

**The Virginia Thomas Memorial Windows** - University alumna, Mrs. Mary Thomas Marshall, generously gave funds which made it possible to embellish the Library's central dome with nine stained-glass windows. These are in loving memory of her sister, Virginia Thomas, also an alumna of the University.

The stained-glass windows include representations of Classical goddesses and muses and of flowers. The motifs were selected because of their appropriateness to the Classical style of the building.



Rose Medallion - The central medallion, at the apex of the dome, contains a red rose. This emblem of the Texas Woman's University has long carried much happy and positive symbolism in literature, the arts, and religion; and its representation in both bud and full-blown flower reflect the role of her college years in a young woman's life. Its color, the American Beauty red, is combined with white-the University's emblematic color. In 1986, the Congress of the United States adopted the rose as the official flower of our Nation.

**Goddess Medallions** - Four additional medallions in the dome represent Greek goddesses



**Athena** (goddess of learning and wisdom)



**Hygieia** (goddess of health and healing)



**Nike** (winged goddess of victory)



**Demeter** (goddess of the harvest)

**The Windows of the Muses** - The semicircular windows below the dome provide representations of the nine Muses.



Figures in the first window: **Urania**, muse of astronomy, and **Clio**, muse of history.



Figures in the second window: **Terpsichore**, muse of dance, and **Euterpe**, muse of music.



Figures in the third window: **Erato**, muse of lyric poetry; **Polyhymnia**, muse of sacred poetry; and **Calliope**, muse of epic poetry, holding a book, which is one of her symbols.



Figures in the fourth window: **Thalia** (comedy) and **Melpomene** (tragedy), muses of the drama.

#### **About the Artist:**

The artist and creator of the Library's stained-glass windows was John Kebrle, Jr. Born in Dallas in 1927, he is son and grandson of stained-glass artists. He learned his art and his craft through studies at Dallas Art Institute; Famous Artists School of Westport, Connecticut; and Southern Methodist University and through apprenticeships to George Brozius and John Kerbrle, Sr.