

Groundbreaking ceremonies for Mandeville Center to be held

January 5, 1973

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the \$5.2 million Fine Arts Building (Mandeville Center) at the University of California, San Diego will be held at 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 9, at the building site.

The building, designed to house office, classroom, and work space for the Departments of Music, Visual Arts, and Drama, as well as a 900-seat auditorium, will be located northeast of the existing UCSD Gymnasium at what was once the intersection of U.S. Highway 101 and Miramar Road.

Dr. John Stewart, Provost of Muir College and Chairman of the Fine Arts Building Committee, will serve as master of ceremonies for the groundbreaking. Chairmen and faculty members from the three academic departments to use the building, representatives from the UCSD Architects and Engineers Office, and architectural and construction representatives have been invited to attend.

Also taking part in the ceremony will be Mr. and Mrs. Hubert T. Mandeville, son and daughter-in-law of the late Ernest W. Mandeville, founder of the Mandeville Foundation which has contributed more than \$250,000 toward the construction of the Fine Arts Building. The Mandeville gift has made possible the addition of a lobby to the auditorium and an increase in the number of seats giving UCSD a badly needed major lecture hall. In addition, the Foundation has donated \$15,000 for the purchase of art works for the building.

The building was designed by A. Quincy Jones and Associates of Los Angeles and will be constructed by Nielsen Construction Company of San Diego. It will be a three-level structure with basement facilities, a plaza or ground level, and a second-story level in some sections.

The activities placed below grade (ground level) will be those best suited to a closed and sound-controlled environment. The north courts and shop area will be primarily for the visual arts with opportunities for spectator viewing from the surrounding walkways. The south courts and sound-controlled rooms will be for music instruction, practice rooms, and offices, as well as for small scale outdoor performances.

The top (second) floor above grade will contain the facilities for painting and the graphic arts, as well as related faculty offices. Outdoor decks will be provided for good-weather activity. Two large studios are planned for large-scale rehearsals as well as for possible subdivision of spaces. An art gallery will be located on the first floor at the west end of the building.

Each academic department, while occupying its separate spaces, will have convenient access to other activities by means of covered walks.

The lecture and concert hall, to be located at the east end of the building, will provide the Train convocation space for the campus.

The building will be built of poured-in-place reinforced concrete on the lower levels with wood frame construction used for the upper levels. It will provide office and work space for nearly 40 faculty members and classroom space for 500 students in addition to the auditorium.

Construction is scheduled to begin immediately and to be completed by the fall of 1974.

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