

**Texas Woman's University
Tour Guide for the Blagg-Huey Library
Denton, Texas**

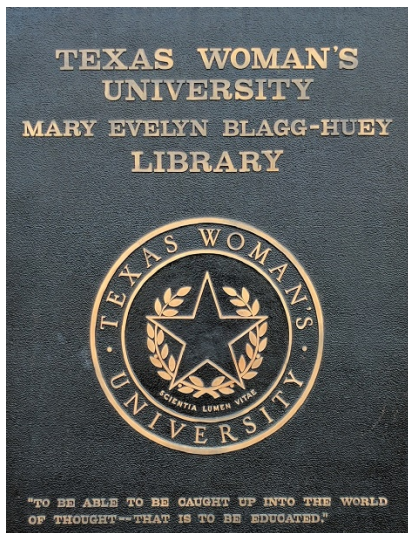
Welcome to Texas Woman's University Library!

The Blagg-Huey Library was completed and opened its doors in January 1986. The Library stands where University residence halls once stood and houses over 500,000 volumes.



The Fountain – Architectural plans called for a fountain as a center of the front Library Plaza, a gathering place for students on their way to the residence halls, the Library, the Dining Hall, the Student Center, and the classroom buildings.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Davis donated the funds to purchase the library fountain. Mrs. Davis was the chair of the TWU Board of Regents at the time. The fountain itself was imported from France.



The Dedicatory Plaque – the dedicatory plaque on the front of the building bears the quotation by Edith Hamilton which reads:

“To be able to be caught up in a world of thought – that is to be Educated.”

Edith Hamilton

The quotation was recommended by the late Dr. Joyce Thompson of the TWU English Faculty.

In a surprise move unknown to Dr. Mary Evelyn Blagg-Huey, who was then President, the Alumni recommended to the Regents that the new Library be named in her honor.

She was the University's first woman president, and it was one of her primary goals to provide a new library for the students and faculty. Her portrait is in the foyer on the wall to the left of the front entrance.

The portrait was a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Gatlin (Hoy Casey Gatlin, TWU Class of 1941)



First Floor



The University Mace – Designed and Handmade by Alfred E. Green, associate professor of art, the mace is a symbol of the spirit and nature of the university. It finds its origin in the pageantry of the thirteenth century.

The mace consists of a staff of rare vermillion wood topped with a silver sphere banded by ivory. The silver sphere is repeated at the base and a gold seal of the university is imbedded in the shaft. The mace is carried at all formal university ceremonies.



The Presidential Medallion – The medallion worn by the Chancellor and President bears the seal of the University on its face and the names and years in office of the Presidents' on reverse. Encircling the Presidents' names are the four names by which Texas Woman's University has been known since the founding in 1901. Professor Ingrid Psuty, M.F.A., of the School of Visual Arts (UNT) designed and fashioned the medallion and chain of fine silver and burgundy enamel.



TWU Herbarium Native Plant Specimens – The Herbarium features various plant specimens which date from 1909-1949. Over 325 specimens in the TWU Herbarium were collected by faculty and students from 1915-1949



First Floor Main Exhibit-- The main exhibit space on the first floor is currently showcasing “A Life Unveiled: A Portrait of Florence Nightingale”. This exhibit reveals a complex woman whose work broke barriers, pushed boundaries, and continues to inform nursing to this day. The collection is on loan to the TWU Libraries for five years from the collection of Dr. Tony Paterniti. The grandson of Italian immigrants, Tony Paterniti was the first in his family to graduate from college. He began his basic education in nursing at the community college in his hometown of Jamestown, New York and took his first job as a nurse in critical care in the WCA Hospital also in Jamestown. After relocating to Texas, Tony attended Texas Woman's University (TWU) where he earned an MS in Nursing and the University of North Texas where he completed his Ph.D.

For more information on Dr. Paterniti and the Nightingale collection please visit the [Florence Nightingale Digital Archive](#)

Second Floor



“Lady of the Day” and “Woman of the Night” – These two sculptures were dedicated to the TWU Library in September 1996 by Valerie M. Bentz, former associate professor in sociology at Texas Woman’s University

About the Artist:

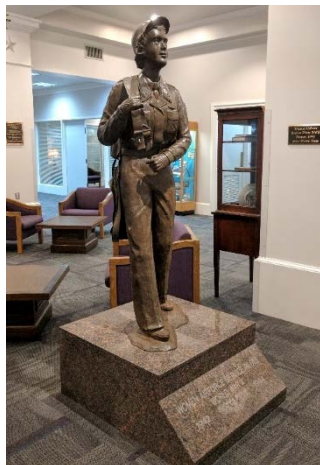
David Shipley is from Lubbock, Texas, and lived in Southern California at the time of the 1996 dedication. He attended the Dallas Art Institute, the Cornish School of the Arts in Seattle, the University of Texas and Texas Tech University. He is a museum and gallery artist.



