

NEW HARP DEDICATED ON DBU CAMPUS



When DBU celebrated the opening of Nation Hall, it also celebrated the addition of a wonderful new musical instrument on campus, the Dan and Mary Stuart Harp.

The harp was donated by Mary Stuart, a long-time DBU friend and current member of the DBU Board of Trustees. Through the years, she has been a patron of the DBU College of Fine Arts, as well as a generous supporter for building projects and scholarship funds. She has also been an active member of the DBU Women's Auxiliary Board, hosting the annual Membership Tea in her home and receiving the DBU Women's Auxiliary Board Ruth Award in 2007.

DBU commissioned the world-famous harp company, Lyon & Healy, to build the harp in the fall of 2014. In June of this year, they completed the work on it, but they were unable to ship it through normal methods giving the heat of the Texas summer. So Dr. Bob Brooks, dean of the DBU Graduate School of Ministry, and Wendell Wright, DBU director of graduate recruiting, drove up to Chicago and spent two days driving the harp back to Texas, being sure to store it in the hotel each evening to keep it safe and climate controlled.



The post of this instrument is made of hard maple, which is strong enough not to collapse from the tension of the strings, and the sound board is made of Sitka spruce from Alaska due to its ability to reinforce a beautiful resonate tone. The hand painted floral designs were painted by the artist who does the art restoration work for the Art Institute of Chicago. The Dan and Mary Stuart Harp is housed in Nation Hall which is home to the Gary Cook School of Leadership.