

ART AND INDIANA LIBRARIES

by Rhonda Spencer

The library has always been a place for me to discover art. Simple, bright, exquisite drawings adorned the stacks of books I carried home as a young child. Our public library had framed art prints available to check out. My bedroom walls were a rotating art gallery thanks to the public library. Exhibit cases introduced me to beauty from around the world. My world (of a county seat town of 25,000 people) was expanded because of the library, and because of the role of art in the library. My college library continued to support the role of art in my life. I was a Fine Arts major, and my senior class art exhibit was set up on

display in the college library. Reading, studying and enjoying art books continues in my life, and I am glad for art libraries, and art librarians.

Art in library collections, art in books, art in exhibits - all enrich our lives. The title of this issue is *Art and Indiana Libraries*. Our goal has been to gather together articles to explore issues surrounding art librarianship; issues of connecting the community to the library through art; issues of art in exhibits; issues of art in books, and more. We are grateful to our contributors. We hope this issue gives you fresh insights and perspectives for your libraries.