

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART OPENS EXHIBITION OF ARTS IN THERAPY
FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

Prize-winning entries in the Arts in Therapy Competition which the Museum of Modern Art held from October 15 to December 15 will be shown in an exhibition opening in the auditorium galleries of the Museum, 11 West 53 Street, Wednesday, February 3. The exhibition is arranged in two sections: 1) Occupational Therapy, and 2) ~~Creative~~ Therapy (or Psychotherapy). The 23 prize winners are included in the Occupational Therapy section which comprises more than one hundred items in the various crafts such as weaving, wood-working, paper construction, metal work, pottery, and so forth.

The Creative Therapy section shows the use of the free media in art--painting, sculpture, drawing, etc.--employed both as a means of diagnosis and cure, with more than one hundred and fifty examples executed by both normal and mentally disturbed individuals. This section will include ^acontinuously projected motion picture illustrating the use of the free media. The film has been prepared especially for the exhibition by Victor D'Amico, Bernard Sanders and Charles Cook. There will also be shown a Clavilux or color organ in which an ever-changing series of images is formed on a screen by the action of light. The Clavilux is sometimes used by psychiatrists for its power to evoke associational images which indicate the patient's subconscious thought and guide the psychiatrist in his diagnosis. A third feature of this section will be a work table at which visitors to the exhibition will be able to experiment with free media under the supervision of an artist every day (except Saturdays and Sundays) from 2 to 3:30 P.M. and from 4:30 to 6:30 P.M.

The exhibition has been designed to encourage and broaden the use of the various arts and crafts in therapeutic work among disabled and convalescent members of the armed forces. As proof of the value of the arts in this unusual field the Museum will show as part of the exhibition photographs taken at British Base Hospitals in the Middle East, convalescent homes in England and Veterans Administration Hospitals in the United States. The foreign photographs have been supplied by Jan Jute of the British Information Services.

It will interest Americans to know that the woman who appears

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in many of the photographs from the Middle East hospitals is a citizen of the United States, Mrs. Margaret Lewthwaite, wife of a Major of the Scots Guards. Mrs. Lewthwaite introduced occupational therapy in these hospitals in the spring of 1941 and since then has taught it to 11,000 of the men in the hospitals, with such success that King George awarded her the M.B.E.

The exhibition, and the competition which preceded it, is an activity of the Museum's Armed Services Program, under the direction of James Thrall Soby, assisted by Mrs. Molly Misson. The section of the exhibition showing the use of the free media in therapy has been assembled on behalf of the Museum-sponsored Committee on Art in American Education and Society by the committee's chairman, Victor D'Amico, by Dr. Edward Liss as a member of the committee, and by Bernard Sanders, who for three years worked as artist-instructor in the psychiatric wards of Bellevue Hospital. Herbert Bayer designed the installation for the entire exhibition.

Twenty-three prizes totalling \$500 will be awarded on the opening day of the exhibition, as follows:

\$100 First Prize
Ilse Hamaan, San Diego, California
Block print.

\$ 75 Second Prize
Juliet Kepes and Marli Ehrman, Chicago
Child's cloth book.

\$ 50 Third Prize
Pegi Macleod, New York City
Small hooked rug.

Fourth Prizes, each \$25:
Morris Levine, New York City
Gretna Campbell, New York City
Barbara Holverson, San Diego, Calif.
Jo Anne Nicholson, Des Moines, Iowa
Irene Reinecke, Oxford, Ohio

Fifth Prizes, each \$10:
New York City

Alice Donaldson
Donelda Fazakas
Toni Hughes
Ada Husted-Anderson
Carol Janeway
Louise Nevelson
Louis Seigel

Los Angeles, Calif. - Emma L. Davis

San Francisco, Calif.

Louise Foug
Ruth Mackinlay

Stony Creek, Conn. - Frank Hopkins

Chicago, Ill.

