

## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART SPONSORS NEWLY CREATED COMMITTEE ON ART  
IN AMERICAN EDUCATION AND SOCIETY

The Museum of Modern Art announces that it will act as sponsor for the Committee on Art in American Education and Society, which has been recently formed by artist-teachers and leaders of art education to foster and promote the creative arts during the war period and to plan for their increased functioning in the reconstruction to follow.

The Chairman of the Committee is Victor D'Amico, Director of the Museum's Educational Project, and head of the Fine Arts Department at the Fieldston School. The Division Heads of the Committee are:

- Administrative - Edith Mitchell, Director of Art,  
State of Delaware
- Finding - Vernon Clark, Art Instructor, Teachers  
College
- Production - Charles Cook, Art Instructor, Fieldston  
School, and Lester Kohs, Art Instruc-  
tor, Christopher Columbus High School,  
New York City
- Project-Experiment - Dorothy Wilkinson, Art Instructor,  
Lincoln School, New York City
- Speakers - Arthur Young, Professor of Fine Arts,  
Teachers College
- Writing and  
Publication - Robert Igleheart, Art Instructor,  
Teachers College

Dorothy Knowles, on the staff of the Museum's Educational Project, is Secretary-Treasurer.

Concurrently with the Museum's announcement of its sponsorship, Mr. D'Amico has announced the establishment of the Committee. He said in part:

"This Committee is art education's answer to Fascism and its contempt for creative art. We hope to mobilize the art educators and students of America, combining all their art efforts, large and small, throughout the nation to work for victory. An extensive program has been organized ranging from posters for salvage drives to the training of designers for building the world of tomorrow. Artist-teachers and their students will cooperate wherever they are needed and whenever they can promote the arts in American life.

"This organization is distinguished from others because it admits as members only those who undertake an active role. Under a group of divisions it will put art to work through radio programs, exhibitions, the creation of new art centers, and the production of publications. We are already working on three publications for the national government, and numerous projects by individual teachers and their students are under way.

"The Committee has asked the Museum of Modern Art to sponsor it because it recognizes the Museum's leadership in art education and believes that it has the courage to defend the creative arts through the crisis and the vision to see their role in winning the peace."

Although the Museum is acting only as sponsor it will be used as the home office of the Committee for receiving correspondence and holding meetings. The Museum will also cooperate with the Committee in certain educational enterprises, publications and projects. An exhibition to be held under the auspices of the Committee will open at the Museum about the middle of January and is tentatively entitled Art Education in Wartime.

The immediate objective of the Committee is to mobilize the art efforts of teachers and children throughout America in one great offensive for victory. This offensive will operate under a vast program of art activity carried on in cooperation with the armed forces and civilian defense organizations in schools, homes, and communities. The plan covers activities of a broad range, both large and small - the making of posters to sell bonds and promote salvage drives; the training of skills for working in war industries; the training of boys for the armed services through pre-induction courses in camouflage, map-making, photogrammetry, airplane design; the rehabilitation of the victims of war through art therapy; the stimulation of public participation in art activities for self-expression and emotional release.

An effective beginning has already been made. Several projects undertaken for the Committee for national agencies are under way in the form of publications and posters. Numerous activities are being carried on by individual teachers and their students in many places, both in New York and outside it.

To join the Committee on Art in American Education and Society an applicant must present to the Secretary a statement of his interest and desire to work under one or more of the divisions; with his statement should be included if possible an outline of a special project or unit to be worked upon. If the Committee approves, the applicant is admitted to membership upon payment of a \$3.00 annual fee. The Committee will extend its work by establishing local committees in cities throughout the country. Only those who take an active part in the work may become members of the Committee or its local affiliates. Inquiries for more detailed information and requests for applications may be addressed to:

Dorothy Knowles, Secretary-Treasurer  
Committee on Art in American Education and Society  
The Museum of Modern Art  
11 West 53 Street  
New York, N. Y.