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Cultural Maine, 1940

Maine Development Commission

Maine Department of Economic and Community Development

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CULTURAL

MAINE

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MAINE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

AUGUSTA, MAINE

JUL 25 1940
Cultural Maine

An increasing trend toward Maine by writers, musicians, and artists brings to mind the question, "What is the particular appeal that Maine has for the creative spirit?"

Even the most eloquent failed to express his interpretation of that appeal when asked this question. He replied that sometimes he felt it was the scenic appeal of the state; other times he thought it was the type of friendly neighbor one found in Maine.

But, — it was too intangible to explain. It just seemed that Maine offered the right environment for a creative worker, whether it be with pen, instrument or brush.

For some it is the enchanting Maine coast that provides that environment; with others it is the beautiful lake section of the state, while still others seek a mountain retreat. But so diversified is Maine's topography that many have all three types of scenery, for example, the coastal colonies with their hills and mountains.

Actors and actresses of international fame have succumbed to Maine's charm and the state was one of the pioneers in the summer theater movement.

Not only because it has become a retreat for notables who have found its climate and environment ideal for their pursuits, but also because it has a long and hallowed tradition dating back before its actual statehood does Maine take pardonable pride in the cultural attainments of its adopted sons and daughters.

In the present, as well as in the past the Maine theme is woven into many a book; painters, master photographers find inspiration in its scenic charm and its shores echo the exquisite strains of fine instruments played by talented musicians. Its shores and beaches are sounding boards for the well modulated voices of America's best known thespians.
Art Exhibits

Bethel Inn       June 1st to October 1st

There is an exhibit of beautiful paintings at Bethel Inn by internationally known artists. These paintings are on display and can be seen at good advantage.

There are also many paintings here for sale. Among the well-known artists exhibiting here are: John Taylor Arms; Carle J. Blenner; James K. Bonnar; Gordon Grant; Kenneth How; George Heuston; Philip Kappel; Hobart Nichols; A. Henry Nordhausen; Ogden Pleissner; Ernest D. Roth; Gordon Samstag; Ernest N. Townsend; Silvio Valerio; Ferdinand Warren; Stow Wengenroth; Keith Shaw Williams, and Andrew Winter.

Walker Art Museum, Bowdoin College Brunswick, Maine

Permanent exhibits at the Walker Art Building, Bowdoin College, include American Colonial and early 19th century portraits by Badger, Feke, Smibert, Blackburn, Copley and Stuart; English and American 17th, 18th, and 19th century silver; Assyrian, Greek, and Roman antiquities; and the art collections, of various types and periods, presented to the Museum by the Misses Walker, donors of the Museum building.

During the summer there will also be on display the following temporary exhibits:

Paintings by Rembrandt, Hals, Cuyp, Hogarth, and Gainsborough, lent by Sir Harry Oakes. For the entire summer.

Chinese Paintings, lent by Mr. William Bingham, 2nd, through Princeton University. Until the middle of September.


Dutch and Flemish drawings of the 16th and 17th centuries, from the permanent collections. From July 15 until the middle of September.

The Museum is open to the public at the following hours: week days, 10-12 A. M., 2-4 P. M.; Sundays and holidays, 2-4 P. M., Daylight Saving Time.
Pemaquid Group of Artists, Sea View Hall  
New Harbor, Maine

The regular exhibitors each year include the native fishermen artists, Simon Blaisdell, Parker Gammage, G. Halley Thompson and Guy Martin, Frederick K. Detwiller, A. N. A. S. A. E., of New York, Dr. William H. Harvey of Boston, Mass. Added to these are numerous other transient artists, the list changing each season averages about ten.

The Pemaquid Group was founded by Mrs. Frederick K. Detwiller in the summer of 1929.

The exhibition usually consists of about three hundred works in all mediums, i.e., Oils, Water Colors, Etchings and Lithographs. The exhibition opens July 15th and closes Sept. 7th. The hours are 10 A. M. to 5 P. M. Every day including Sunday.

The L. D. M. Sweat Memorial Art Museum  
111 High Street, Portland, Maine

Open daily, except Monday, 10.00 A. M.-4.30 P. M.; Sundays, 2.00-4.30 P. M., except during July and August; no admission charge.

Contemporary American and foreign paintings. The exhibitions vary from time to time, three galleries being set aside for current exhibitions of works in various media, oil, water color, the graphic arts, photography and sculpture.

The Sweat Mansion, open same hours as museum, a fine example of Georgian architecture, was built in 1800. Entrance through the museum.

MONHEGAN ISLAND

Monhegan is a synonym for marine painting, having furnished inspiration for most of the well known artists: Paul Daugherty, Frederick Waugh, Geo. Bellows, Robert Henri, Rockwell Kent, Andrew Winters, Jay Connaway, and Alice Kent Stoddard.

