Lied Center for the Arts 
Becoming a Reality 

By Jill Koch 
REPORTER 

What has been called "a dream of Creighton's for 30 years" is finally on the way to becoming a reality.

Excavation for the $10 million Lied Educational Center for the Arts is set to begin by April 18, according to Thomas Riggs, facilities project manager. Soil preparation on the site at California Street east of 24th Street has already begun.

The 70,000 square foot building is expected to be finished by the fall of 1995, Riggs said. Construction has been fully funded by grants from the Lied Foundation and the Kiewit Foundation, each in the amount of $5 million.

The brick and stone building was designed by the architectural firms of Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates of New York and Schemmer Associates of Omaha. The Kiewit Construction Company is providing the labor.

According to Jerry Horning, chairman of Creighton's Fine and Performing Arts, the three-level facility will house a 350-seat theater, art gallery, classrooms and studios for visual arts, music, and dance.

"Creighton's Lied Center can't help but become a real treasure for downtown Omaha," said Riggs.

Creighton's current theater arts facility, the Interim Performing Arts Center on 30th and Burt Streets, is scheduled for demolition, according to Riggs. After renovation, Creighton's Fine Arts building will house classrooms for studies in the humanities.