An Artist at Work

Deane Keller, New Haven's Portrait Painter

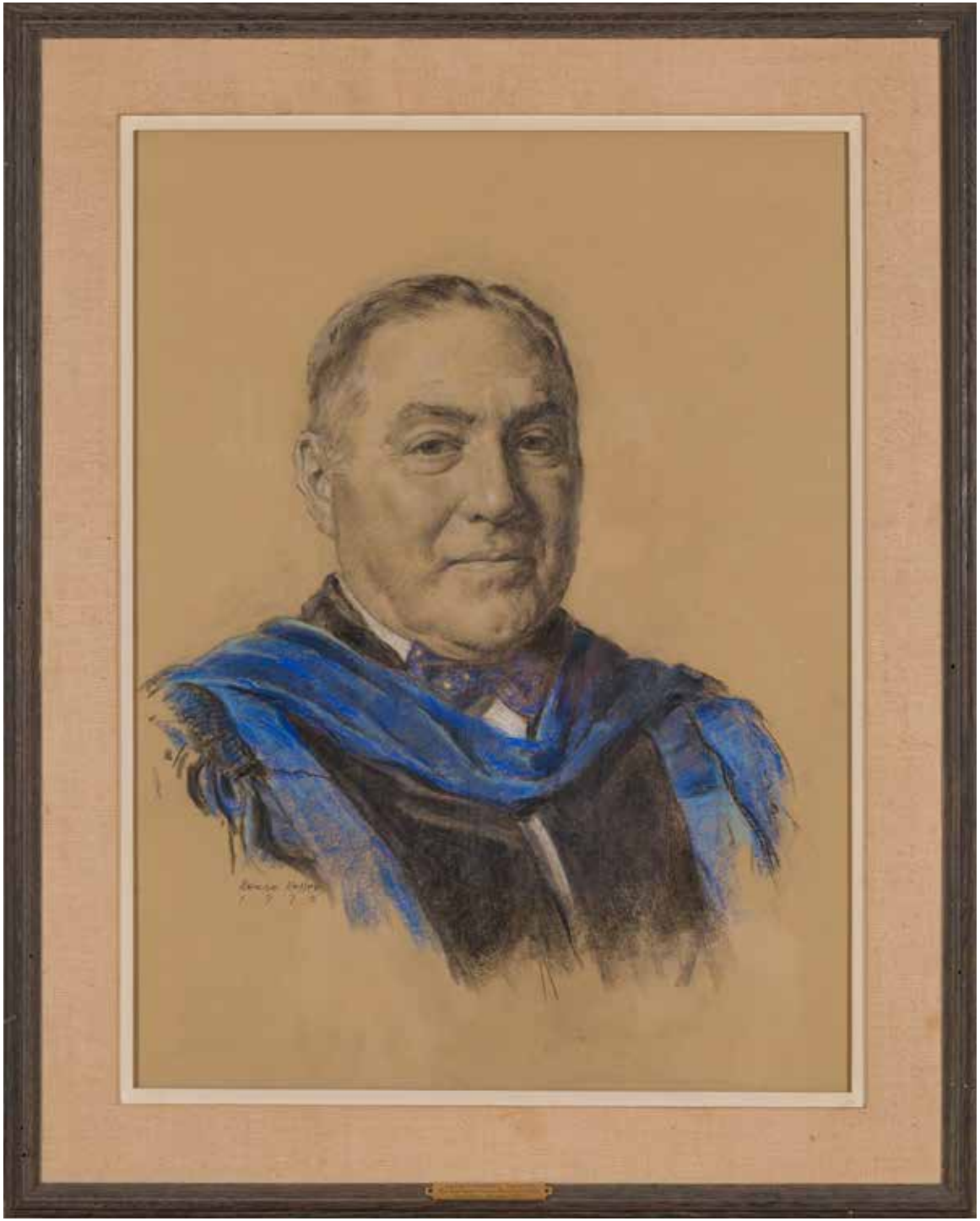
As a consummate portraitist, Keller painted more than 500 notables, from politicians Robert Taft and John Lodge and three Yale presidents to women and African-Americans who were leaders in nursing, law and religion. While art schools, museums and the art market were celebrating Modernists, Keller was in demand for portraits through the late 1960s, and his works grace collections not only in New Haven, but also as far away as the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, the San Salvador Hospital in Chile, and Magdalen College at Oxford.

★★★★★★

Deane Keller
Photograph, circa 1951
Deane Keller papers (MS 1685)
Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library

Deane Keller, *Harris Elwood Starr,* 1955. Oil on canvas. Collection of the New Haven Museum.