There is practically no art show nor Museum in the country that does not contain at least one painting of Monhegan.

Monhegan is not an art colony, but rather a place to work. Its headlands, beautifully formed rocks, and deep water surf, fish houses, forests, weird tree forms, make it an ideal sketching place.
OGUNQUIT ART ASSOCIATION

Barn Gallery, Main Street Ogunquit Village, Maine

The Ogunquit Art Association is an organization of professional artists who paint in the vicinity of Ogunquit. It functions from July 1st to September 9th this year, and is open free to the public daily, including Sunday, from 9.30 to 6 o'clock.

Over 6,000 persons visited it last season. The pictures are for sale and notwithstanding the uncertainty of world conditions, sales are made at good prices.


Art Schools

BOOTHBAY STUDIOS SUMMER SCHOOL OF ART

Adults Boothbay Harbor, Maine

Courses offered in painting in oil and water color, pencil rendering, perspective, design, advertising, pottery, metal work and all other crafts, stage design, puppetry, and mask making. Classes in teacher-training from elementary grades through senior high school. Planned recreation and trips. Attendance, one hundred. No admission requirements beyond serious interest. Faculty of eleven members from leading art schools. Certified statements of credit are presented to students at end of each semester and diploma given for successful completion of two sessions. Fees: $185 covers food, room, tuition and lectures for full course of six weeks. Shorter courses arranged. Session, July 8 to August 16. Frank Leonard Allen, Director. Catalog.

Winter Address: 27 Fairmount St., Brookline, Massachusetts.
ANSON K. CROSS ART SCHOOL

Adults, Young People                Boothbay Harbor, Maine

This school places emphasis on form and color values. Vision-training inventions enable students to see and correct their own mistakes. Courses offered in portraiture, landscape, still life, commercial art, block printing, composition, water color, oil, pencil, charcoal, wash and pastel drawings. Attendance, fifty. No admission requirements. Fees: Morning and afternoon classes, $12 for one week; $60 for six weeks; $100 for three months; morning classes only, $8 for one week; $40 for six weeks. Lesson in portraiture or landscape, $2. Session, July to September. Anson K. Cross, Director. Bulletin.

Winter Address: 429½ 10th Ave. South, St. Petersburg, Florida.

WOODBURY-ROSS SUMMER SCHOOL

Adults, Young People                Ogunquit, Maine

Courses offered in drawing, three dimensional design and painting. Instruction in landscape, marine, still life, figure and portraiture through the use of all media. Special discussions on contemporary interpretations. Organized social activities. Attendance, one hundred. Admission requirements: Desire for visual expression. Fees: Three courses, $75; two courses, $55; one course, $30; special rates for teachers. Session, July 8 to August 17. George K. Ross, M. A., Director. Folder.

Winter Address: 132 West Fourth St., New York City.

ROBICHEAU SUMMER SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL DANCING

Coeducational                York Cliffs, Ogunquit, Maine

Courses in pantomime, classic and romantic ballet technique and Spanish dancing. Recreational facilities. Admission requirements: No age limits; beginners and advanced students accepted. Fees: $20 a week, including tuition, room and board. Session, July 15 to August 20. Adolphe Robicheau, Director. Bulletin.

Winter Address: 175 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass.
Music

CURTIS STRING QUARTET
Rockport, Maine

Concerts on Sunday evenings beginning July 21st and extending through August.

About midway between Camden and Rockland on Route No. 1, a quaint white shingle suspended from a branch of a mammoth maple emblazons the legend “Curtis String Quartet Chamber Music Festival,” and set in about 300 feet from the road is historic Captain Eells' Boat Barn itself — once a factory for fishing schooners, now transformed into one of the most perfect chamber music halls in the country, and the summer headquarters of the world famed Curtis String Quartet. Here celebrities of the “Social Register” and “Musical Who's Who” mingle with less notable pilgrims from the 48 states on Sunday evenings during July and August to enjoy the art which historian Oswald Spengler has singled out as “the number one achievement of western civilization,” and chamber masterpieces of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven are performed on storied Cremonese instruments of Stradivarius, Amati and Montagnana. A winding queue of automobiles bearing the license plates of distant regions turns out for each of the concerts, with the series generally subscribed to standing room capacity well in advance of the opening of the Festival, which this year is set for July 21st.

