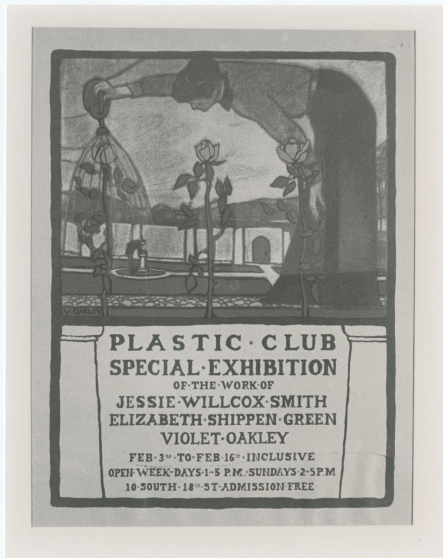


## Plastic Club

- Oldest art organization for women in the United States, founded in 1897
- Promoted women's artwork, held exhibitions, offered art classes and hosted social events
- Also hosted current events classes and lectures led by women leaders, such as suffragists
- Let in men as of 1991, but continues its work, including offering a membership award for art college grads

### Primary Sources



#### *The Plastic Club Records (1888-2007)*

Contains administrative records, membership lists, annual reports, calendars, exhibition catalogs, scrapbooks, photographs, member records, original artwork and catalogs from Philadelphia and New York galleries. The collection primarily documents club activities and contains little information on individual members.

Collection #3106

[http://hsp.org/sites/default/files/legacy\\_files/migrated/findingaid3106plasticclub.pdf](http://hsp.org/sites/default/files/legacy_files/migrated/findingaid3106plasticclub.pdf)

#### *Plastic Club of Philadelphia*

Five photoprints from 1934-1940. Portrays members of the Plastic Club dressed for the annual Rabbit masquerade party. Includes a view of the club's courtyard and a view of Camac Street behind the club.

by Philadelphia Record

Call number: V7:3179

#### *Annual Reports (1903-1904, 1906-1911, 1913-1914)*

by Plastic Club of Philadelphia

Call number: Wm\* .683

*Catalogue of pictures by Elizabeth Wentworth's Roberts exhibited at Lindsay's Galleries March 4 to 18, 1901, March 9 to 23, 1903 : at The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, April 3 to 29, 1905 and at The Plastic Club, March 31 to April 21, 1911.*

Call number: Wn\* .69, Vol. 4



*Catalogue of exhibitions held...*

Library has: Apr. 27 to May 16, 1903, Mar. 14 to 28, 1904, Dec. 9 to 23, 1904, Dec. 7 to 29, 1906, Dec. 2 to 38, 1907, Nov. 17 to 30, 1909, Dec. 1 to 24, 1910, Dec. 1 to 29, 1911, Mar. 22 to Apr. 12, 1912, Feb. 12 to Mar. 5, 1913, Apr. 9 to 30, 1913, Jan. 17 to Feb. 14, 1914, Dec. 4 to 31, 1914, Mar. 20 to Apr. 8, 1914, Feb. 19 to Mar. 20, 1915, Nov. 20 to Dec. 14, 1915, Mar. 14 to Apr. 2, 1916.

Call number: Wn\*.683

*Various exhibition advertisements*

HSP Digital Archives

<http://digitalibrary.hsp.org/index.php/Search/Index?search=plastic+club>

## Secondary Sources

*God-gifted girls: women illustrators, gender, class and commerce in American visual culture, 1885-1925*

This dissertation examines the careers and cultural significance of Philadelphia women illustrators between 1885--1925, including Bertha Corson Day, Elizabeth Shippen Green, Charlotte Harding, Violet Oakley, Jessie Willcox Smith, Alice Barber Stephens, and others.

"God-gifted girls," a moniker coined by writer William Dean Howells, hints at their unusual status in the highly competitive and contested art world of that time.

by Patricia Smith Scanlan, published 2010

Call number: NC 960 .S33 2010 v.1-2