Joe E. Kapps
Marjorie Little

Mechanicsburg, Ohio - M. J. Hunt

Philadelphia, Pa. - Nancy Cole

Without entering the Competition, a French painter and an American sculptor have contributed to the exhibition. André Masson

has given a highly imaginative color sketch to be used as a design for embroidery. Alexander Calder has created two dozen or more gay and fantastic toys made in the simplest fashion of cigar boxes, paper match boxes, scraps of tin, leather, old piano wire, rags, yarn, thread and bits of wood. He has used these wastebasket media in such fantastic and comical ways that a soldier or sailor would have to be very much disabled indeed not to laugh at first sight and then demand that the wastebasket be emptied on his bed to furnish him with similar materials for comic creations of his own. Among the Calder works is Lady Godiva on a Bike, a severe-looking female of wood and cloth inadequately concealed beneath flowing locks of yarn. Other Calder entries include a complete and very realistic bathroom suite which would please any Marine, disabled or not; a two-story house made from an up-ended cigar box completely furnished even to a bawling baby in its slatted crib; a brace of rag dogs--a bloodhound and a Chihuahua; a wood-and-wire snake; a tin-and-wire crane which, suspended on a wheel stick, flaps its wings and wiggles its toes at the slightest motion or breath of air; and a Model "T" Ford made from a tobacco box, a few twists of wire and an old tin can; an elegant framed portrait of King Edward VII, both portrait and frame cut from a cigarette paper package; and other elegant and irresistible inventions.

In conjunction with the exhibition the Museum will publish a 24-page Bulletin which will be given free to members and be on sale to the public for ten cents. It will contain numerous articles on the use of the arts in therapy illustrated by photographs from the exhibition. In the Museum Bulletin Mr. Soby writes of the exhibition as follows:

"The Competition which preceded the exhibition was undertaken at the instigation of the American Occupational Therapy Association and the New York chapter of the Junior League. Its purpose was to provide a fresh supply of designs and objects in the crafts, to be utilized wherever needed by those in charge of therapeutic work for the armed forces. But we have not gathered these objects with the limited idea of offering them as models to be copied by patients. Our purpose has been broader than this: we have hoped to stimulate and strengthen the curative potentialities of the crafts by calling upon the manifestly suitable talents of American artists and craftsmen.

"As distinct from the first section devoted to the role of the crafts in occupational therapy, the creative therapy section portrays the function of spontaneous self-expression through the arts as a means of psychological release and as a partial guide in the diagnosis of mental disturbances and conflicts. In recent years doctors have come increasingly to believe that physiological and psychological illnesses are interrelated. The 'free' media in art would seem to offer a limited but nonetheless considerable aid in the cure or alleviation of both."

Also in the Bulletin Mrs. Meta R. Cobb, Executive Secretary

of the American Occupational Therapy Association, and Miss Harriet E. Knapp, Instructor in Occupational Therapy at Columbia University, make the following statement:

"The Museum of Modern Art is making a distinct and unique contribution through this competition and exhibition on The Arts in Therapy. We know of no other museum in the country which has initiated such a plan and undertaken its accomplishment. Through the Armed Services Program of the Museum this project is offering an unusual opportunity to American artists and designers who wish to make a contribution towards the great rehabilitation program now starting.... We consider the close cooperation of artists, designers and occupational therapists an integral component in achieving this great purpose."

The exhibition will remain on view at the Museum through Sunday, March 7, and will then be circulated throughout the country.

Although the Arts in Therapy exhibition has not been officially sponsored by the military authorities the Museum has received the following comments:

"I am pleased to learn that your well planned exhibition of new designs and models to be suggested as aids in teaching occupational therapy will be held beginning February 3.

"I wish you and your co-workers a successful demonstration and I am confident that your efforts will stimulate art interest as an adjunct of occupational therapy in the physical and mental rehabilitation of our sick and wounded service men."

James C. Magee
Major General, U.S. Army
The Surgeon General, U.S. Army

"The Navy is...in fullest sympathy with your aims, and believes specifically that improvement in designs and materials will certainly operate to increase the value of occupational therapy to a class of patients for whom occupation, if it is to be effective, must have intellectual and esthetic appeal. Consequently, the Navy will be grateful to utilize as far as it can the fruits of your competition in design guidance, and shall look forward to receiving reports of progress.

"Again, let me say that we are wholly in sympathy with your motives and objectives, and assure you that we wish you every success in your patriotic undertaking."

Ross T. McIntire
Rear Admiral, MC
Surgeon General, U. S. Navy

THE ARTS IN THERAPY

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, 11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK

The articles described below represent a selection from a nationwide competition, open to all American artists and craftsmen, for new designs and objects in those crafts acknowledged to have therapeutic and recreational value for disabled and convalescent members of the Armed Forces. The selection has been made by a museum-appointed jury.