Single admissions to the concerts sell for $2 each, or there is a $5 subscription rate for a group of three concerts. Visitors to Rockport also have an opportunity to attend rehearsals of the famed Quartet during the week and observe the four celebrated virtuosi — violinists Jascha Brodsky and Charles Jaffe, violist Max Aronoff and cellist Orlando Cole — merging their four interpretations into one interpretive unity, blending the four instrument voices into one super-voice. These artists who have been acclaimed by critics around the world on their eleven triumphal concert tours together as “the most perfect exponents of the most perfect music,” also bring with them to Maine some of their outstanding pupils from the Curtis Institute of Music, and master instruction in the playing of each of the instruments as well as in ensemble performance, is offered to other qualified applicants.
NEW ENGLAND MUSIC CAMP
Oakland, Maine

The New England Music Camp, situated on Route 24, fifteen miles north of Augusta, on Lake Messalonskee, Oakland, Maine, opens its fourth season on July 1st for eight weeks, closing on August 26th. The camp offers unique opportunity to boys and girls to receive expert instruction from eminent musicians who give private lessons in voice and all band and orchestra instruments. The tuition fee of $250 covers the entire program of music and recreational activities, including private lessons, participation in a symphonic band, orchestra, and chorus; also properly supervised sports such as swimming, tennis, boating, volleyball, archery and badminton. On Sunday afternoons at three o'clock beginning on July 14th, concerts will be given free of charge by the camp band, orchestra, and choral units in the camp bowl continuing through August 25th. Ample facilities are available for overnight guests. Moderate rates are charged. Write for reservations.

Summer Schools

AUDUBON NATURE CAMP

Adults Hog Island (Muscongus Bay), Maine

Conducted by the National Association of Audubon Societies. Primary purpose of the camp is to convey a knowledge of nature activities which have been successfully used in popularizing genuine interest in birds, mammals, insects, flowers, marine and other wildlife. Instruction is concentrated on actual field observation and on equipping each person attending with a definite project program for the ensuing twelve months. Certificates are awarded to those campers who satisfactorily complete the course of conferences and field trips. Wild life abounds on the island. Attendance, fifty students for each two-week period. Admission requirements: Teachers, youth leaders and others interested in nature study. Fees: $51 for two weeks include board, lodging, tuition and transportation on field trips. No enrollments for less than two weeks. Session June 14 to August 29. Bulletin. Send all inquiries to National Association of Audubon Societies, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York City.
BATES COLLEGE

Coeducational   Lewiston, Maine

Specializes in summer graduate work for teachers. Courses offered in drama, elementary and secondary education, English, French, mathematics, music, social sciences, science. All courses lead to advanced degrees. Attendance, two hundred fifty.

Fees: Registration $5; tuition, $17 a course; $40 for three courses. Rooms and meals, $60. Session, July 8 to August 16. Raymond L. Kendall, Director.

GORHAM NORMAL SCHOOL

Coeducational   Gorham, Maine

The summer session of the Gorham Normal School is for teachers in service. The session offers a course for elementary teachers as well as manual training teachers. Session, July 1 to August 9.

The registration fee is $1.00 and the tuition charge for out-of-state students will be $25.00. Board and room for young women rooming two in a room is $5.50 a week, for a single room $7.00 a week. Young men may obtain meals in the school dining room at the rate of $4.50 per week and rooms in private homes for $2.00 each for a double room.

PRESQUE ISLE NORMAL SCHOOL

Coeducational   Presque Isle, Maine

The summer session of the Presque Isle Normal School is for teachers in service. The session offers a course for elementary teachers. For those musically inclined there is ample opportunity for musical activity. Session, July 1 to August 9.

The registration fee will be $2.00. Activity fee, $1.00. Out-of-state students pay a fee of $25.00. The dormitories will be open for those who wish to live on the campus, board being $5.50 a week if the room is shared by two people. $6.50 for a private room.

For full particulars address San Lorenzo Merriman, Director, Presque Isle, Maine.
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

Coeducational Orono, Maine

Courses offered in art history and appreciation, chemistry, chemical engineering, economics, education, English, French, German, history and government, home economics, journalism, Latin, mathematics, music, physical education, physics, psychology, pulp and paper technology, sociology, Spanish, speech and dramatics, and zoology. Features: Remedial Reading Institute, July 9 to 12; Writers' Clinic, July 15 to 26; Course on Safety Education, July 15 to 26. Admission requirements: High School training or its equivalent. Fees: $40 for maximum six credit program, including registration. Session, July 1 to August 9. Dr. Roy M. Peterson, Director. Bulletin.

Summer Theaters

BOOTHBAY PLAYHOUSE

Boothbay, Maine

The Boothbay Playhouse is situated on Route No. 27 on the main highway leading from Route No. 1 to Boothbay Harbor, just a few miles from Boothbay Harbor village.

The theater was built four years ago and is modeled in the style of a New England barn. Comfortable seats are in red lacquer, and a pitched floor gives every seat holder a good view of the stage. Space between rows of seats is the envy of many city theater managers. The ventilation is such that one is comfortable on the hottest of nights.

The Boothbay Playhouse will open July 3 and close September 7. Performances are every evening from Wednesday through Saturday with the curtain rising at 8.30.

