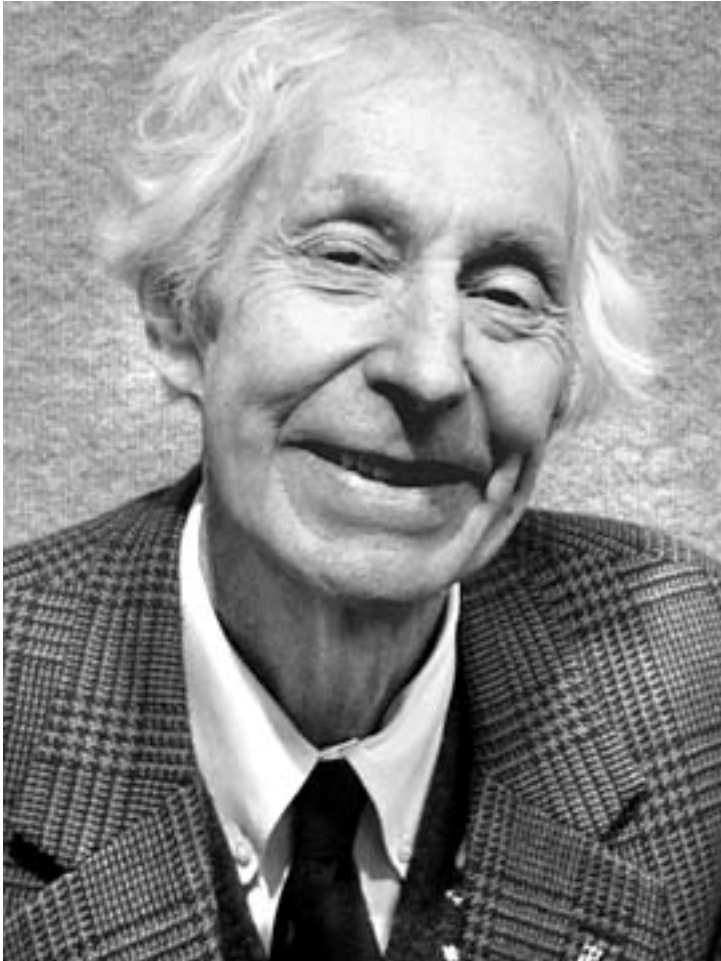


Named Endowed Funds

The Richard Pionk Memorial Fund



Richard Pionk was an acclaimed artist living in New York. However he spent his childhood growing up in Carlton County. When Mr. Pionk passed away in 2007, his family entrusted the services of Nelson Funeral Care, which is locally owned by Rob and Lori Nelson. As a gesture of their appreciation, Mr. Pionk's family gave the Nelsons several of his original paintings.

The Nelsons created the Richard Pionk Memorial Fund through a large monetary donation as well as several pieces of Pionk's original artwork, with proceeds from the sale of the donated art work going to the Richard Pionk Memorial Fund.

Pionk learned the qualities of classical still life by spending hours in museums from Brooklyn to Paris, studying the works of Chardin, Vollon and Fantin-Latour. He was educated at The Art Students League of New York City on scholarships and the GI Bill.

Featured in many magazines, exhibitions and books, and a recipient of more than 100 awards, Pionk was named a master pastelist by the Pastel Society of America for Exceptional Merit in 1984. In 1997, he was inducted into the Pastel Hall of Fame.