

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

RAY N. FAULKNER (1906 – 1975)

Ray Faulkner came to Stanford in 1946 to assume the position of Chairman of the Art Department and gave distinguished leadership to the Department for many years. During the period in which he held this position he enlarged the curriculum to include a program to train architects, expanded the faculty and increased the course offerings in design, broadened the drawing and painting program, initiated courses in print making, and scheduled new departures in Art Appreciation and Art History, including courses in Oriental Art and American Art.

As Head of the Department of Art and Architecture he became responsible for the administration of the Art Gallery and Museum, and, with the sympathetic support of Don Tresidder, then President of Stanford, the much neglected Museum was closed, and Mrs. Helen Cross was appointed as Associate Director to review and catalogue the approximately seventy thousand items which constituted the Museum collection. In 1947, under his direction, a program of changing exhibitions was scheduled for the Art Gallery, initiated by a loan exhibition from the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. A program of changing exhibitions was also established in the Museum. In 1953 Dr. Faulkner encouraged the formation of the Committee for Art at Stanford, to function as a community auxiliary to strengthen the economic and cultural resources of the Museum and Art Gallery.

From 1948 to 1955 he also served the University at large, first as Associate Dean of Humanities and Sciences and subsequently as Acting, Dean of Humanities and Sciences.

His career before coming to Stanford was impressive. Born in Charlevoix, Michigan in 1906, he went to public school there. He graduated with distinction from the University of Michigan in 1927 and received an M.L.A. in Landscape Architecture from Harvard in 1929. He worked for a period as a landscape architect, then returned to college and attended the University of Minnesota to receive his Ph.D. in Educational Psychology. Subsequently he held various teaching posts, assuming the position of Head of the Department of Fine and Industrial Arts at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, in 1939.

World War II interrupted his teaching career. During the war he served as a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy.

As a leader in the field of Art Education he published widely, his most influential publications being *Art Today* which he published as coauthor with Edwin Ziegfeld, and *Inside Today's Home* on which he collaborated with his wife, Sarah Faulkner. The fourth edition of *Inside Today's Home* was released almost simultaneously with his death and has the distinction of having been a Literary Guild selection for 1975. Dr. Faulkner's writings reveal the same catholicity of taste and the same lack of any narrow bias as distinguished his leadership of the

Art Department. A complete absence of pedantry and an admirable respect for any genuine artistic expression characterized all of his efforts.

Admirable as his professional achievements have been, it is in the field of human relations that his friends and students remember him. One of his former students and a subsequent colleague has expressed what all who knew him felt. "He was a leader without tyranny, an innovator without arrogance. His methods were democratic, his manner deferential. His goal remained constantly clear: to provide students of Stanford University the opportunity for maximum development of their aesthetic potentialities."

Ray Faulkner died on May 16 in his home on the Stanford campus. He left behind his wife, Sarah Key Faulkner, and four sons: James, John, William, and Patrick.

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