## Story: The James Bushnell Emigrant Wagon, Bushnell University

## The Bushnell **Pioneering Spirit** James A. Bushnell, the namesake of Bushnell University and the founding President of the Board of Regents, traveled across the United States in 1852, established a home in the Oregon Territory, and helped institute Eugene Divinity School (now Bushnell University) in 1895. In honor of his journey, this partial replica of an 1850's Oregon Trail emigrant wagon recreates the modified farm wagon that transported Mr. Bushnell and his supplies across the country. This display was crafted and gifted to the University by generous alumni James A. Bushnell (circa 1893) Jim '64 and Donna (Racine) '63 Pomajevich.



This wagon recreation was built to honor one of the founders of Eugene Bible University; known through the years as Northwest Christian College, Northwest Christian University, and now Bushnell University. Meant to replicate the 1852 wagon in which James A. Bushnell traveled the Oregon Trail to the Willamette Valley many familiar hands were involved in the construction. The undercarriage was built by the Hansen Wheel and Wagon team, and the box by Bill Twigg of Moscow Carriage with help from Jim Pomajevich, Jason Pomajevich, Gene DeYoung, and Jeff Meslin. Marvin Alfred sewed the canvas top. Jeff McManus did much of the ironwork on the box. The mural was painted by Dan Chen and members of the Pacific Rim Art Guild.