THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
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No. 36
FOR RELEASE:
Tuesday, March 19, 1963

PRESS PREVIEW:
Monday, March 18, 1963
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Art for the High Schools of New York City, an exhibition sampling the teaching models, packaged teaching materials and exhibitions of 20th century art which are sent each month to 60 public schools by the Museum of Modern Art in cooperation with the Board of Education, will be on view at the Museum from March 19 through May 20.

The material ranges from full-scale exhibitions such as Objects of Everyday Use: Which Do You Like? and Abstract Painting, to lending libraries of color reproductions and Museum books which students can borrow and take home.

Begun as an experiment in 1937 with three New York City schools and financed by a foundation, the program is now jointly financed by the Museum and the Board of Education and consists of 130 specially designed sets of materials seen by more than 250,000 school children each year. The concepts of art education and the visual materials themselves have been adopted by many schools in this country and abroad.

The materials are produced under the direction of Victor D'Amico, Director of the Museum's Department of Education, in cooperation with Olive Riley, Director of Art of the Board of Education of the City of New York. The various Chairmen of the Art Departments and the teachers in the participating schools assist by suggesting subjects and specifying requirements for practical use of the materials.

Sections from a dozen of the 79 exhibitions which have been specially prepared for the program are on view including panels from Poster Design, You and Your Neighborhood, Cartoons of Yesterday and Today and Jackson Pollock. You and Your Neighborhood, for example, consists of 24 panels of photographs and text in which examples of old and new solutions for good neighborhoods are illustrated and analyzed.

Two of the 13 teaching models which were developed for the program are also shown in the special exhibition. Each model includes a small exhibition, background texts for the student to read and units to assemble. The material is boxed in a cabinet mounted on rollers so that it can be moved easily from classroom to classroom. Subjects cover neighborhood planning, interior design, costume, abstract design, display and theater art.

On view is The Design Teaching Model which consists of geometric and organic shapes painted in various colors with which students can assemble a variety of compositions on the platform and against the background which are provided. In Color Booth and Stage Model, students can study the effects of architectural forms

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in stage design and the effects of different kinds of lighting. By using clay or cardboard models for actors, he can try an infinite variety of arrangements.

The Lending Libraries of Color Reproductions selected for their particular interest for high school students are mounted on mat board with hangers. Students can borrow them to take home and can also borrow selected Museum publications including What is Modern Painting?, How to Make Objects of Wood and What is Modern Architecture?

Teaching Portfolios, a unique educational aid designed for classroom use, consist of separate plates and text which can be posted on bulletin boards, propped on blackboard chalk trays or passed around the students. Among those in the special Museum show are Modern Sculpture, Texture and Pattern and Modern Art Old and New.

The 16 slide talks and sets, circulated to the schools, are represented in the special show by Adventure in Modern Art, Sculpture and Constructions and Graphic Design. These have been mounted on carousel projectors so visitors to the exhibition can see each set. The six art films which have also been circulated are symbolized in the exhibition but not projected.

"The record of this program," Victor D'Amico says, "and the exhibitions are a tribute to the teachers whose interest sustained the program and whose cooperation with the Museum over the years has been an adventure."

Olive Riley, Director of Art of the Board of Education, says the program "is an outstanding example of the fine contribution that a museum, through its educational department, can make to public school education."

Every June each school receives a list of all the visual materials which will be circulated during the following academic year. The art director or teacher indicates which exhibitions, teaching models or other material they would like to have and when. At the same time the schools are asked to evaluate the materials received during the past year, and to suggest improvements and new ideas. During the summer months the material is revised and refurbished and new shows made. Elizabeth Fuller in the Museum's Department of Education is responsible for the operation of the program.

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Photographs and additional material available from Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y. CI 5-8900.