

# Roosevelt Hall of Fame

*University of Minnesota,  
B.F.A. 1945; M.A. in Art 1949*



**Bettye (Johnson) Olson**

*Class of January 1941*

- Served as the first female student council president in RHS history
- Earned distinction over 70-year career as an internationally prominent artist and painter, bringing beauty and joy to the canvas
- Worked in multiple art mediums - water colors, oils, and acrylic-monotypes
- Exhibited her art in 56 one-woman art shows nationally, and internationally in Sweden, Finland and Italy
- Taught art at University of Minnesota, Concordia University, and Augsburg College
- Founded the critic-acclaimed West Lake Gallery in 1964 with four other women artists, an artist-run cooperative gallery which operated for 20 years
- Displayed her works in the collections of corporations, private individuals, colleges, universities, and museums, including the Weisman Art Museum, the Minnesota Museum of American Art, and the Minnesota Historical Society
- Featured in 2016 book, *Persistence of Vision: The Art of Bettye Olson*, by Jaden Hansen, published by Afton Press

**Inducted September 17, 2016**