of Iowa, which held a drawing for its acquisition by one of Iowa's public libraries. Gift of the artist.





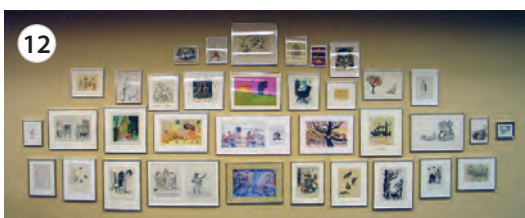
9. *Butterfly Dreams* by Emily Gelman Vermillion. Ink, metallic ink, colored pencil on paper, undated. Emily Vermillion is a long-time Iowa City resident and artist, and has worked in a wide variety of media including murals, portraiture, and painting. Gifted by the artist in 2011, in memory of Sora Jo Yamada.



10. *Untitled* by Blaine Pass. Watercolor and crayon, 1971. The artist made the picture when he was a fourth grade student in Iowa City. Gift of Webster and Gloria Gelman.



11. *Neighbors* by Leopold Kiendrebeogo. Wax resist batik, 1972. The artist is a retired policeman living in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. He learned the art of creating wax resist batik murals at the National Center for Arts and Crafts and has been a batik artist for more than thirty years. The mural depicts a traditional Mossi fable about two men whose garden produce is being eaten by animals. Although the picture illustrates a proverb that warns people to mind their own business, viewers may have their own interpretations of the activity and the message. Gift of Christopher and Nora Leonard Roy.



12. *The Westgate Collection of original children's book art*. A collection of children's book art donated by nationally known authors and illustrators of children's books, most collected by long-time children's librarian Hazel Westgate, is hung throughout the Children's Room. Most of the works are original working drawings which bear printer's indications for use in the production of the book or are illustrations done by the artist especially for the Library. (A separate brochure is available in the Children's Room.)



13. *Paddington* by Sarah Start. Pen, ink, and watercolor, undated. A tribute to the first stuffed Paddington Bear owned by the ICPL Children's Room.



14. *Maude* by Ellie Simmons. Oil on board, 1979. The late artist, an illustrator of children's books, also painted the mural that was on the walls of the Children's Story Room in the old Carnegie Library. Maude was the artist's cat and was greatly admired by Hazel Westgate, former Children's Librarian. Simmons presented this work to the library after Hazel's death with the inscription "For HAZEL-AT-THE-LIBRARY, with love from Ellie Simmons, 25 May, 1989."



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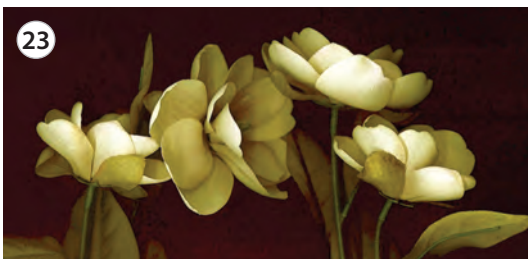
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15. *Head of Phillip* by William Lasansky.

Cast bronze sculpture, 1962. Lasansky earned his MFA at the University of Iowa and is now Professor Emeritus of Art at Bucknell University. Gift of Webster and Gloria Gelman.

16. *Convergence* by Melanie Walker and George Peters.

Mixed media suspended sculpture, 2004. Commissioned by the Library Board for the grand re-opening of the Library in June 2004, *Convergence* was created by Artists Walker and Peters of Airworks Studio in Colorado.

17. *Fruits of Knowledge* by Sheryl Ellinwood.

Diptych sculpture, 2004.

18. *Older than Words* by Sheryl Ellinwood.

Sculpture, 2001. Sheryl Ellinwood lives and works in Pella, Iowa. Both works by Ellinwood were purchased through a gift from the Bailey family in memory of ICPL staff member Christopher Bailey who passed away in the spring of 2004.

19. *Circus Lady, Clown and Snow Leopard* by Howard McKenzie.

Intaglio, 1977. The artist worked at the Iowa City Public Library while a student at the University of Iowa. Gift of Lolly and Del Eggers.

20-21. *Sections from the Lenoach & Cilek Mural*.

In 1992-93 students from the Iowa City Community School Senior High Alternative Center, under the supervision of Dr. Hani Elkadi, painted a mural inside the former Lenoach & Cilek building on the pedestrian mall at the corner of College and Dubuque Streets. When the Lenoach & Cilek building was purchased by the City in 2001 the mural was cut into 15 individual sections which were framed and displayed at organizations and institutions throughout the community.

20. "Fountain" Acrylic, 1992.

21. "Crowd" Acrylic, 1992.

22. *Kaddish I* by Mauricio Lasansky.

Intaglio, 1970. Part of a series of prints based on the Jewish mourner's prayer, the work combines several printmaking techniques in a multi-plate production. Gift of Webster and Gloria Gelman.

