



News

Lambert-St. Louis International Airport®

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Aviation mural finds new home at Saint Louis University

(St. Louis) An aviation mural memorializing the history of flight has been transferred from Lambert-St. Louis International Airport to Saint Louis University.

The Reinhardt Mural Foundation donated the 142-ft long mural, “Flight...An American Triumph,” to Saint Louis University after it had been on display in Lambert’s Terminal 1 baggage carousel area for 27 years.

“There are upcoming airport improvements near the mural’s location which raised concerns that they could cause harm to the mural,” said Lambert Director, Rhonda Hamm-Niebruegge. “The airport never owned the mural. However, as longtime caretakers, we felt it was very important to keep this treasured art piece in the community and we helped the Reinhardt Mural Foundation board members connect with Saint Louis University to make that happen.”

The University accepted the offer to preserve the mural because of the role the University has played in aviation history. SLU's Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology was the first federally certified flight school in the country and remains a leader in educating new generations of pilots. The mural will be installed on SLU’s campus in the near future.

The late St. Louis artist Siegfried Reinhardt was commissioned to paint the mural in 1980. It was unveiled on Dec. 12, 1982. Lambert will donate archival documents and hundreds of photographs related to the mural’s creation to Saint Louis University.

Lambert remains committed to showcasing art. This fall, the Airport begins \$50 million worth of improvements which is part of the Airport Experience Program. Lambert plans to create new locations for works of art during its renovation of Terminal 1 and two concourses.

Lambert is the 30th busiest airport in the U.S. as ranked by Airports Council International-North America. Lambert served more than 12.5 million passengers in 2009. Lambert-St. Louis International Airport is an Enterprise Fund Department of the City of St. Louis. It is wholly supported by airport user charges. No general fund revenues are used for the operation, administration, promotion or maintenance of airport facilities. For more information on flights and services at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport, log onto www.flystl.com.

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