

Ward, Nina Belle (1885-1944)

EDUCATION/INFLUENCES

- Pennsylvania Academy of Art, also studied in Europe
- 19th century American Realism-after Thomas Eakins, Winslow Homer, etc.

BIG IDEAS/THEMES

- Highly realistic portraits which give some insight into person's character, demeanor, station in life. Style is fairly loose with emphasis on face and clothing rather than background details.
- Taught art in Kalamazoo public schools from early 1920s to 1942.
First art teacher at KIA, teaching Saturday classes for children (1925-1930s).

KIA WORKS-*Portrait of a Lady in Black*, oil on canvas, c.1912 and *Portrait of a Girl in a Pink Dress*, oil on canvas, 1917

- During her last long illness, Ms. Ward was nursed by her brother, A. Pitzer Ward. He donated two of her portraits to the collection following her death.
- High style and elegant brushwork in *Portrait of a Lady in Black* is a clear indication of the thorough training at Pennsylvania Academy of Arts in Philadelphia.