23. *Sepia Magnolias VI* by Sara Slee Brown.

Giclee print, signed edition 4/20, 2005. The artist worked at the Iowa City Public Library for 22 years, retiring in May 2007. This piece was her farewell gift to the Library.





24. *Lucifer Entering Iowa City* by Jim Ochs.  
Intaglio, 1972. The artist is a graduate of the University of Iowa and has a studio in Iowa City. Gift of Webster and Gloria Gelman.



25. *Winter* by Keith Achepohl.  
Intaglio, 1959. The artist is Professor Emeritus of Art at the University of Iowa. Gift of Webster and Gloria Gelman.



26. *King of the Hill* by Norval Tucker.  
Oil, 1976. The artist was Associate Professor Emeritus of Art at the University of Iowa. His wife, Joan, worked many years as a librarian at the Iowa City Public Library. Gift of Webster and Gloria Gelman.



27. *Homage à Court* by Byron Burford.  
Oil, 1980. The artist was Professor Emeritus of Art at the University of Iowa and a long-time library user. Library purchase.



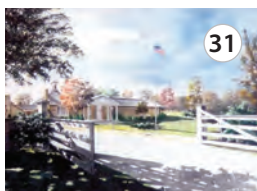
28. *Fresh Hay* by Ellen A. Wagener.  
Pastel on paper, 1990. The artist, raised in Dewitt, Iowa now lives and works in Arizona. This work was acquired for the Art-to-Go Collection during the 1990 Art Purchase Prize Competition and transferred to the permanent collection in 2003.



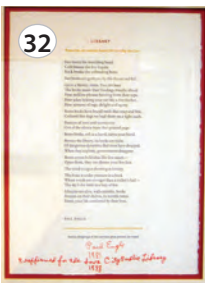
29. *Iowa City Public Library* by Stan Haring.  
Watercolor, 1979. The work was commissioned for the cover of the annual report of the First National Bank and given to the Iowa City Public Library by the Bank in 1981.



30. *Central Junior High* by Stan Haring.  
Watercolor, 1982. The work was commissioned by the school's parent-teacher organization and painted just before the building was demolished to make room for a parking lot. Originally intended to be displayed at the Library until 1993 and then given to the Iowa State Historical Society, the Society made the decision in 1989 to keep it here where it would be permanently displayed.



31. *Herbert Hoover Library* by Stan Haring.  
Watercolor, 1973. The work was originally purchased by Michael and Ruth Bonfiglio, who intended for Richard Nixon to present it to the King of Belgium on the occasion of a public ceremony at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library in West Branch in August, 1973. Nixon resigned one week prior to the visit, and the picture was later given to the Iowa City Public Library by the Bonfiglios.



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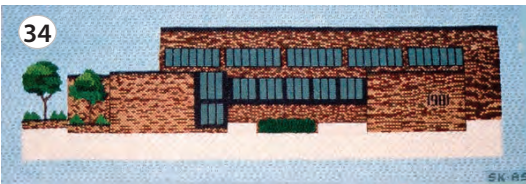
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32. *The Library* a poem by Paul Engle, 1981.

As director of the University of Iowa's Writer's Workshop for more than 25 years, the late educator and writer trained a generation of U.S. writers and poets. Later he cofounded the University's prestigious International Writing Program. His own works include poetry, novels, and essays. Gift of the author.

33. *Untitled* by Mildred Pelzer Lynch.

Oil, circa 1966. Working as a WPA artist during the 1930s, the artist painted several murals on themes of Iowa City history. This painting represents the late artists interest in abstract styles. Gift of Frank and Nancy Seiberling.



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34-38. Needlepoint pictures representing buildings housing the Iowa City Public Library, 1897-2002, created by members of the Plum Grove chapter of the Embroiders' Guild of America 1981-82. Charted designs by Carol Krob. Gift of the Plum Grove Chapter.



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34. *The present Library* (pre-renovation) (1981-2002) stitched by Anna Stranieri and Sherle Kasik.

35. *Logo* designed for the present Library by Dick Blasek as a stylized version of the stained glass window. Stitched by Ramona Stohlmann.

36. *Carnegie Building* (1904-1981) stitched by Denise Wilcox.

37. *200 block, East College Street* (1901-1904) stitched by Jeanette Lynch.

38. *C.O.D. Steam Laundry* (1897-1900) stitched by Alice Kurtz.



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39. *Rose, Water Buffalo, Hong Kong* by James Lechay.

Oil, 1976. The late artist was a former University of Iowa Art professor. His wife Rose, while serving as a reference librarian at the Iowa City Public Library, established the Library's "Art-to-Go" collection. Library purchase.

40. *Lyndon Johnson* by Frank Miller.

