

## Celebrating Gertrude Seiberling's Passion for Art: LASTING IMPRESSIONS

By Donna Spiegler, Communications Manager

Gertrude Penfield Seiberling was passionate about the arts and was a talented artist, leaving a legacy in the works of art she created. This year's season theme is *Lasting Impressions*, featuring Gertrude's paintings on display in the Manor House. In the gardens, oversized and weatherproof reproductions of Gertrude's art will be featured in our outdoor exhibit, FUSED, beginning in June. Selections include those owned Stan Hywet, as well as paintings on loan from Seiberling family members. Many of these painting are rarely publically displayed.

“Last spring I made a sketch from my window, looking down the Cuyahoga Valley, which seemed to be a sort of inspiration, because it immediately created a genuine sensation in the family. My own children seem never to have known that I had this talent and were amazed that I could paint such a lovely little picture.”

—Gertrude Seiberling to a friend, May 1931

Although Gertrude Seiberling painted as a child, there was no art community to support her interest as an adult. At age 64, when she began painting again, the art world in Akron was robust and encouraging. Gertrude was a founding member (in 1933) of the Women's Art League, and this group partnered on classes with the all-male Association of Akron Artists, bringing Cleveland art instructors to Akron. She painted for the next sixteen years, until shortly before her death. In her final years, she painted the estate, looking out her window.

The Akron Art Institute (now the Akron Art Museum) hosted her one-woman show in 1938, and a show in 1946, held posthumously.