FURNITURE

1. Coffee table in oak.
Donald Deskey, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York City.
2. Tapestry seat for chair (not entered for competition)
Helen Stoller, Cooper Union Foundation Art School.
3. Straw & wood birdhouse made from nail keg and straw bottle cone over roofing paper.
H. J. Hanson, c/o Charles Sheeler, Dow's Lane, Irvington-on-Hudson, New York.
4. Wood & cellophane storm window.
Herbert H. Stevens, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

TOYS

5. Project for hen & chicks on wheels, carved in wood and painted
Harriett E. Knapp, Teachers' College, Columbia University.
- * 6. Child's wooden seat (horse shape). Fifth prize.
Louise Nevelson, 92 East 10th Street, New York City.
7. Cribbage board in cloth case.
V. B. Laning, U.S.N. Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- * 8. Stuffed paper animal. Fifth prize.
Joe R. Kapps, 238 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois.
9. Cardboard kangaroo.
Robert L. Lapper, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh
- * 10. Valentines and party favors made from paper. Fifth prize.
Toni Hughes, 154 East 56 Street, New York City.
11. Stuffed cloth hippopotamus.
Kate Rowland, 209 West Franklin Street, Baltimore, Maryland
- * 12. Child's cloth book. Second prize.
Juliet Kepes & Marli Ehrman, 1444 East 54 Street, Chicago.

WOODEN ARTICLES

13. Salad bowl made from Philippine mahogany saturated with oil.
Jack Garoutte, State College, San Diego, California
- * 14. Paper knife made from Philippine mahogany lacquered and waxed. Fourth prize.
Barbara Holverson, State College, San Diego, California
15. Beach shoes: lacquered pine and calf leather.
Arthur Sherman, State College, San Diego, California
16. Paper knife made of bamboo.
Anna Mae Lewis, State College, San Diego, California

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17. Salad spoon & fork made of walnut soaked in salad oil.
Roberta Powers, State College, San Diego, California
 - * 18. Two hand sculptures made of mahogany. Fifth prize.
Emma L. Davis, 119 North Swall Street, Los Angeles.
 19. Work box with carved wooden bird holding scissors.
A. L. Bergman, 749 Bryan Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah.
 - * 20. Tray & three boxes made from wood and linoleum. Fourth prize
Morris Levine, 12 East 17th Street, New York City.
 - * 21. Objects made from kindling wood mounted on cardboard.
Fifth prize.
Frank Hopkins, Stony Creek, Connecticut.
 22. Child's wooden coat-hanger, painted.
Martin Fuller & Joseph Kaufman, 132 East 16 Street, New York.

MISCELLANEOUS

23. Flask for salad dressing.
Jack Garoutte, State College, San Diego, California.
24. Leather note case & brush case.
J. V. Miller, Universal School of Handicrafts, New York City.
- 24a. Leather sandals.
Florence Magilton, 4401 Market Street, Philadelphia.
25. Travelling mirror framed in silk.
Mount Sinai Hospital Workshop, 5th Avenue at 100 Street,
New York City.
- 25a. Bridge set covered in chintz.
Mount Sinai Hospital Workshop.
26. Corn husk mat
Florence A. Swift, 220 Alvarado Road, Berkeley, California
27. Three piece costume jewelry made from tin cans.
William De Hart, 77 George Street, Babylon, New York.
28. Bracelet made from silver links.
Dorothy W. Shor, 451 West 21 Street, New York City.
- * 29. Two silver bracelets. Fifth prize.
Adda Hursted-Anderson, 349 East 49 Street, New York City.
30. Copper key ring.
Bertram F. Brummer, 14 East 75 Street, New York City.
31. Small pewter bowl.
Morris Levine, 12 East 17 Street, New York City.
- * 32. Examples of fly-tying mounted on boards. Fifth prize.
Martha J. Hunt, Mechanicsburg, Ohio.
33. Articles made from various materials mounted on boards.
Art Department, North Texas State College, Denton, Texas.
- * 34. Two pottery vases made without a kiln. Fifth prize.
Louis Siegel, Universal School of Handicrafts, New York.
35. Decorated plate.
William Gropper, Mt. Airy Road, Croton-on-Hudson, New York.
- * 36. Eight tile plaques. Fifth prize.
Carol Janeway, 135 East 66 Street, New York City.
- * 37. Cloth picture. Fifth prize.
Alice Donaldson, 145½ East 40 Street, New York City.
38. Scrapbook.
Patricia Sexton, State College, San Diego, California.
- 38a. Picture frame & two boxes decorated with shells.
Nina Wolf, 129 East 62 Street, New York City.

