

# West Central Neighborhood Association Meeting

April 20, 2026



# Our Vision

To preserve and promote a unique, historic neighborhood defined by its connected community, rich architecture, and outstanding livability for all.



# Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
  - New members
- Yesterday in West Central
  - Fort Wayne Art School: Beginnings (Shelley Rothgeb)
- Connected Neighborhoods Grant Update
- Art this Way Update
- Announcements
- Home & Garden Tour Call to Action!
- April Gift Direction

# New Member Welcome

We're so glad you're here!

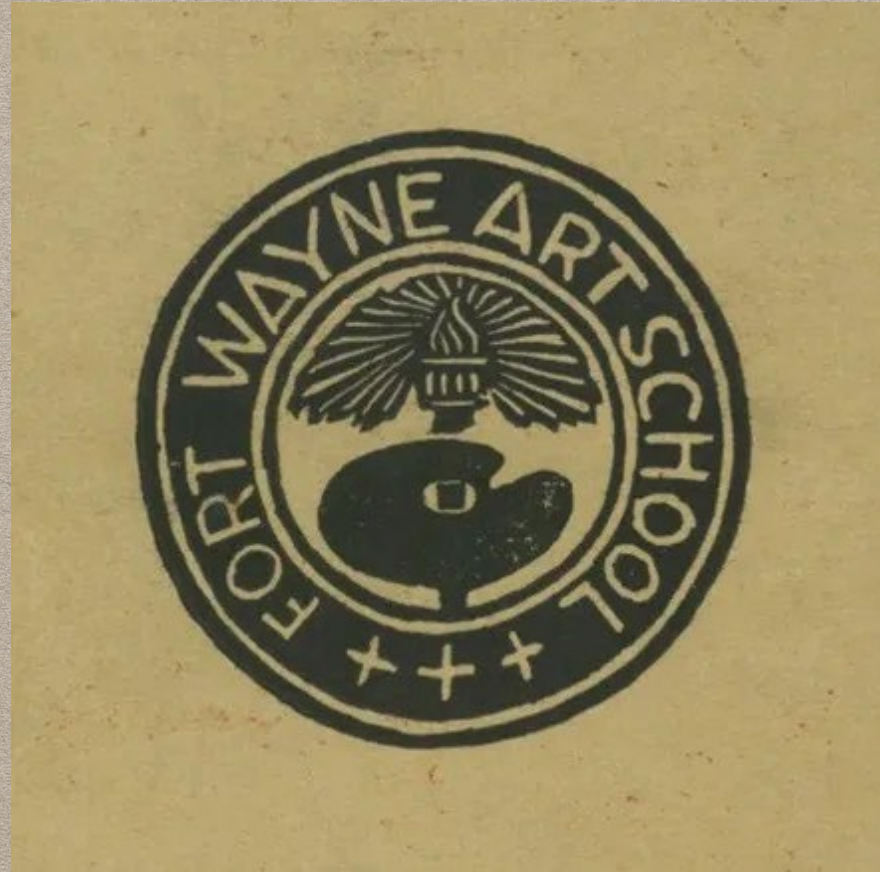


# Yesterday's West Central

Fort Wayne Art School:  
Beginnings

Shelley Rothgeb



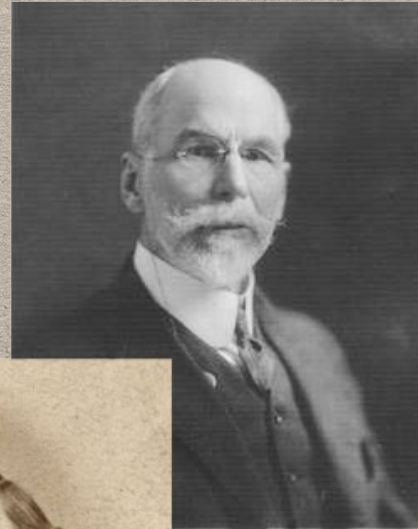


# FORT WAYNE ART SCHOOL

BEGINNINGS

# THE HOOSIER GROUP

J. Ottis Adams,  
William Forsyth,  
Otto Stark,  
T. C. Steele, and  
Richard Gruelle



# J. OTTIS ADAMS

- Royal Academy in Munich 1880
- Started art school in Muncie, IN 1887
- Chance to earn money teaching in Fort Wayne
- Recruited William Forsyth
- Continued to commute to mid 1890's
- Among founders of John Herron School of Art - becomes Indianapolis Museum of Art
- "Autumn in Indiana"





