

# Regional Arts Center

Open Tues-Sat 10-4

Completed in 1911, the exquisite, historic Regional Arts Center (RAC) was built as a U. S. Federal Courthouse at a contract price of \$100,552. In 1931, the official headquarters of U. S. District Court moved from Texarkana to Sherman, and in 1933 the building was donated to Bowie County. In 1985, the Texarkana Regional Arts and Humanities Council (TRAHC) leased the building from Bowie County to develop as a Regional Arts Center.

Following a capital campaign, renovations were completed in May 1992 at a cost of \$1.6 million. As part of the adaptive restoration, the entire west end of the first floor was converted into museum quality, high security exhibit space. The former courtroom, now the Horace C. Cabe Great Hall, was exquisitely finished by the nationally-renowned decorative artisans, Conrad Schmidt Studios, who had embellished the beautiful Perot Theatre. The Horace C. Cabe Great Hall is without doubt the most elegant room in the region, an incomparable site for concerts, lectures, masterclasses, meetings, and a perfect rental facility for weddings, receptions, business seminars, and political rallies and press conferences.

Since the re-opening of the Regional Arts Center in 1992, TRAHC has annually presented a 12-month schedule of touring exhibitions and exhibitions organized by TRAHC displayed in the three high-security galleries. With the only high-security galleries between Dallas and Little Rock, the Regional Arts Center is a frequent stop for visitors interested in seeing high quality art exhibitions in the area

In addition to gallery spaces, and the Cabe Hall, the Arts Center contains the TRAHC administrative offices, the Women for the Arts (WFA) office, WFA's For Arts' Sake Gift Shop, classrooms, art production areas, a kitchen, and a beautiful copper cage elevator. The marble throughout the building is original. The restored Temple Munz Reproducing Piano housed on the first floor can be heard as part of a building tour, which is available by prior arrangement. (Call 903/792-8681 for tour or rental details).

## FIRST (MAIN) FLOOR -

Secured Galleries: Martha Morriss Gallery  
Melanie and Allison Morriss Gallery  
William Fuller Gallery • Lobby Gallery  
For Arts'Sake Gift Shop • Whitt Room  
featuring art by regional artists  
for sale through Gift Shop  
Temple-Munz Reproducing Piano  
Art Reception and Art Storage

*SPECIAL NOTES...The copper directories in the entry lobby are the originals; notice that they indicate separate witness rooms for males and females. Originally all rooms on the east side were US Marshall's offices. The elevator, installed in 1913, has original cage. During renovation the cable system was replaced with a hydraulic system.*

## THIRD FLOOR -

TRAHC Staff Offices & Classroom

*SPECIAL NOTES... The classroom at the west end of the hall originally housed the grand jury room.*

**TAKE THE TIME  
to explore our  
beautiful ArtsCenter!**

**Enjoy the many  
exhibits throughout  
the building...**

**Revel in the history**

**- AND -**

**Be sure to shop  
For Arts' Sake  
Gift Shop**

Specializing in unique  
arts-related items.

A project of  
Women for the Arts  
in support of  
TRAHC

## SECOND FLOOR -

Horace C. Cabe Great Hall  
Dowd Meeting Room • Kitchen  
TRAHC Administrative Offices  
Women for the Arts Office  
Restrooms

*SPECIAL NOTES.. The second floor originally held the courtroom and the judges chambers. The exquisite ceiling in the courtroom/Cabe Hall was hidden for decades; in the 1950's a drop ceiling was put in which covered the decorative plaster work. It was "rediscovered" when renovation was started on the building. The kitchen was originally the judge's restroom*

## LOWER LEVEL-

ArtsSmart Resource Room  
Classrooms and Art Production Areas  
Handicapped entrance  
Restrooms, Storage Areas

*SPECIAL NOTES...Originally the basement housed storage, fuel areas, two coal furnaces, and the boiler, as well as elevator machinery.*