Pastel, undated. The late Frank Miller was a political cartoonist at the Des Moines Register from 1953 to 1983 and received the Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Cartooning in 1963. He drew this cartoon as part of a program at the Library in 1969. Gift of the artist.



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41. *Stained Glass Window*, artist unknown, possibly manufactured by Pittsburgh Plate Glass, circa 1904.

Originally a skylight in the rotunda of the Carnegie Library building, the window was converted to a vertical architectural feature by local stained glass artist Frank Riehl when the Library moved to 123 S. Linn Street. It remained by the entrance of the Library until 2002, when artists from the Bovard Stained Glass





Studio took the window to their studio in Fairfield, Iowa where it was restored and reinforced so that it could again be hung from the ceiling in the newly remodeled Library. The window now hangs beneath a series of skylights above the reading room in the south-west corner of the second floor of the Library, overlooking the Weatherdance Fountain.

42. *ePluribus ICPL* by Patrick Muller (Hans of Prague). Handpainted ceramic tiles, 2003. Part of the artist's Mural of Possibilities Series, the first and second of which are installed in public buildings in Prague and Olomouc, Czech Republic. Born and raised in Iowa, the artist describes himself as a self-taught, outsider artist. He divides his time between Hills, Iowa and Prague, Czech Republic. Gift of the artist.



43-44. *Hmong Sailor Collars I & II*, artists unknown. Handstitched needlework, undated. These collars are usually attached at the nape of the neck on the back of a traditional Hmong woman's jacket. Collected by Barbara Davidson in Ching Mai and Ching Rai provinces in Northern Thailand in 2001-2002. Symbols in the pieces are similar to hexes to ward off the "evil eye." Gift of Barbara Davidson.



45. *Sleep* by William Lasansky. Cast bronze sculpture, 1961. The sculptor, a son of Mauricio Lasansky, was a graduate student at the University of Iowa when he made this piece. The Ford Foundation Program for Purchase of Works by American Artists presented it to the City of Iowa City at the sculptor's request in 1964. Originally designed as an outdoor sculpture, it reposed for several months on the lawn outside the Iowa City Public Library Carnegie building. It was later moved indoors and displayed vertically on a wall in the Carnegie building. With the Library's move to 123 S. Linn St., a base was created so that it could be displayed in its natural position indoors.



46-48. Iowa City Literary Walk Pieces.

As part of the installation of the diagonal parking in front of the Library in 2004, three new bronze relief panels were installed in the Linn Street sidewalk continuing the Iowa City Literary Walk. Conceptualized by the Iowa City Public Art Advisory Committee in 1999, the Literary Walk, originating along Iowa Avenue, celebrates works by writers who have ties to Iowa. All artwork in the Literary Walk was created by Gregg Le Fevre, and features author's words as well as an attribution. Iowa City Public Library's panels:



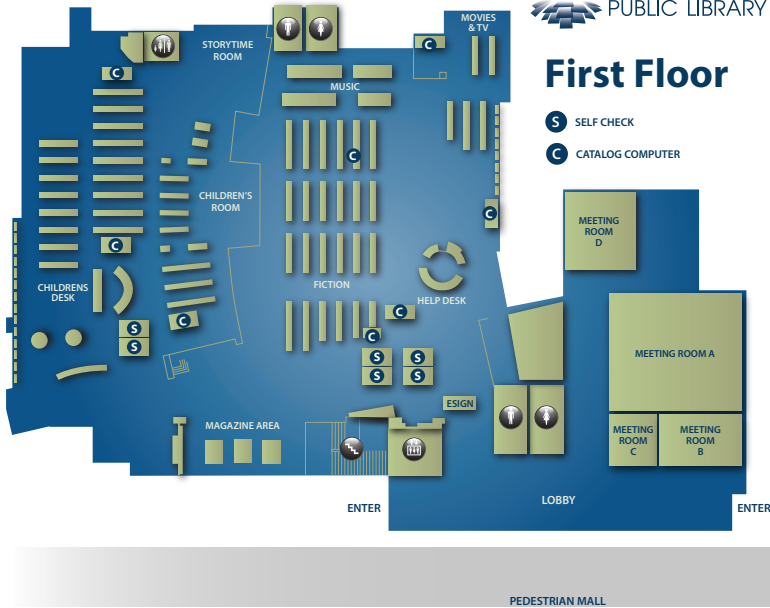
46. *I Could Tell You Stories*, by Patricia Hampl.

47. *Spirit Lake*, by MacKinlay Kantor.

48. *Heaven*, by Mary Swander.

## First Floor

- S** SELF CHECK
- C** CATALOG COMPUTER



## Second Floor

- S** SELF CHECK
- C** CATALOG COMPUTER



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HOURS: Mon-Thurs 10-9, Fri 10-8, Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5