



PRESS RELEASE
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For immediate release

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**ART IN THE WHITE HOUSE
A NATION'S PRIDE**

New Edition

A new edition of *Art in the White House: A Nation's Pride* published by the White House Historical Association will acquaint and delight art lovers, history enthusiasts, scholars and casual readers alike. This richly illustrated volume presents the White House fine arts collection of nearly 500 paintings, sculpture, and drawings. Works by Gilbert Stuart, George Bellows, Norman Rockwell, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Jacob Lawrence are among the nearly 50 recent acquisitions since 1992 included in this new edition. At the heart of the book more than 100 major works of art are the subjects of essays by art historian William Kloss.

"I am confident that anyone not yet familiar with the art in the White House will be pleased to discover its wide range and high quality. They may be impressed, as I was, by certain individual masterpieces, and they will surely feel the character of our nation and the flow of its history in the collection as a whole," said author William Kloss.

The collection was begun in 1800 when the mansion was first occupied and has been carefully refined since the 1960s. This assemblage reflects America's ideals and achievements as well as the beauty and geographic diversity of its land and of its people.

In the preface William G. Allman, the White House curator, writes, "Much of the art featured in this book has been acquired since 1961, when First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy added another aspect of importance to the White House -- already residence, office and historic site -- by helping make it a museum as well. Great credit must be given to her and the subsequent First Ladies, Lady Bird Johnson, Patricia Nixon, Betty Ford, Rosalynn Carter, Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Laura Bush, for their enormous interest and efforts in expanding the collection."

The White House Historical Association, established in 1961, is a nonprofit organization whose goal is to enhance the understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the White House. All proceeds from the association's trusts, publications and other items are used to fund acquisitions of historic furnishings and artwork for the permanent collection, to assist in the preservation of public rooms, and further its educational mission.

William Kloss has written about the collections of the White House, the U.S. Senate, the State Department Diplomatic Rooms, and the Smithsonian American Art Museum. An independent art historian, he has served on the Committee for the Preservation of the White House since 1990.

ISBN #978-1-931917-08-8
Pub date: April, 2008
\$29.95 plus \$7.00 for packing and delivery
10.5 x 10.5 inches
408 pages

Order from: White House Historical Association
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