



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Philip Fletcher Bell

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Philip Fletcher Bell
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1963
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.bell63
<b>Creator:</b>	Bell, Philip Fletcher, 1907-1964 (Interviewee) Phillips, Harlan B. (Harlan Buddington), 1920-1979 (Interviewer) New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project
<b>Extent:</b>	30 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Philip Fletcher Bell, circa 1963, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Philip Fletcher Bell circa 1963, Transcript</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This interview conducted as part of the Archives of American Art's New Deal and the Arts project, which includes over 400 interviews of artists, administrators, historians, and others involved with the federal government's art programs and the activities of the Farm Security Administration in the 1930s and early 1940s.

### Available Formats

Transcript: 35mm microfilm reel 3418 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Available Formats

Transcript is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

### Restrictions

This interview is open for research. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Philip Fletcher Bell (1907-1964) was an art administrator and painter from Washington, D.C.

## Scope and Contents

An interview of Philip Fletcher Bell conducted circa 1963, by Harlan Phillips, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Bell speaks of a mural painting project he ran for the Federal Art Project; his work as a director of a children's art center in Washington, D.C.; how students were chosen for the center; how the center was administered; some of the projects that were done by the center; and his philosophies of teaching drawing and art to children.

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## General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 1 digital wav file. Duration is 53 min.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

- Arts administrators -- Washington (D.C.) -- Interviews
- Children's art
- Federal aid to the arts
- Mural painting and decoration

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Federal Art Project
- New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project

### Functions:

- Art centers -- Washington (D.C.)