



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Iowa Community Art Centers Photographs, 1938-1939, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

The digitization of this collection received Federal support from the  
Smithsonian Collections Information System (CIS) IRM Pool Fund

2025/02/21

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Iowa community art centers photographs
<b>Date:</b>	1938-1939
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.fedeartp03
<b>Creator:</b>	Federal Art Project (Iowa)
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Microfilm reel
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The Iowa Community Art Centers photographs date from 1938 to 1939. Photographs are of Federal Art Project, Works Progress Administration art center interiors in Mason City and Sioux City, Iowa.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The provenance of this collection is unknown.

### Location of Originals

Originals returned to lender.

### Available Formats

The collection has been microfilmed on reel NDA16. The microfilm has been digitized and is available on the Archives of American Art website.

### Processing Information

The collection was microfilmed on Reel NDA16 and was returned to the unknown donor after filming. The microfilm was described in a finding aid by Jayna Josefson in 2025 and the microfilm was digitized in 2024 with funding provided by the Smithsonian Collections Information System (CIS) IRM Pool Fund.

### Preferred Citation

Iowa Community Art Centers photographs, 1938-1939. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

The Archives of American Art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

### Conditions Governing Use

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## **Biographical / Historical**

Community art centers were established under the Art Education Division of the Federal Art Project, Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression. The art centers served as a means of promoting the arts throughout the general population and providing a place for artists to work and to teach classes in art to adults and children.

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## **Scope and Contents**

The Iowa Community Art Centers photographs date from 1938 to 1939. Photographs are of Federal Art Project, Works Progress Administration art center interiors in Mason City and Sioux City, Iowa.

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## **Arrangement**

Due to the pre-existing microfilm arrangement, the collection is arranged as one series.

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## **Names and Subject Terms**

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

Functions:

Agencies -- Iowa  
Art centers -- Iowa

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Iowa Community Art Centers Photographs, 1938-1939

Scope and Contents: Seven photographs are of the interior of the Mason City, Iowa Community Art Center. Thirteen photographs are of the Sioux City, Iowa Community Art Center. The photographs are of the interiors of the centers and depict exhibitions, classes, and front desk areas of the centers.

Reel NDA16.fap iowa, [Photographs, 1938-1939](#)  
Frame 290-317

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