

Fine Arts

In China, fine arts should include calligraphy, carving, painting, statuary, knitting, embroidering, paper-cutting, architecture, garden-scheming, house-arrangement, etc. When we were evacuated from the mainland of China years ago, we carried with us 231,910 pieces of works of art of the ancient China. Just look at the oracle bones (oracular inscriptions) or bells and tripods of the Shang and Chou dynasties (1766-255 B. C.). We cannot help admiring the ingenuity and wisdom of our ancestors! When we think of the Yun Kan Stone Caves and Teng Huang Wall-painting, we cannot but acknowledge them as the great masterpieces of our forefathers! No wonder our fine arts can be appreciated.

Our "Fine Arts Festival" was originally set on the Ninth of September, but later the Third of March was assigned for the occasion. In 1944, the Executive Yuan approved that the Twenty-fifth of March be the Fine Arts Festival.

The Chinese Fine Arts Association is a nation-wide civil organization. It was established at Chungking in May of 1940. When our Government was evacuated to Taipei, Taiwan Province, the Chinese Fine Arts Association followed suit. Since its birth, the Association is responsible for the association with the professionals and for the promotion of their techniques in line with the policy of the Government.

It is true that we only have the Fine Arts Department of the National Taiwan Academy, the Fine Arts Department of the Provincial Normal University and the Fine Arts Department of the Provincial Taipei Normal School to train fine arts specialists and fine arts teachers here. But there are also no less than 50 private studios in the province with experienced tutors to give instruction in the art of painting or any other fine arts work. In the whole province, we have 7,055 fine arts tutors or teachers to engage in teaching work.

In 1960, the National Arts Center sponsored a number of fine arts exhibitions for 116 days. Besides, it selected the superior fine arts works to be sent abroad in eleven instalments for exhibition purpose.