

# DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY REPORT

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## DBU DEDICATES HORNER HALL

Andy Horner (center) in front of the new Joan and Andy Horner Hall, along with members of his family (from left to right) Tom Horner (son), Mary Collins (daughter), Tim Horner (son), and Dr. Andrea Horner (daughter).



# Joan & Andy Horner Hall

Dallas Baptist University recently dedicated Joan and Andy Horner Hall, the newest building on campus. Horner Hall is a 12,000-square-foot, multi-purpose academic building which houses the disciplines of music business, communication theory, broadcast communication, and print graphics communication, along with the College of Fine Arts academic leadership offices.

Modeled after the neo-classical Georgian colonial architectural theme found across campus, the design for Horner Hall was inspired by Congress Hall located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This building stands as the University's most accurate historical replication.

According to Dr. Blair Blackburn, DBU's executive vice president, "Horner Hall is a state-of-the-art teaching facility which will enhance student learning and will equip our graduates to be highly sought after as industry leaders in the musical and communicative arts.

Designed in collaboration with our exemplary faculty, this building consolidates the University's nationally recognized strengths in the academic fields of music business, broadcast communication, and graphic design."

Horner Hall features a music theory classroom, media and audio seminar classroom, multi-faceted broadcast communication video recording studio, and a video engineering and editing production room. The building also houses departmental faculty offices, dually-designed music department faculty offices and instructional studios, and spacious student lounge/study areas.

The centerpiece of the building is the state-of-the-art music business recording studio, designed by the award-winning Russ Berger Design Group, a leading national acoustical sound studio design firm.



*Andy Horner shares a brief word with those gathered in the recording studio during the dedication service for Horner Hall.*

A \$4.5 million project, the lead gift of \$2 million was made by Joan and Andy Horner. Additional donors contributed to the remainder of the fundraising effort to provide for the increasing needs of the growing campus community.

Adam Wright, DBU's vice president for advancement, explained, "We are grateful beyond expression for the generosity extended by Joan and Andy Horner for their lead gift which allowed for the creation of this beautiful new addition to University Hill. The influence of Joan and Andy is far reaching, and we are thrilled to have a building at DBU named after these two incredible servant leaders."

Wright continued, "We are also particularly thankful for the many gifts we received from other benefactors who realized the great need this academic building would fulfill in the future growth and development of DBU students."

Andy Horner has been a life-long businessman and entrepreneur in the Dallas area. He and his wife spent many years working for Home Interiors with their close friend, the late Mary Crowley. In 1985, Andy and his late wife, Joan, successfully co-founded the direct sales jewelry company, Premier Designs, Inc. Based on biblical principles with a philosophy of serving, caring, and sharing, the growth of the company from its original inception has been remarkable. In 2004, the Horners were named Entrepreneurs of the Year by Ernst and Young.

Since 1951, the Horners have been active members at First Baptist Church, Dallas, and were instrumental in the founding of the KCBI radio station.

Andy and Joan were married for more than 60 years, and they have five children, fourteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Joan passed away in December, 2010. She served as a faithful member of the DBU Board of Trustees.



*Roger and Cherry Williams stand in front of the Stone Cross, which was sculpted by Roger. Cherry serves as a DBU trustee.*



