Garth Brooks is a proud Cowboy, receiving his undergraduate and MBA degrees from Oklahoma State. Certified by the RIAA in 2000 as the #1-selling solo artist in U.S. history, he has sold in excess of 128 million albums and has received every accolade the recording industry can bestow on an artist.

Garth has headlined for Presidential Inaugural Celebrations and performed benefit concerts to multi-night sell-out audiences in efforts to prevent fire catastrophes and raise money for flood relief. In January, 2012 he was named the best-selling artist of the last two decades by Billboard, Nielson and Soundscan, with a whopping 68.5 million sales. Garth Brooks has been inducted into the Songwriters' Hall of Fame and was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2012.

Photo of Garth Brooks with the hat: http://www.flickr.com/photos/11424364@N03/2045343812/
Modeling and construction process

With the assistance of a near-by Oklahoma based 3D scanning company; the hat was scanned into a digital 3D model and scaled to fit the intended space.

The model was then divided into slices for the purpose of making templates.

The templates were then cut out of sheet steel and welded together to create the needed framework.
This is the topiary frame after it had been sandblasted by a local sandblasting business and coated with a truck bed liner at another local business to prevent rusting.

These are comparison images of Garth Brooks’ Justin hat and the OSU topiary created by the OSU Physical Plant Grounds & Landscape Department.

Very much like the big cowboy boot that is displayed near Theta Pond during the warmer temperatures; this topiary must also be stored inside during the cold weather months to protect the plant materials from suffering frost and freeze damage.

The hat is covered in Ficus repens ‘Quercifolia’, a low growing groundcover that will soon cover the entire hat surface.