

# UNIVERSITY MAY BE FUTURE ART CENTER

Elevation of Civic Ideal Aim  
of New Department.

SCULPTURE WORK ADDED  
Highest Standards Are Sought  
By Prof. Schroff.

That the University of Oregon will in the near future be the aesthetic center of the Northwest is the indication of the tremendous progress in both the scope and character of the work of the school of art.

The most significant step is the development of the normal art department which prepares art teachers for public school work, the first graduates of which will receive their diplomas from the University this year. The ideal toward which this department is working is the creation of a greater appreciation of artistic standards in civic life.

To the school of art has been added this year a department of sculpture. New courses such as the art of the book and poster, lamp design, wood block and Batic work, pottery, weaving, and basketry have developed; also a number of the existing courses have been enlarged.

**School Has New Building.**

The school of art, at present, occupies a new building, the remodeled women's gymnasium, which has been made into attractive studios and offices. The normal art and sculpture departments occupy the new structure, while the original quarters of the school are devoted exclusively to the fine arts department, of which Professor A. H. Schroff is the head.

The hope of the school is that the fine arts department may attain the standards set by the best eastern schools. Professor Schroff is firm in the belief that the day will come when the Oregon public will be sufficiently interested in this school so that they will be willing to support a small but well equipped art museum with a permanent collection of art works, contributed by parents of students, so that they will feel the interest in art activities of the University of Oregon.

Life classes have been given in this department, and different prizes have been offered throughout the year for the best work done in Life class drawing, design and water color.

The course in art appreciation, which is required for graduation in the normal arts department is given under the department of fine arts and is one of the popular classes in the University. This course covers the full nine months and gives the entire history of art, mural painting and sculpture. A similar course in civilization and art epochs is given in the same department.

**Seek to Express High Ideals.**

The aim of the department of sculpture is to help the students to express the wholesome ideals of life in a subtle, dignified and appealing manner in an art that is impressive and that lives.

The work in the sculpture department of the University of Oregon is under the supervision of Avard Fairbanks. New quarters for this department were provided in January, and some very splendid work has been accomplished by the classes as well as by the instructor.

Sculpture is the most primitive form of art and one that is never forgotten. It is only the very best art that lives forever, and in order to produce it, the students are taught to put the finer and nobler part of themselves into the work.

Technique is the desired aim in the classes of sculpture, and at the same time that students are gaining skill, they are assisted in the development of their own original creations. Through imitating nature, they realize that it is assisting them toward the expression of their ideals.

The spiritual side of life and ideals are the most important factors in art. With a combination of technique and spirit of high ideals, great art will result. Freedom, too, is essential, but a freedom of handling which is not obedient to order and grace of line and rhythm, will fail to live as a work of art. Order is the highest essential of all beauty, all government, and all nature.

The normal department is under the direction of Miss Helen Rhodes. Preparatory work in such subjects as design is required of underclass students.

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