Clustered around a spacious plaza with reflecting pool, fountains and the nighttime spectacle of colored lights, the Liberal Arts Complex demonstrates the growth of the Humanities, the Performing and Fine Arts disciplines at Western Michigan University.

Joining the first academic buildings of the Complex is the University Auditorium, giving a cultural aura to an educational center. The initial academic buildings of the Complex are the Laura V. Shaw Theater, the William R. Brown classroom building and the George Sprau office tower.

The aesthetic aspect of the Complex is enhanced by the attractive Dorothy Dalton Promenade, which provides a pleasant approach to the Auditorium and the educational buildings.

This first portion of the Complex serves to increase the number, size and range of facilities available to English, to the Modern and Classical Languages, to Speech and to the Theater. It makes possible the drawing together of departmental faculty who, for lack of suitable facilities, had been widely scattered. The proximity of faculty offices to classrooms effects a closer relationship between teachers and students, establishing an intellectual bridge over what, in some instances, had been a communication gap. It is a type of progress much to be desired.

These new buildings represent another step in a master plan which envisions the eventual grouping of all facilities within the Humanities, Performing and Fine Arts disciplines around the plaza or in the area immediately adjacent to it.

The Plaza