The Woman’s Collection named in Memory of Lou Halsell Rodenberger –

A major research collection on the history of American women. At the suggestion of TWU President, Dr. Louis H. Hubbard, the Library first began collecting the biographies of great women in 1932 “to serve as role models” to students. The collection has since grown to almost 78,000 books, 15,000 cubic feet of manuscript collections, 50,000 photographs, approximately 2,000 periodical titles, and major manuscript and book collections on microform.

The Woman’s Collection also houses the University Archives, chronicling TWU’s unique standing among Texas colleges and universities, which provide rich research materials on the history of women’s education. The International Cookbook Collection offers insight into culinary and cultural history illustrating decades of America’s changing relationship with food and society.



WASP Memorial Statue – The WASP memorial statue was sculpted by Jewel Estes of Dallas and donated to the Texas Woman’s University Library on April 20, 1995 by the Women Airforce Service Pilots, WWII. The life-size bronze statue commemorating the experience of America’s women pilots of World War II is located on the second floor of the Blagg-Huey Library in the Woman’s Collection.

Memorial Plaque and Congressional Gold Medal – A memorial plaque directly to the left of the statue honors the 38 Women Airforce Service Pilots killed in service during World War II. A framed copy of Public Law 111-40 awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to the WASP by the 111th United States Congress in 2009 is also on display.

Third Floor

The Virginia Thomas Memorial Windows – University alumna, Mrs. Mary Thomas Marshall, generously gave funds which made it possible to embellish the Library’s central dome with nine stained-Glass windows. These are in loving memory of her sister, Virginia Thomas, also an alumna of the University.

The stained-glass windows include representations of Classical goddesses and muses and of flowers. The motifs were selected because of their appropriateness to the Classical Style of the building.



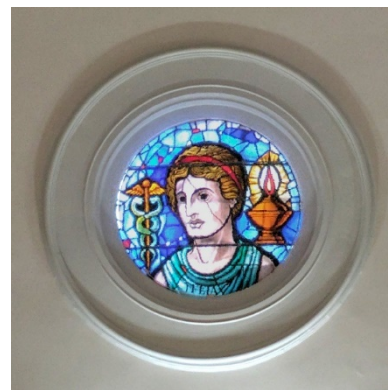
Rose Medallion – The central medallion, at the apex of the dome, contains a red rose. This emblem of the Texas Woman’s University has long carried much happy and positive symbolism in literature, the arts, and religion; and reflect the role of her college years in a young woman’s life. It’s color, the American Beauty Red, is combined with white – the University’s emblematic color.

In 1986, the Congress of the United States adopted the rose as the official flower of our Nation.

Goddess Medallions – Four additional medallions in the dome represent Greek Goddesses.



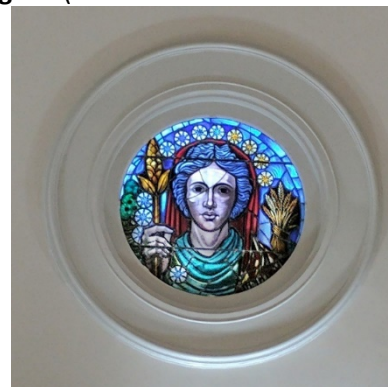
Athena (Goddess of learning and wisdom)



Hygieia (Goddess of health and healing)



Nike (Winged goddess of victory)



Demeter (Goddess of the harvest)

The Windows of the Muses – The semicircular windows below the dome provide representations of the nine Muses.



Urania, muse of astronomy, and **Clio**, muse of history.



Terpsichore, muse of dance, and **Euterpe**, muse of music.



Erato, muse of lyric poetry; **Polyhymnia**, muse of sacred poetry; and **Calliope**, muse of epic poetry, holding a book, which is one of her symbols.



Thalia (comedy) and **Melpomene** (tragedy), muses of the drama.

About the Artist – The artist and creator of the Library’s stained-glass windows was John Kebrle, Jr. Born in Dallas in 1927, he is son and grandson of stained-glass artists. He learned his art and his craft through studies at Dallas Art Institute; Famous Artists School of Westport, Connecticut; and Southern Methodist University and through apprenticeships to George Brozius and John Kerbrle, Sr.