Deane Keller, *Judge John L. Gilson,* 1938. Oil on canvas. Collection of the New Haven Museum.



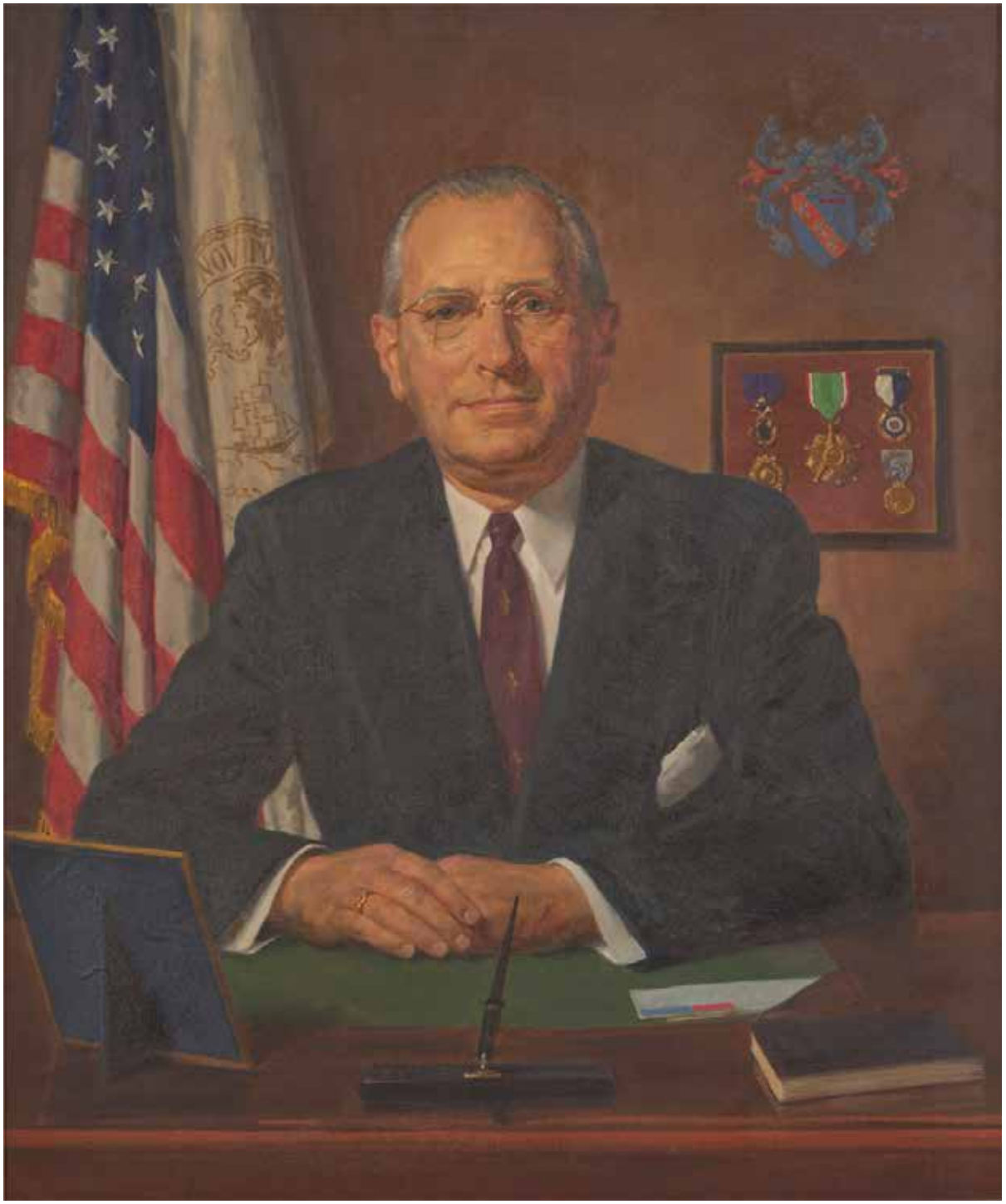
Deane Keller, *Rollin Osterweis,* circa 1960s. Pastel on paper. Collection of the New Haven Museum.

Deane Keller, *Allen Sherk, Headmaster, Hopkins School, New Haven (1953-1974)*, 1973. Painting. Hanging at Hopkins School.