Such plays as "Pure As The Driven Snow," "Accent on Youth," "Heat Lightning," "It's A Wise Child," and "Love from a Stranger" will be produced this season.

Prices are 50c, 75c and $1.00 (plus tax). All seats are reserved.

Mr. H. Miles Heberer is Director of Productions. Mr. Sherwood Keith, Executive Director.
DEERTREES

Harrison, Maine

Deertrees Theater is located just a short distance from the beautiful little village of Harrison. The theater building is situated in a beautiful setting.

The season starts July 1st and ends August 31st. This is the second season under the direction of Bela Blau of New York City.

Some very splendid plays are to be given this year. Among them will be “Tomorrow and Tomorrow.” Ethel Barrymore will return to Deertrees again this year and star again in one of her greatest successes, Sheridan’s “School for Scandal.”

There will be many nationally known figures of the American stage at Deertrees this season.

Performances at Deertrees Theater will be every night except Sunday at 8.30 P. M. There will be matinees on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 2.30 P. M.

Mr. Auriol Lee, well-known Broadway director, will share the directorial tasks with Mr. Bela Blau.

KENNEBUNKPORT PLAYHOUSE

Kennebunkport, Maine

Season July 2 to August 31. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday evening, with a matinee on Thursday. Evening at 8.30 P. M., and Thursday matinee is at 2.30.

The Kennebunkport Playhouse has been running for eight years and this season starts out in a new attractive Playhouse. They will feature old and new plays with Broadway players and the Booth Tarkington Drama Festival.

The Booth Tarkington Drama Festival with plays supervised by Booth Tarkington, who summers at Kennebunkport, takes place from July 30 to August 10, inclusive, with a new play by Mr. Tarkington.

A weekly exhibit of paintings is on view, open to the public free, in the lobby of the Playhouse from July 2 to August 31.

Prices for the performances are $.50, $.75, $1.00 and $1.50.

Robert C. Currier is the Managing Director.
LAKEWOOD

Lakewood, Maine

The Lakewood Players at Lakewood, five miles north of Skowhegan, are now the oldest summer organization in the country, this being their 40th consecutive year. Starting in 1901, Lakewood now includes a modern air conditioned summer theater, seating 1100 people and an Inn famous through New England, luxurious bungalows accommodating 125 guests, a golf course and facilities for swimming and fishing. Plays are presented nightly except Sunday in the theater at 8 P. M. daylight saving time and a Saturday matinee at 2.30 P. M. Among the guest stars who will appear this summer are Ethel Barrymore, Vincent Price, Harry Carey, Henry Hull, Cornelia Otis Skinner, Joyce Arling, and Albert Hackett.

Its regular company includes such prominent stage and talking picture stars as Louise Campbell, Ann Mason, Rosalind Ivan, Nell O'Day, Virginia Dunning, Vincent Price, Frank Wilcox, Hume Cronyn, Don Terry, Grant Mills, Calvin Thomas, Henry Richards and Charles Waldron, Jr. Among its special events will be a production of "Mr. and Mrs. North" based on the famous stories by Richard Lockridge, prior to its Broadway premiere, Harry Carey in Eugene O’Neil’s "Ah Wilderness" and Ethel Barrymore in "School For Scandal". Lakewood which "Brings Broadway to Maine" has attracted national attention and nearly 550 productions have been given in the theater.

Herbert L. Swett, member of the Maine Development Commission and for many years President of the Maine Publicity Bureau, has been its general manager since 1901.
OGUNQUIT PLAYHOUSE

Ogunquit, Maine

The season opens on June 24th and runs until September 7. The performances are given every night except Sunday. There are matinees on Thursday and Friday. Evening performances at 8.30, matinees at 2.30. Prices are $.85, $1.10, $1.65 and $2.20. This includes Government tax.

This organization was established in Peterboro, N. H., in 1927 and moved to Maine in 1931. The Playhouse is located at Ogunquit, just off Route No. 1 near one of the country's finest ocean beaches.

The Playhouse is a highly organized all professional theater. Many of the country's most famous stars play here. Such renowned players as Maude Adams, Ethel Barrymore, Laurette Taylor, Ruth Gordon, Frances Starr, Grace George, Florence Reed, Sally Rand, Cornelia Otis Skinner and Peggy Wood have played at this Playhouse.

The supporting actors are all well-known throughout the country. The Ogunquit Playhouse is strictly modern and well equipped.

Walter Hartwig, Ogunquit, Maine, Director.

COLONY THEATER

Ogunquit, Maine

This is a Junior group, managed by the management of the Ogunquit Playhouse. This Junior Group is made up of people who have had considerable experience elsewhere, but are not yet established on Broadway. They give performances in this theater regularly every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Admission 25c or 40c according to the production.

In connection with this theater these Juniors receive a "finishing" training. They are under the direction of an expert.

Walter Hartwig, Ogunquit, Maine, Director.