

given the opportunity to practice with the Hoagland School Band, enabling them to orient themselves to band work before they enter the 7th grade.

Gordon Collins.

Part 7 -- Art
Mary Zent, Supervisor

Miss Alice Hall, a graduate of Chicago Art Institute, started the Fort Wayne Public School Art Program. The year was 1898. Miss Hall had not only the four required years for graduation, but spent three more years at the Art Institute since she was interested in portrait painting. Her teaching education was gained as a cadet teacher in the Chicago Public Schools. Her training was far beyond that of the usual art teacher's either then or today. It is no wonder that Fort Wayne Public School Art Program during her directorship was recognized as one of the most outstanding in the country.

Art education, at that time and until recent years, was based primarily upon drawing. It is sometimes referred to as the academic way. Because of educational research particularly in the field of psychology, art today is based upon design rather than drawing. Today we design or create an animal, a person, a tree or a landscape.

Today, art education is connected very closely with the language arts, social studies and science. It is often merely another form of expression, such as writing and speaking. So, today, since art is really a way of life entering into the students whole day, every child participates and enjoys the art program.

Miss Mary Zent, who was Miss Hall's assistant for a number of years became the Director of Art Education in 1938. Inheriting an excellent academic system, she has gradually introduced the more modern view point of art education, by which more children participate, by which art is often the by-product of the other subjects of the curriculum. The finished art product is sometimes art, sometimes merely another form of language expression. In either case the finished product is an emotional release for the child and makes for better mental health.

Fort Wayne's Art Program in kindergarten, primary and elementary has always been carried on by the classroom teacher. In this way, art becomes more easily a part of the entire school day. Junior High Art and High School Art are directed by specially trained art teachers. During the time that Miner School was a seventh and eighth grade building, Miss Gertrude