

MARIANITA HICKS PORTERFIELD

Fiber Artist and Art Teacher. A native of Hot Springs, Arkansas. Holds a B.Sc. Degree; Arkansas A.M.& N. College (presently the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff),; M.S. Degree Valparaiso University, Valparaiso , Indiana. She has done extensive study at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. (the main focus was fiber and art history). She continues to enhance her fiber arts work by attending workshops and seminars throughout the country. She has taught Fine Arts at West Side High and Wirt High School, in Gary, The Art of Fiber at Valparaiso University, Italian Art History at Indiana University Northwest, Weaving Courses at the South Shore Arts Association and weaving courses for the Greater Gary Arts Association.

She exhibits and does commission work in Fiber Arts. Her special interest is in inspirations from geometric forms and from the Indiana sunsets. Has shown at the Bachman Gallery of the Northern Indiana Arts Association, Valparaiso University, Indiana University Northwest and Galleries in the Midwest.

Mrs. Porterfield has served on the Indiana Arts Commission, The Arts Midwest Board and on the Indiana State Museum Trustee Board. Locally she has been a board member of the Northern Indiana Arts Association, The Duneland Girl Scouts Council and Friends of Brauer Museum. She is a member of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Board (President 1992-94), the Duneland Weavers Guild (President 1986-88 and 97-98), Friends of Emerson, United Negro College Council and the Vestry of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. She too is a member of the Northern Indiana Chapter of The Links, Inc.

She is married and mother of four and resides in Gary, Indiana.