Fine Arts Building

Bids were accepted by the Board of Trustees on May 15, 1968. The architects were Helleberg and Helleberg of Kearney. The general contractor was B. J. Frick Construction Company of Salina, Kansas, which submitted the winning bid of $984,360. Arthur Hilberg of Kearney submitted the winning bid of $274,050 for the mechanical work. Holdrege Electrical Company won the electrical work with a bid of $179,179. The entire building, including pianos, cost $1,649,107, of which $440,107 was Federal money and $1,209,000 was State of Nebraska money. The building was under construction for eighteen months, and was occupied in December 1969.

The building’s 66,660 square feet included a 334-seat theater, and a 506-seat lecture/recital hall. Also included were 12 faculty offices, classrooms, a scene shop, a costume room, a band room, a choral room, and practice rooms.

The building was dedicated in April 1970 with three events: a formal dedication ceremony on April 12, 1970, a student recital on April 15, 1970, and an open house on April 19, 1970, which was attended by over 800 people.

The “Art Wing” which extends westward from the performing arts portion of the building was occupied in January 1980. Ground was broken on October 3, 1978. The art addition cost $731,790, of which $580,000 was State of Nebraska money; the remainder came from the Kearney State College Foundation. The Foundation money included an anonymous donation of $50,000.

Jack Wilkins was the architect; the 23,000 square foot addition includes an art gallery, classrooms, working areas, gallery storage, and eleven faculty offices.

The addition currently displays the statue “Winged Victory” which was donated by the class of 1907, as well as the original Parthenon friezes donated by the class of 1911, which were for decades part of the decoration of the auditorium in the Administration Building, or “Old Main.”

Pipe Organ

During the 1920’s the Alumni Association raised funds for the purchase and installation of a large pipe organ. The Estey organ, with over 1,000 pipes, was dedicated during the 25th Anniversary celebration in 1930, and dedicated to Harriet Sutton, a former physical science instructor and past secretary of the Alumni Association, who initiated the organ fund.

In April 1982, the Vaughan Organ Company of Holdrege was contracted to install a large organ with 1,600 pipes in the recital hall of the Fine Arts Building. This was made possible by a grant of $60,000 from the Ellen Baldwin Craig Foundation. The new organ incorporated 90 of the pipes from the 1930 Estey organ, which had been disassembled and stored when the auditorium in the Administration Building was condemned as unsafe by the State. The work was finally completed and the organ dedicated in May 1986. Although quite large, it is only the second largest in Kearney; the Episcopal Church about the same time installed one twice as large.
Fine Arts Building
Architect's Sketch, Exterior View
Fine Arts Building
Architect's Sketch, First Floor
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NEBRASKA
STATE COLLEGES
1969
JAMES A. LANE, PRESIDENT
J. ALAN CRAMER, VICE PRESIDENT
FRANCIS J. BROWN
HENRY I. FREED
JAMES M. KNAPP
BERNARD M. SPENCER
CECIL E. STANLEY
E. ALBIN LARSON, SECRETARY
MILTON J. HASSEL, PRESIDENT OF COLLEGE
HELLEBERG & HELLEBERG, ARCHITECTS-ENGINEERS
Fine Arts Building, 1970
View Looks to the West
Fine Arts Building Under Construction, 1968
Fine Arts Building Under Construction, 1969
Fine Arts Building, 1971
View Looks to the Northwest
Fine Arts Building with New Art Wing, 1980
View Looks to the Northeast
Fine Arts Building with New Art Wing, 1981
View Looks to the Northeast
DEDICATION PROGRAM

Dr. Gary F. Thomas, Presiding

A History of the Pipe Organ at Kearney State College
Dr. Richard Ikenberry

Response
Mrs. Gladys Benthack
Class of 1930

Construction and Installation of the Pipe Organ at Kearney State College
Mr. Dan Vaughan
Vaughan Organ Company
Holdrege, Nebraska

Acceptance of the Organ
Dr. Betty Becker-Theye
Dean, School of Fine Arts & Humanities

Response
Miss Shelley Stueven
President of Delta Omicron - Music Honorary

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Dr. William Nester
Clark Yanda and Mrs. Ellen Baldwin Craig

SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS AND HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
presents a
DEDICATORY ORGAN RECITAL

THE PROGRAM

Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne in C, Bux 172
Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Three Choral Preludes

Jesu, meine Freude, BWV 610
J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Von Himmel hoch
Johann Pachelbel
(From Heaven Above)
(1653-1706)

O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde gross, BWV 622
J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

(O Man, bewail they grievous fall)

Fantasie in G, BWV 572
J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Chorale in E
Cesar Franck
(1822-1890)

Toccata
Eugene Girout
(1844-1925)

Dr. Arnold Sivils, organ
Professor of Music

Dr. David Bauer, conductor
Rhonda Hanlin, organ

Dr. Jim Payne, Dr. Mike Wheeler, Shelley Stueven, trumpets
Mrs. Annabell Zikmund, Deanna Long, Chris Shade, trombones

A Song for St. Cecelia's Day
Robert Beadell
Fine Arts Building, Looking Northwest at the Northeast Corner, 2009
Higher Part is Above the Theater’s Stage
Vocational Arts Building Visible Beyond Corner
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Looking West at Part of East Elevation
Fine Arts Building, 2009

Looking Southwest at South Part of East Elevation
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Looking South Along East Wall
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Dance Sculpture Inside East Entrance
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Corridor With Practice Rooms, First Floor
Fine Arts Building, 2009
“Winged Victory” in Hallway in Art Wing
Gift of Class of 1907
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Display in Walker Gallery, Art Wing
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Looking ENE at South End
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Looking NW at 1970 Building
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Looking WNW at S Side of Art Wing
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Looking SW at N Side of Art Wing
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Looking SE at NW Corner of 1970 Building
Fine Arts Building, 2009
Looking SW at NE Corner of 1970 Building