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## LU to Become All Steinway School

12/14/2007



Lindenwood University will join a select group of universities and conservatories throughout the world who carry the “All Steinway” designation with the opening of its new Center for Fine and Performing Arts in Fall, 2008. The university will purchase 27 Steinway-designed pianos for use in the new center and throughout the Lindenwood campus.

There are currently only 84 All Steinway schools in the world, including some of the world’s most prestigious universities and schools of music, such as Yale University and the Juilliard School.

“Our new Center for Fine and Performing Arts will be one of the finest instructional and performance venues in the region,” said Lindenwood President James D. Evans, Ph.D. “It is fitting that the center and the rest of the campus be equipped with the finest pianos available. This sends a message to our current students and prospective music students that we are committed to providing the best equipment possible for our music program.”

Next April, a Lindenwood contingent will travel to the Steinway & Sons factory in New York to select a nine-foot concert grand and two other seven-foot grand pianos. Boston pianos, designed by Steinway, will be used in other areas of the Lindenwood music program. The purchase also includes 25 Korg digital keyboards for a computer music lab in the new facility.

“We are so pleased to be part of the Steinway family,” said Marsha Parker, dean of Fine and Performing Arts at Lindenwood. “Steinway pianos have long been a part of the Lindenwood tradition. We are giving our students the best possible pianos for practice and performance. Lindenwood has one of the oldest Steinway pianos in the country, and we’ve been purchasing Steinway pianos for more than 100 years.”

Steinway & Sons has been manufacturing pianos in New York since 1853; for their aesthetic value and tone, Steinway pianos are commonly regarded as the best in the world. It takes more than 500 craftsmen more than one year to handcraft a Steinway piano, which is comprised of 12,000 parts. Ninety-eight percent of all concert pianists choose Steinway pianos exclusively for their outstanding tone and quality.

Parker also noted that Steinways are a sound business decision because they appreciate over time. Universities routinely receive a larger trade value for their

older Steinways than the original purchase price.

Lindenwood University is working with the Steinway Piano Gallery of St. Louis, the region's exclusive dealer for Steinway products, to select the instruments.

“The decision to become an ‘All Steinway’ school shows the University’s serious commitment to providing their students the best possible education, not only today but also for future generations,” said Steinway Piano Gallery President David Slan. “We are pleased to welcome Lindenwood University to the Steinway family.”