# WILLIAM FORSYTH

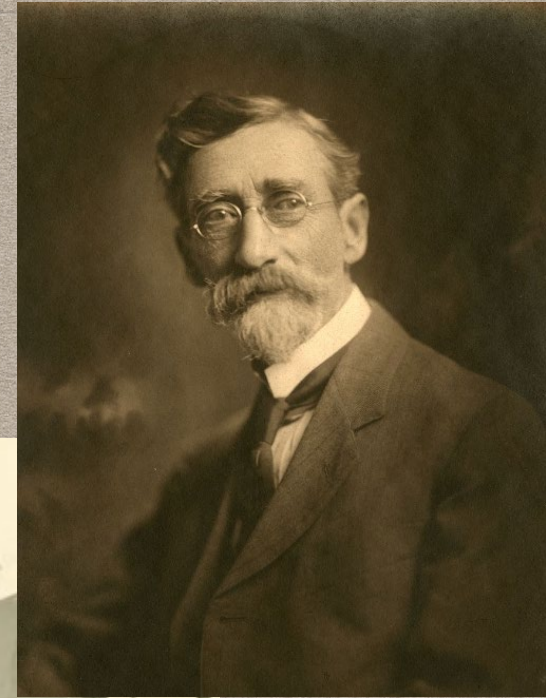
- Family moved to IN at age 10
- Left high school to paint houses
- Attended Indiana School of Art under James Love
- Royal Academy in Munich 1882
- “Winona, the Pool”





# T.C. STEELE

- Oldest member of the Hoosier Group
- Waveland Collegiate Institute
- Married, poor artist with young family in Indianapolis. Patron sponsored
- Royal Academy in Munich 1880
- Started the Indiana School of Art in Circle Hall, Indianapolis 1889
- Premier portrait painter of Indianapolis
- “Autumn Time in the Garden-View of Porch”







