

50 YEARS OF ART

COOS BAY

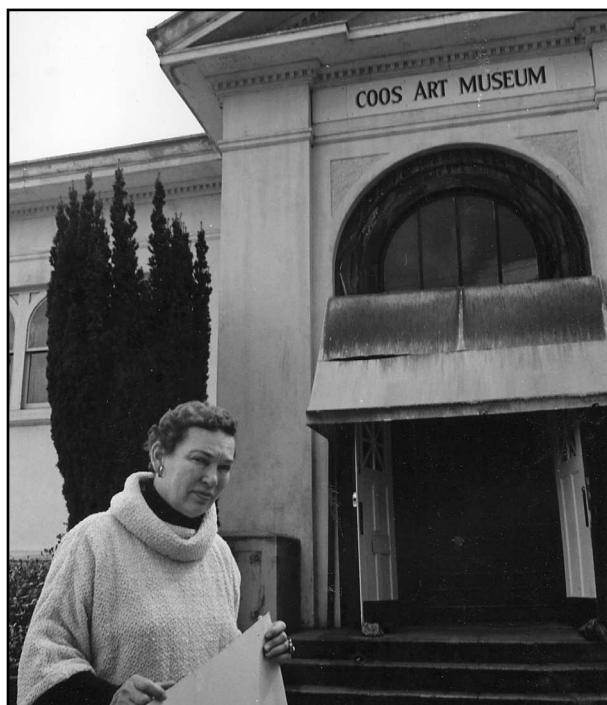
*Coos Art Museum
presents its
50th anniversary
exhibition*



**Pacific Ballet
posing with
Ken Means'
Carousel
Exhibition
in 2013**

RACHEL DIANE PHOTOGRAPHY

Coos Art Museum was dedicated on Sept. 17, 1966. Now in its 50th year, the museum's latest exhibition explores its past shows, programs and accomplishments through its publications and historic photographs. The exhibition runs through Oct. 1.



WARD ROBERTSON

The coastal towns of Southwestern Oregon have had a strong art community for many years.

In 1950, many of the artists in this area formed the Coos Artist League. The league sponsored annual exhibits at the local Armory and arranged for showings of local artists' works in libraries, banks, hotels, private businesses, medical centers and U.S. Coast Guard stations in the Coos Bay region.

The league also sponsored adult art education classes instructed by members and summer workshops led by artists from other areas. Through these activities the league raised funds for the ultimate purpose of establishing an art museum.

Their dream finally came to fruition when they were able to acquire the old Carnegie Public Library building and open what became the third oldest art museum in the state.

Maggie Karl, past executive director, in front of the first Coos Art Museum building (old Carnegie Public Library) about 1973

After 50 years, one dozen executive directors,

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