Frank Hayden was born on June 10, 1934 and raised by his mother amid the poverty of a Memphis, Tennessee housing project. He overcame a speech impediment to pursue secondary education at St. Augustine High School in Memphis.

He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Arts from Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1957 with a minor in German, and won ten scholarships to different graduate schools. He later earned a Master of Arts degree from Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana in 1959 where he studied under the maed sculptor Ivan Mestrovic.

In 1959, he received a Fulbright Scholarship-and later, additional fellowships for art study with renowned twentieth-century European instructors and masters.

Hayden returned to Louisiana from Europe with his wife and four children, and, from September 1961 until his death in 1988, Hayden taught drawing, sculpture, aesthetics, and Art Appreciation at Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In 1985 Hayden became Southern University’s first Distinguished Professor. In 1987, he received an Honorary Doctorate from Madonna College in Livonia, Michigan.

Designed to teach and inspire, Hayden’s works reflect strong religious and philosophical beliefs and involve viewers in aesthetically soothing, fluid simplistic interpretations of history and humanity. Hayden’s major public works are displayed throughout Baton Rouge in churches, on the campuses of Southern University and Louisiana State University, and at the Galvez and Riverfront downtown plazas.

Hayden presented one of his most prestigious commissions–a small bronze statue, entitled “St. Martin de Porres,” to Pope John Paul II on behalf of the United States’ African-American Roman Catholics to commemorate the pontiff’s 1987 visit to New Orleans, Louisiana and the 25th Anniversary of the Canonization of St. Martin de Porres. One of Hayden’s last works is a white alabaster sculpture, “The Prodigal Son.”
PUBLIC SCULPTURES & LOCATIONS

St. Patrick’s Catholic Church
12424 Brogdon Lane
Baton Rouge, LA. 70816

“Descent from the Cross,” (1977) Processional Cross

Tau Center Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
5000 Hennessy Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

St. Francis Relief Sculpture, (1979)

Southern University and Agriculture and Mechanical College
Post Office Box 9571
Baton Rouge, LA. 70813-0001

“Pelican, State Bird,” (1976)
“Lift Every Voice,” (1979)

St. Joseph Abbey
75376 River Road
Covington, LA. 70435

“Mary and Christ Child,” (1960)
“Joseph with Christ Child,” (1960)

Martin Luther King Catholic Student Center
586 Harding Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA. 70807

Untitled, (date unknown)
Untitled,
Madonna and Child, (1972)
Untitled, (1970)
St. Joseph Chapel Martin Luther King Catholic Student Center  
586 Harding Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA. 70807

“Alleluia,” (1970)  
“When/Now,” (date unknown)  
“The Word was Made Flesh,” (date unknown.)  
“No Greater Love,” (date unknown)

Louisiana Arts and Science Center Courtyard  
100 South River Road  
Post Office Box 3373  
Baton Rouge, LA. 70821

“We,” (1978)  
“Manna,” (1979)

Hancock Bank Lobby  
301 Main Street  
Baton Rouge, LA. 70801

“The Stages of Man,” (1975)

Catholic Life Center  
Acadian Throughway  
Baton Rouge, LA

“The Holy Family,” (date unknown)  
“Bishop’s Crosier,” (date unknown)

St. Isidore Catholic Church Front of Parish Hall  
5657 Thomas Road  
Baton Rouge, LA. 70811

“St. Isidore,” (1979)

City of Baton Rouge Division of Public Works  
444 St. Louis  
Baton Rouge, LA. 70802

“Oliver Pollock Monument,” (1979)  
“Oliver Pollock Fountain,” (1979)  
The sculptures stand in the Galvez Plaza adjacent to the Louisiana Old State Capital building.  
[Contact the City of Baton Rouge, Division of Public Works].
Downtown Baton Rouge, LA.
River Road, near the Louisiana Arts and Science Center
Baton Rouge, LA.

“George Slade Sr. Spire”

St. Louis King of France Church
Baton Rouge, LA.

St. Louis King of France (1972)
“The Risen Christ,” (1972)
Stations of the Cross, (1972)

Theatre for Performing Arts River Center
[formerly The Centroplex]
Baton Rouge, LA.

“Mayor Dumas,” (1980)

Louisiana State Library Corner of Spanish Town Road and North 4th Street.
701 North 4th Street,
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Memorial Sculpture, (1984)

St. Paul’s Church
Baton Rouge, LA.

Relief, (1962)

Immaculate Conception Church
1565 Curtis Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70807-4906

“The Nativity,” (1963)

St. Mahildo’s Church
Eunice, LA.

Baptismal Font, Stations of the Cross, and Crucifix 1963-64

Dr. Frank Hayden died on January 30, 1988.

The “Frank Hayden Hall Building” on Southern’s campus is named in his honor.