TEXTILES

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- * 39. Folio with samples of block printing in grey and red.
First prize.
Ilse Hamann, State College, San Diego, California.
- 40. Folio with samples of block printing in shades of brown.
Honorary award.
Lloyd Rucco, State College, San Diego, California.
- 41. Rug made from cotton warp, pineapple fibre and chenille.
Rosamund Miller, Mills College, Oakland, California.
- * 42. Table mat made from reed and cotton yarn. Fifth prize.
Louise Foug, 545 Sutter Street, San Francisco, California.
- 43. Screen made from plastic warp.
Grace B. Seelig, Weaving Workshop, School of Design, Chicago
- 44. Design for window shade made from oak splits, raffia and
waxed string.
Marjorie Little, 79 E Cedar Street, Chicago, Illinois.
- 45. Tray mat made from bamboo, pineapple grass and cellophane.
Louise Foug, 545 Sutter Street, San Francisco, California.
- 46. Floor mat made from cotton yarn, stems of cattails.
Grace B. Seelig, School of Design, Chicago, Illinois.
- * 47. Design for rug made from cotton yarn, rayon and cotton
stockings, cotton warp, muslin strips and artificial leather
Fifth prize.
Marjorie Little, 79 East Cedar Street, Chicago, Illinois.
- 48. Two mats made from string, cotton, bamboo.
Dorothy Greene, 1801 Leavenworth Street, San Francisco.
- 49. Place mat made from cotton yarn, straw and raffia.
Grace B. Seelig, Weaving Workshop, School of Design, Chicago
- 50. Window shade or screen made from cotton yarn warp and straw.
Grace B. Seelig, School of Design, Chicago.
- 51. Table mat for hot plates made from cotton warp and hickory
splits.
Grace B. Seelig.
- 52. Corn shuck place mat made from corn shucks & carpet warp.
Nellie S. Johnson, Wayne University, Detroit, Michigan.
- 53. Table mat made from string and cotton.
Marion Reed, 5015 Capitol Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska.
- * 54. Floor mat made of string. Fourth prize.
Jo Anne Nicholson, 1347 49 Street, Des Moines, Iowa.
- 55. Table mat made from straw, cotton and cellophane.
Dorothy Greene, 1801 Leavenworth Street, San Francisco.
- 56. Place mat in dyed cotton.
Grace B. Seelig, School of Design, Chicago, Illinois.
- 57. Design for table mat in raffia, cotton bouclé, cellophane.
Marjorie Little, 79 East Cedar Street, Chicago, Illinois.
- 58. Place mat, blue and white cotton.
Grace B. Seelig, School of Design, Chicago, Illinois.
- * 59. Place mat made from bamboo, hat straw & copper. Fifth prize.
Ruth MacKinlay, 545 Sutter Street, San Francisco.
- 60. Place mat made from reed, hat straw and copper.
Marion Pleat, 545 Sutter Street, San Francisco.
- 61. Mat made of Laliala grass from Honolulu.
Ruth MacKinlay, 545 Sutter Street, San Francisco.
- 62. Window shade in cotton yarn warp, leaves & stems of bulrushes
Grace B. Seelig, School of Design, Chicago, Illinois.

63. Hand-woven runner.
Emma Swope, R # 3, Freeville, New York
64. Two table mats made of cotton yarn and reeds.
Dorothy Greene, 1801 Leavenworth Street, San Francisco.
65. Upholstry fabric, scrap wool, lace, cotton lace, cotton yarn.
Grace B. Seelig, School of Design, Chicago, Illinois.
66. Two bags woven in cotton.
North Texas State Teachers' College, Denton, Texas.
67. Block print abstract design in grey & brown on white.
Donelda Fazakas, 112 West 15th Street, New York City.
68. Block-printed brown bird design on grey cotton drapery.
Helen Vallados, 62 Bay View Avenue, New Rochelle, New York.
- * 69. Brown, red and yellow tree design on chiffon. Fifth prize.
Donelda Fazakas, 112 West 15 Street, New York City.
70. Red, green and black blockprint design on fabric. Fourth prize.
Irene Reinecke, Western College, Oxford, Ohio.
71. Drapery with pink, black and white abstract design on grey.
Donelda Fazakas, 112 West 15 Street, New York City.
72. Curtain made of grey-white carpet warp laid in white home-draft cotton.
Mary J. Stratman, Wayne University, Detroit, Michigan.
- * 73. Textile design in red, green and black. Fifth prize.
Nancy Cole, 2200 Delancey Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
74. Woolen cap in rose and blue brocade pattern.
Edythe Cusick, Wayne University, Detroit, Michigan.