Deane Keller, *Edward Theodore Paier (1918 – 2010).* Painting. Hanging in office of President Jonathan Paier at the Paier College of Art.

Edward T. Paier was a student of Deane Keller's while attending Yale Univerity's School of Fine Art. In 1946 Paier and his wife Adele established the Paier College of Art. The Paiers invited Deane Keller to teach at the College. Professor Keller joined the faculty at Paier and helped forge the disciplines and values that still thrive at Paier College of Art today.

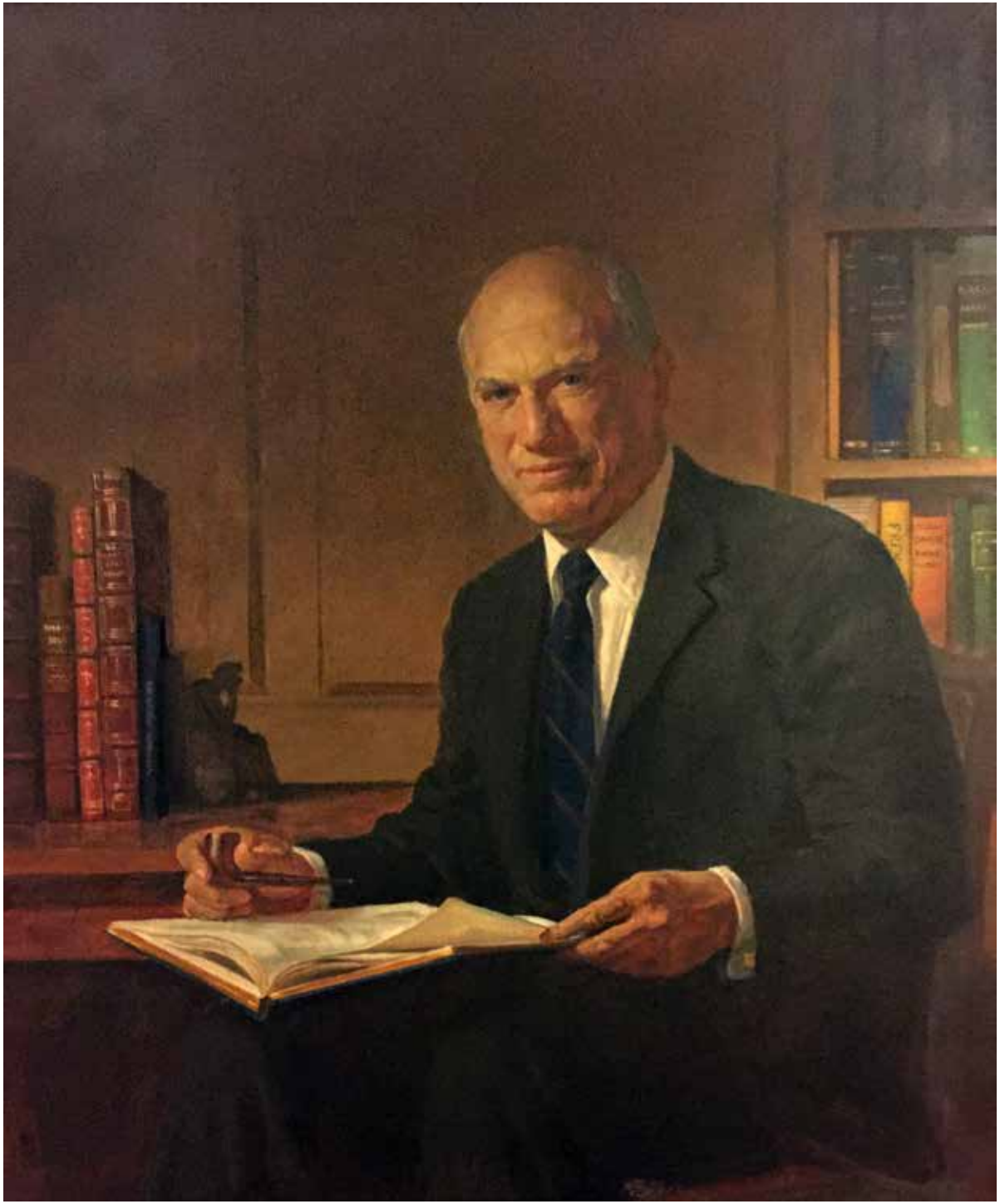
Deane Keller, *Adele Kohn Paier (1918 – 975).* Painting. Hanging in office of President Jonathan Paier at the Paier College of Art.



