

## Grant Wood Chronology

- 1891 Born on a farm near Anamosa, Iowa, on February 13. Son of Francis Maryville and Hattie D. Weaver Wood.
- 1901 Letter published in *The Anamosa Eureka* tells of Master Grant Wood recognizing 55 different kinds of birds.  
In March, his father dies.  
In September, Hattie Wood and four children move from farm to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 25 miles away.
- 1905 Grant Wood wins prize in national Crayola contest for colored drawing of oak leaf.
- 1910 Graduated from Washington High School, Cedar Rapids.
- 1910-11 Attended Handicraft Guild in Minneapolis, Minnesota, during part of this period. Studied design under Ernest Batchelder.
- 1911 Taught at Rosedale Country School.
- 1912 Attended evening art classes at University of Iowa for three months.
- 1914-16 Spent these years partly in Cedar Rapids and partly in Chicago. Worked at Kalo Silversmiths Shop in Chicago and

- attended evening classes at the Art Institute of Chicago. In 1914, he started a new handicraft shop with a partner but went out of business in 1915.
- 1918 Inducted into United States Army. Did camouflage.
- 1919 Taught art at Jackson Junior High School in Cedar Rapids.
- 1920-28 Made four trips to Europe, painting in France, Italy, and Germany. In 1923-24, he stayed abroad a year; studied for a short period in Academie Julien, Paris. Held several exhibits in Cedar Rapids, selling scores of the paintings he had done abroad. In 1924, he taught for a time at McKinley High in Cedar Rapids.
- 1927-28 Commissioned to design large stained glass window for Cedar Rapids Memorial Coliseum. Traveled to Munich, Germany, to execute design. Became interested in Flemish and German primitive paintings which helped to crystalize his thoughts about changing his style and approach. Began intensive work under this new influence.
- 1929 *Woman With Plant*, a portrait of his mother and his first painting in a new direction, exhibited in American show at the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 1929-30 Painted *Stone City* and *American Goth-*

*ic. American Gothic* entered in the Annual Exhibition of American Paintings at the Art Institute of Chicago where it won, in October, 1930, the Harris bronze medal and \$300 purchase award. It was widely acclaimed by the critics and public and brought international attention to the artist.

- 1930-32 Painted many of his best-known oils.
- 1932-33 Was a founder and moving spirit of the Stone City Art Colony.
- 1934 Named director of Public Works of Art Projects in Iowa. Became Associate Professor of Fine Arts at University of Iowa.
- 1935 Married Sara Sherman Maxon. Had one-man shows at Lakeside Press Galleries, Chicago, and Ferargil Galleries, New York. Moved to Iowa City where he purchased a home.
- 1935-40 Continued teaching; lectured in all parts of the United States; worked on paintings and lithographs.
- 1939 Divorced from Sara Maxon Wood.
- 1940 Took a year's leave of absence from university teaching. Made lecture tour, painted.
- 1941 Spent Summer in Clear Lake to paint.
- 1942 Died of cancer on February 12 in Iowa City, two hours before his 51st birthday.