RUGS

- * 75. Rug in wool, brown, red and grey. Fourth prize.
Gretna Campbell, Cooper Union Foundation Art School, New York.
76. Rug, wool and dyed stocking, in grey, brown and white.
Florence Kirschen, 677 West End Avenue, New York City.
77. Rug made of dyed stockings, varied colors.
Dorothy Constas, Cooper Union Foundation Art School, New York.
- * 77a Small hooked rug. Third prize.
Pegi Macleod, 509 East 88 Street, New York City.
- 77b Tapestry picture in abstract design. Honorary Award.
Designed by Torred Garcia. Executed by Louise Bourgeois,
142 East 18 Street, New York City.
- 77c Tapestry picture.
Jean Wong, Cooper Union Foundation Art School, New York.

PROJECTS FOR PATIENTS (Not eligible for regular prizes)

78. Book-binding on lap-board. Honorary Award.
Bookbinding by G. Gerlach, 109 East 41 Street, New York City.
Lap-board by Morris Levine, 12 East 17 Street, New York City.
79. Chair laboratory for clay-modelling. Honorary Award.
Beatrice Wood, 11567 Acama Street, North Hollywood, Calif.
80. Design for embroidery to be executed in colored strands.
Honorary Award.
Andre Masson, New Preston, Connecticut. (Not entered in Competition)
81. Lace-making for the blind.
Gertrude Whiting, F. R. S. A., 1 West 72 Street, New York.
82. Large Loom.
Art Department, North Texas State Teachers College, Denton.

- 83. Embroidery executed on a teptograph.
Ruth Reeves, South Mountain Road, New City, New York
- 84. Hand loom.
Madmar Quality Company, Utica, New York.

P S Y C H O T H E R A P Y S E C T I O N

Assembled by the COMMITTEE ON ART IN AMERICAN EDUCATION AND SOCIETY. As distinct from the first section of the exhibition devoted to the role of the crafts in occupational therapy, this section portrays the function of the "free" media -- painting, sculpture, drawing, etc. -- in therapy conducted from the psychiatric viewpoint and also in purely recreational activity.

- Nos.
- 86-121 Soap sculptures, gouaches, oil paintings, drawings and other works in various media by patients.
Lent by Edward Liss, M. D., New York.
 - 122-150 Gouaches, drawings and photographs of plaster bas-reliefs, executed at the Vienna Institute for the Blind.
Lent by Viktor Lowenfeld, Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.
 - 151-186 18 slides of art work of boy under treatment; 11 slides of art work of girl under treatment; 7 crayon drawings by four year old girl.
Lent by J. Louise Despert, M. D., Research Associate, Cornell University Medical College.
 - 187-189 Two photographs of studio workshop and art exhibition at the Neuro-Psychiatric Institute of the Hartford Retreat, Hartford, Connecticut.
Lent by the Neuro-Psychiatric Institute.
 - 190-193 Three panels of photographs of hospital equipment made by Junior Boys, Leicester College of Art, England.
 - 194-212 Oil paintings on glass, gouaches, plaster reliefs, book prints, photographs of plaster reliefs.
Lent by Henry Schaefer-Simmern, New York.
 - 213-240 Gouaches, pencil and crayon drawings by patients at Bellevue Hospital, New York.
Lent by the Psychiatric Division, Bellevue Hospital.
 - 241-255 Finger painting by service men at U. S. O. centers.
Lent by Ruth Faison Shaw, New York.
 - 256-267 Pastels, gouaches, crayons, etc., done at the Clinic for the Social Adjustment of the Gifted, New York University.
Lent by Florence Cane, Art Consultant to the Clinic.
 - 268-270 Crayon drawings by patients at Children's Ward, New York State Psychiatric Institute and Hospital, New York.
Lent by Margaret Naumberg.