



Joan Mondale, wife of the vice president, discusses technique with students in a pottery class at the Audubon Street Creative Arts Workshop.

Mrs. Mondale visited New Haven Thursday as part of a New England tour to promote the arts. (Staff Photos by Gene Gorlick)

Joan Mondale Praises Efforts

City's Art Work Gets Shot In Arm

By SANDRA AHEARN
Staff Reporter

The city's continuing efforts to establish a national reputation as a major cultural center received a big shot in the arm Thursday from Joan Mondale during her 2-hour tour of New Haven.

Heaping lavish praise on the city and its leaders, Mrs. Mondale said she originally thought New Haven was "just Yale and nothing else."

"I was pleasantly surprised to learn otherwise," she said.

She told reporters and city staffers gathered at a luncheon news conference that "New Haven is lucky to have a mayor like Frank Logue who is so dedicated to the promotion of the arts."

The wife of the vice president said she sees her role as one of "opening people's eyes to the arts."

"Art is not just the icing on the cake, but the essence of our lives."

Invited to the Elm City by Logue, who also acted as her official escort, Mrs. Mondale made a dozen stops at locations

throughout the city to view the ways in which city leaders spent federal money on arts programs.

Her first stop was at the Bassett Street Welfare Office where a 40-foot mural is being painted by two artists funded under the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

She commented later that she was particularly pleased with the efforts being made under the CETA programs, "because not everything we do ends up in a museum."

Mrs. Mondale said the arts need to be

encouraged on a broad level and likened use of the CETA programs to a pyramid, noting, "the wider the base, the higher the peak."

Other stops included visits to the federally funded Children's Museum, the Audubon Street Arts Center, Beinecke Library and British Museum at Yale and a performance of "Macbeth" at Long Wharf.

She was also treated to performances by CETA-funded musicians and dancers and the Cross High School Concert Chorus.