Deane Keller, *William Celentano, Mayor of New Haven (1945 – 1953),* 1968. Painting. Hanging in Celentano Funeral Home, New Haven.

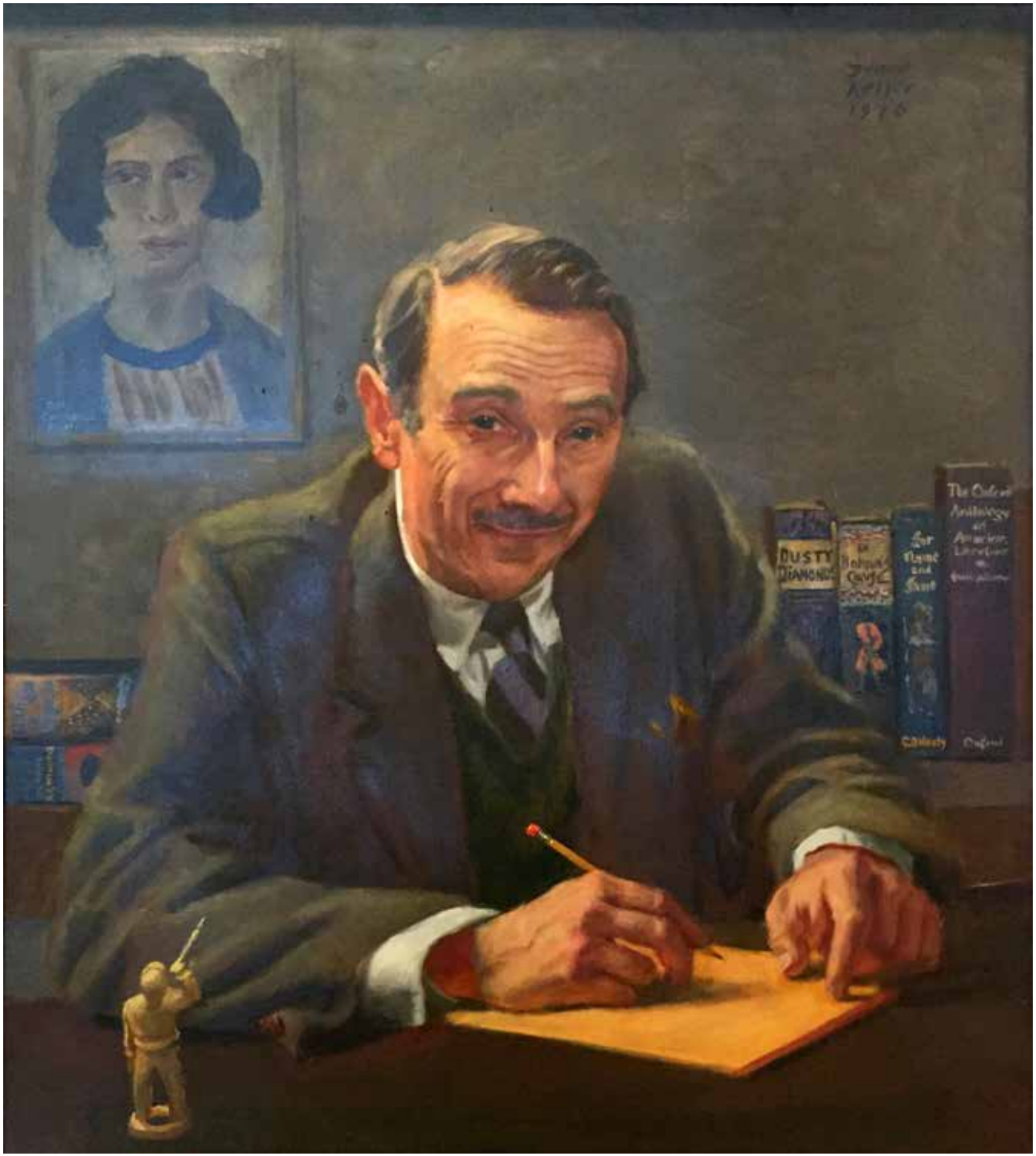
Herbert W. Emanuelson, Deane Keller and William Celentano looking at portrait in New Haven City Hall. 1953. Photograph.

Deane Keller, *William Celentano, Mayor of New Haven (1945 – 1953),* 1953. Painting. Hanging in New Haven City Hall.

