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This Dream Dates Back to 1872

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In 1965, Colonial Hall ended its lifespan of almost 60 years when it was deliberately burned as practice for fire departments statewide. Just three years later, fire destroyed Frerichs Hall, moving the music department to Renshaw Hall. Marv Henberg, professor of philosophy, and Barbara Seidman, interim dean of faculty, are preparing an illustrated book for Linfield's Sesquicentennial titled *Inspired Pragmatism: An Illustrated History of Linfield College*, which will include historical sketches such as this.

This dream dates back to 1872

When Linfield music faculty and students occupied the splendid, purpose-built and sound-isolated spaces of the Vivian A. Bull Music Center in August, they realized a dream from as early as 1872 when leaders of McMinnville College first contemplated musical instruction.

Earlier college music facilities sufficed, but only thanks to ingenuity among music faculty members and forbearance among their colleagues. Music instruction, begun in 1883 on the second floor of Pioneer Hall, was moved in 1907 when Music Hall was erected as a temporary building on the site now occupied by Whitman Hall. Linfield musicians subsequently shared the hall with, among others, the departments of Latin, Greek,

German, English, art and education.

In 1947 a surplus theatre from the Portland Air Base was moved to the site now occupied by Murdock Hall. Music joined journalism and radio communications, speech and theatre in this new home.

First called the Fine Arts Building, the facility was re-named Frerichs Hall in 1957. With its namesake faculty removed, Music Hall was renamed Colonial Hall.

In early 1965, Colonial Hall ended its temporary lifespan of almost 60 years. It was deliberately burned as practice for fire departments statewide. No one watching this planned conflagration could perceive, as we do today, an ominous foreshadowing of 1969. On

Dec. 16 of that year, Frerichs Hall was reduced to ashes in an early morning blaze sparked by an overheated chimney.

Once again, Linfield musicians became itinerants seemingly destined for temporary abodes. The program moved briefly to Memorial Hall to await renovation of Renshaw Hall. Opened in 1967 and designed expressly for art, Renshaw could be modified to house musicians, but not to favor them.

Accordingly, in the new facility honoring President Emerita Vivian A. Bull, adjectives such as "purpose-built" and "sound-isolated" are music to everyone's ears.

— Marvin Henberg
Professor of Philosophy