

**Horace D. Taft Alumni Medal
and
Citation of Merit
1982 Recipient**



**Deane Keller '19
1901-1992**

Distinguished portraitist and muralist, you have become the unofficial “Painter Laureate” of your school and your college. Your superb likenesses have not only memorialized the headmasters of Taft, the presidents of Yale, and others; they stand as a monument to you as an artist of the highest attainment. Your early promise was recognized in 1926, when you were awarded the Prix de Rome. Returning to Italy as a major in the U.S. Army at the end of the Second World War, you supervised—sometimes under fire—the return of the priceless treasures of the Florentine Museums from the mountain caches where they had been stored for safekeeping. For your bravery and resourcefulness, you were decorated by the governments of Italy, Britain, and the Vatican—as well as by your own. A devoted class agent and member of the executive committee, you have served Taft in many ways. As Taft increasingly emphasizes the importance of the arts, your achievements are remarkably timely. Your regard for the heritage of the past provides a worthy model for today’s students, and your old school is proud to confer on you its Alumni Citation of Merit.