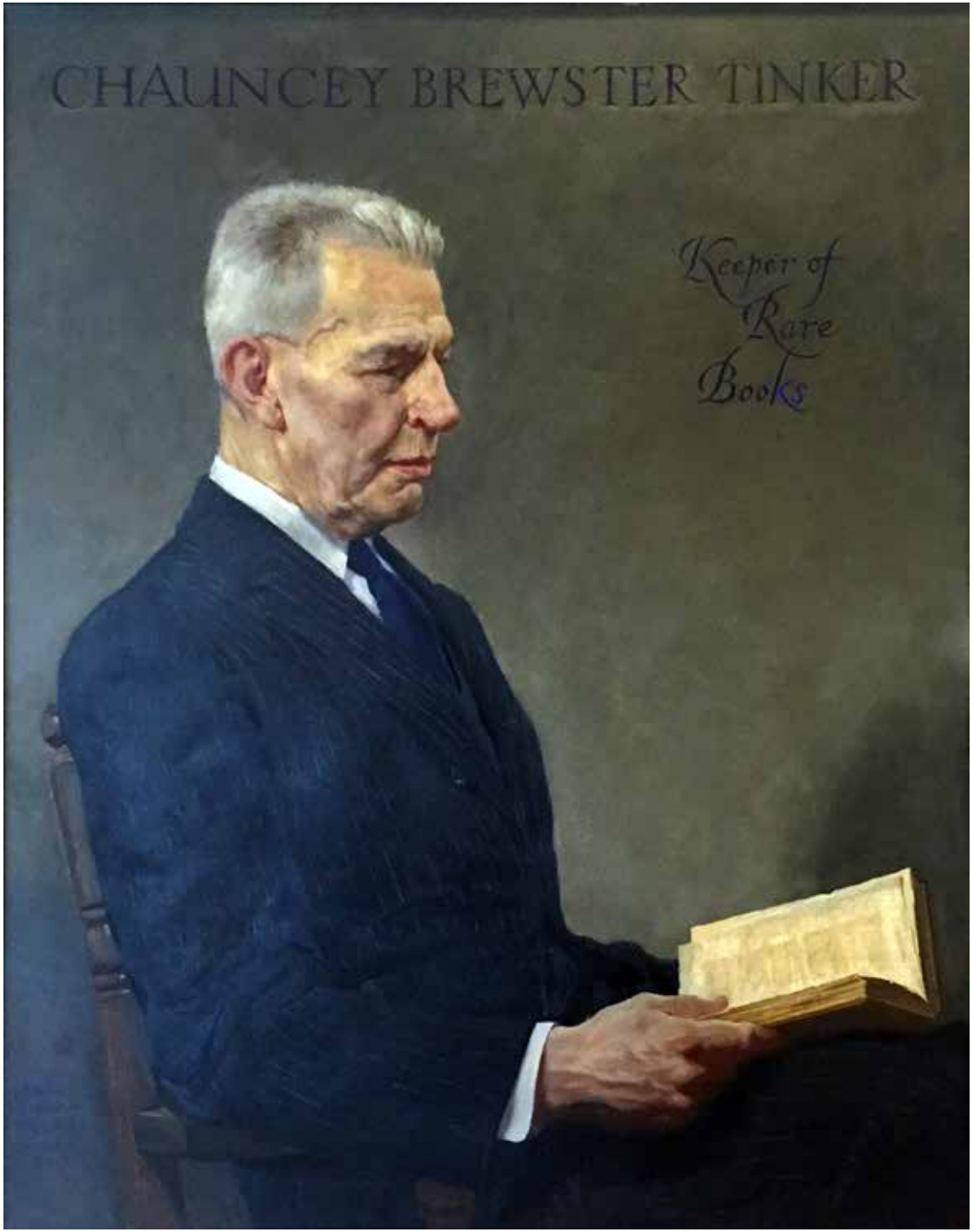


Deane Keller, *Frank Altschul (1890 – 1981), Founder of the Yale Library Associates,* 1974. Painting. Hanging in the Yale Beinecke Library, New Haven.

Deane Keller, *Herman Wardwell Liebert (1911 – present), Librarian of the Beinecke Library 1963 – 1972,* 1972. Painting. Hanging in the Yale Beinecke Library, New Haven.



Deane Keller, *Norman Holmes Pearson (1909 – 1975), Advisor in American Literature, University Library,* 1976. Painting. Hanging in the Yale Beinecke Library, New Haven.



Deane Keller, *Chauncey Brewster Tinker (1876 – 1963), Keeper of Rare Books 1930 – 1963,* 1959. Painting. Hanging in the Yale Beinecke Library, New Haven.