

ARTRAIN: "A VISION OF ART"

Creativity And Culture Linked Within Artrain

Construction of Michigan Artrain was made possible by an allocation from the State Legislature, matching funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, and major private contributions of services, materials and cash through the Michigan Foundation for the Arts.

Design, concept and content emphasize the sustaining tie between a creative person and his contribution to the culture that nourishes him. That tie is embodies in "A Vision of Art," the theme of Artrain which had its grand opening May 21, 1971 at Traverse City.

Artrain is largely a citizens' effort involving volunteers from all fields -- art, industry and government, working under the enthusiastic leadership of Mrs. William G. Milliken, the general chairman.

WITHIN THE train is a complete art gallery showing slides, films, photographs, sculpture, paintings, graphics, prints, pottery and jewelry.

The 80-foot-long Artrain cars are provided with air conditioning, humidity control and security in order to display and protect the

valuable art collection. Containing about 150 pieces of art, the rail-way cars present an effective display with skillful use of mirrors to create an illusion of much greater space.

About two-thirds of the paintings are on loan from the Detroit Institute of Arts and the balance from private galleries and Michigan artists.

THE RAILROAD cars are divided into sections. The initial part of an Artrain tour is audio-visual with presentations from slide projectors flashing across large screens, presenting a history of art, its civic significance and its meaning to man.

Another section highlights cultural landmarks, a glass display and artificts, including a suit of armor and a jade statue. Following through, visitors are treated to color transparencies showing nature scenes as a principal source of inspiration.

Artistic works from the past to those of contemporary nature are covered. A movie presents the elements of art, point, line, volume and color. Environmental design and used of art in everyday living is also in view.





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