

Art from Library Collection on Display in Stalder Gallery

(KTNC) - The newest exhibit at the Stalder Gallery in Falls City features works that are part of the Library and Community Foundation's collection. The exhibit titled "Beyond Regionalism" opened with a gallery talk on Friday.

Stalder Gallery Curator Christina Wertenberger began her talk with an explanation of Regionalism and then provided a description of the pieces in the exhibit.

Regionalism was an American art movement popular in the 1930s that centered on the idea of realistic representations of rural life. The three most prominent Regional artist, Wertenberger said, were Grant Wood, Thomas Hart Benton, and John Stuart Curry. The exhibition features three works by Benton.

The "beyond regionalism" title comes from the many styles of art represented in the 40 works in the exhibition. Wertenberger says it is one of the most eclectic exhibits at the Stalder Gallery.

The exhibit also includes works from international artists – from Mexico, Russia, Cuba, Poland, Bosnia, and China – as well as from Nebraska artists Karen Kunc, Victoria Rapaport, Lisa Tubach, and John Falter.

The 40 works in the exhibition are a small representation of the artwork in the Library and Community Foundation's collection, which was started over 100 years ago. Wertenberger says they now have an acquisition team that helps to determine what pieces become a part of the collection.

Many of the works in the new exhibit are from the collection of Gallery benefactor, Merle Stalder. The exhibit will be at the Stalder Gallery through the end of the year. It can be viewed during regular Library hours.

Wertenberger says she hopes that featuring the collection of the Library and Community Foundation, and other artwork, in the Stalder Gallery will inspire creativity in local artists – young and old alike.