IN MEMORIAM

CHARLOTTE DUBOIS

Charlotte Estelle DuBois was born in Liberty, Indiana, in 1903 and spent her early years there. She earned a Bachelor's degree from Western College for Women in Oxford, Ohio, and the Academic Diploma in piano from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Subsequently she served as a professional accompanist and piano teacher in Chicago and Kansas City before becoming a music supervisor in Indiana. After receiving a Master's degree from Teachers' College at Columbia University, she moved to Louisiana, where for four years she held the position of supervisor for the Shreveport and Caddo Parish schools.

In 1940 Miss DuBois came to The University of Texas at Austin to join the Music Department, which had been founded only two years earlier by Dean E. W. Doty and which then had a faculty of only seven. In addition to teaching Music Education courses and supervising student teaching, she conducted the Girls' Glee Club, often accompanied faculty performers, and was faculty sponsor for Mortar Board, Pi Kappa Lambda, and Sigma Alpha Iota.

The first woman to attain a full professorship in the Music Department, she was nationally known in the field of Music Education and chaired numerous important committees in professional organizations such as the Music Educators National Conference and the Texas Music Educators Association. Articles by her appeared in Music Educators Journal, The School Musician, Southwestern Musician, and other publications. She was the author of two books, The Keyboard Way to Music and Songs to Play, and coauthor of This Is Music for Today, a widely used elementary-level text. Some idea of the breadth of her approach to educating children can be gained from a statement she made in the course of her teaching: "Probably the most precious possession of any human being is his creative
imagination — that particular thing that not only makes him what he is but makes him differ from the rest of us. It is the development of this attribute, the firing of this spark, that should be the primary concern of every teacher, regardless of subject matter."

In addition to giving lectures and workshops at numerous colleges and universities, Miss DuBois taught for short periods at the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of Michigan, and the University of British Columbia.

She was the recipient of several awards: The Ring of Excellence from Sigma Alpha Iota, a Teaching Excellence Award from the Students' Association, and a Citation of Service "in recognition of excellence and devotion to the music education profession" from the Texas Music Educators' Association. The latter award, one that is given only rarely, was presented at the time of her retirement in the fall of 1971, at an appreciation dinner attended by over a hundred friends and former students.

As that tribute suggests, Miss DuBois possessed qualities that endeared her to a host of friends in and out of the University — a warm and gracious manner, intelligence, strength of character, and a lively sense of humor, among others. A gregarious person, she enjoyed entertaining her friends and did it with characteristic style and finesse. Her strong religious faith was evidenced by her active membership in All Saints Episcopal Church.

Upon retirement, she was appointed Professor Emeritus. She had taught for over thirty-five years, most of those in Austin. After retirement, her health began to fail markedly, and she was subjected to a long period of invalidism before her death on January 1, 1982.

The Charlotte DuBois her friends will remember is the vibrant, charming person who contributed so much to the quality of the University’s Music Department and who enriched the lives of those who had the privilege of knowing her.
She was preceded in death by her parents and by her brother, Dr. Franklin S. DuBois, an eminent psychiatrist, of New Canaan, Connecticut. Survivors are two nephews and several great-nieces and great-nephews.

William H. Cunningham, President
The University of Texas at Austin

H. Paul Kelley, Secretary
The General Faculty

This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a Special Committee consisting of Professors Kent Kennan (Chairman), Janet McGaughey, and Nelson Patrick.