“The Haunted Mill” Otto Stark



“Pastoral” Richard Gruelle

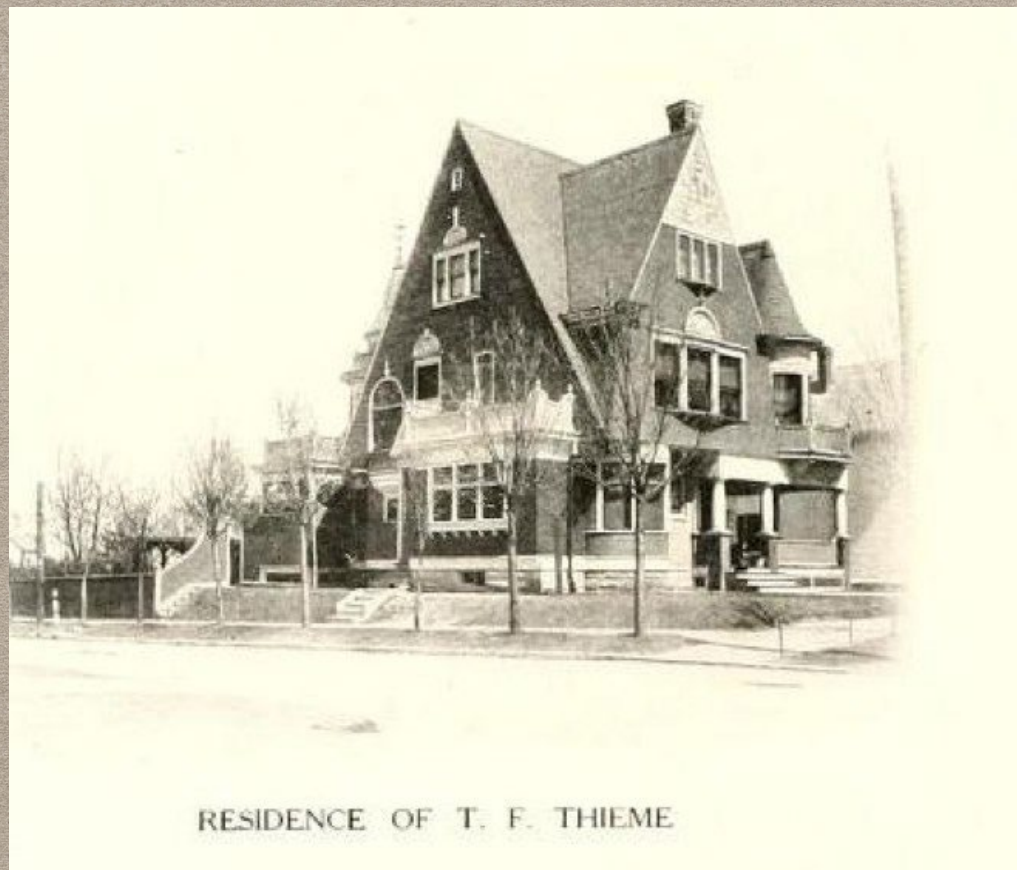


J. Ottis Adams



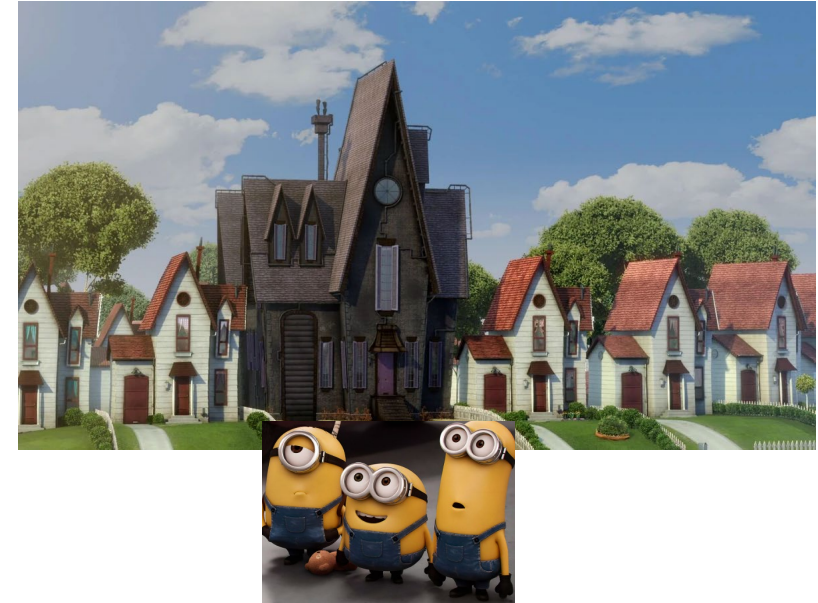
William Forsyth

# THEODORE THIEME



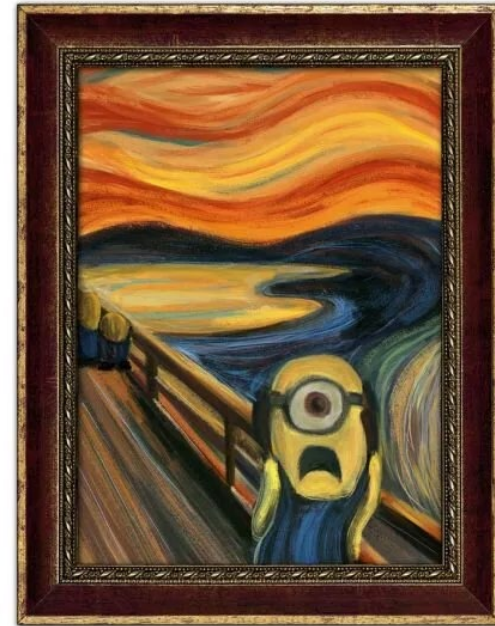
# Connected Neighborhoods Grant

Kelly Benton, VP



# Art this Way

## Update



·1893·

# Home & Garden Tour

Call to Action



# Announcements

Coming up soon





## Neighborhood Cleanup

- Saturday, May 2, 9 am – noon
- Email [greenteam@westcentralneighborhood.org](mailto:greenteam@westcentralneighborhood.org)
- Meet at Wilt & Van Buren
- See Mike Rogers



## WCNA Garage / Yard Sales

- June 5 – 6 (you set your own hours)

# April Gift Direction

Monthly \$250 contribution



# Monthly Giving

## Past Gifts

- April gift: ARCH
- May: Wellspring Interfaith
- June: Emmanuel Lutheran food pantry
- July: PBS TV-39
- August: 13<sup>th</sup> Step House
- October: Arena Dinner Theater
- November: Toys for Tots
- January: Forgotten Stones
- February: Blue Jacket
- March: WBOI Public Radio

## Giving Guidelines

- Must be a charitable organization and/or a charitable activity
  - Cannot support a specific ideology
- No political organizations
- Want to try and “spread the love”

# Adjourn

Have a great week!

