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August 2023

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Educational Interiors Showcase

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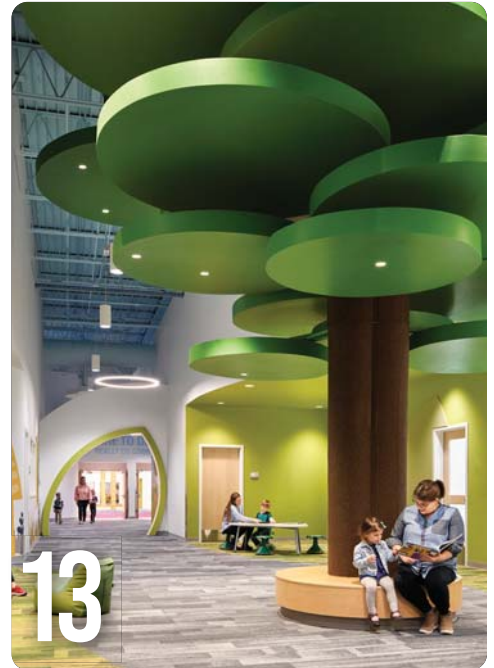
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EDUCATIONAL INTERIORS SHOWCASE

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Michael Robinson, photographer

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Interior Innovations

By Mike Kennedy

One of my main responsibilities as senior editor of AS&U is to oversee school design competitions, like the Educational Interiors Showcase that appears in this issue. Inevitably, as I look through the stacks of photos and descriptions of the facilities and interior spaces that are being designed and built in 2023, my imagination takes me to the classrooms and corridors of my youth and how much different that school experience would have been if those facilities had been infused with the tenets of modern education design.

People of a certain age may be inclined toward nostalgia and a default belief that things were better in the old days. But that is clearly not the case with school facilities—especially after one has the opportunity to review the hundreds of designs that have been entered in this year's Educational Interiors Showcase and AS&U architectural competitions from previous years (check them out at SchoolDesigns.com).

The so-called factory model of school design with its rigid rows of desks and an emphasis on conformity has gradually given way to innovative concepts that are now a regular part of 21st-century education design—flexibility, sustainability, wellness, collaboration, technology, student-centered layouts. Designers working with schools and universities strive to refine and expand on those innovations as they continue to pursue strategies to improve learning environ-

ments for students.

Many examples of the innovative school facilities that schools and universities are designing can be seen in the 2023 Educational Interiors Showcase. A jury of architects, interior designers and education administrators reviewed this year's submissions and decided that seven project entries were worthy of Citations.

The Crow Island School Citation, the top award for K-12 projects, went to the DLR Group's design of the North Kansas City district's Early Education Center in Gladstone, Mo.

The Collegiate Citation—the top honor for higher education projects, was awarded to Little Diversified Architectural Consulting's design of the common area at Northeastern University-Charlotte's School of Nursing and Health Sciences in Charlotte, N.C.

In the hundred or so pages that follow, you can view these and other designs for new or renovated educational facilities. From coast to coast, from pre-K to postsecondary, these projects create spaces that give students greater opportunities for success, and may give administrators and architects ideas and insights for incorporating the latest cutting-edge strategies into their future projects. ■

Mike Kennedy, Senior Editor, has written for AS&U since 1999.

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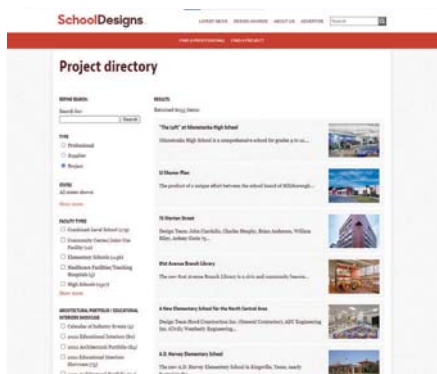
American School & University is the publication for thought leaders shaping school and university facilities. The November 2023 Architectural Portfolio issue is the guidebook for those planning interior learning environments. Q&A pages are a unique, cost-effective way to show your expertise in this special magazine devoted to the best in educational interiors and facility planning.

Contact Heather Buzzard at hbuzzard@asumag.com or visit SchoolDesigns.com for information.

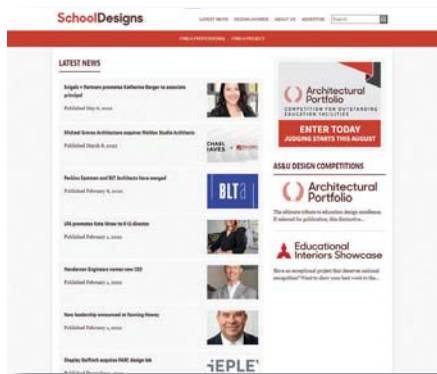
Your Web Source for Education Design



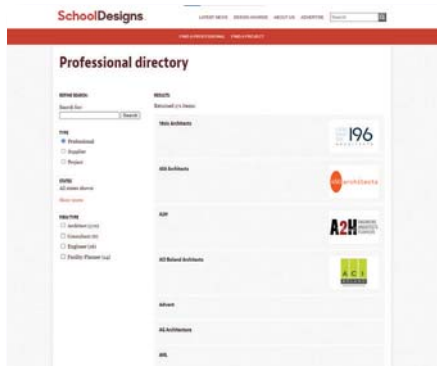
Design competition information and Citation recipients from previous years.



Searchable database of almost 6,000 educational facility projects with photos, descriptions and data.



Find the latest news about architects and design firms.



Find an architect, including links to that architect's projects on the site.

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WELCOMING WISDOM

OVER the course of two weeks in June, the five educational professionals serving as jurors in AS&U's 2023 Educational Interiors Showcase reviewed dozens of design plans and examined hundreds of photos as they evaluated which of the K-12 and higher education projects entered in the competition commanded their attention for exceptional designs. Then the five—a mix of architects, interior designers and school and university administrators—sembled via videoconference into a virtual jury room for an afternoon to discuss the merits of the projects they had identified as standouts. After a few hours of debate, the five reached a consensus on the facility designs they felt were impressive enough to be awarded Citations.

As they embarked on their deliberations, the jurors identified some of the criteria they would be looking for as they evaluated designs and compared projects with one another. Those included:

- Projects that incorporate sustainability
- Designs that are adaptable to changing needs
- Designs and facilities that promote health and wellness
- Spaces that that are accessible and inclusive
- An awareness of how facilities may affect the mental health of students and staff
- Originality of spaces
- Spaces that excite the imagination of students
- Effective use of materials and finishesInterior materials appropriately responsive to age group and school identity



Todd Buerger



Ken Hagen



Wendy Hynes



Jake Slobodnik



Amanda Vigneau

WHAT THE JURY SAID:

“Way to turn a vacant big-box store into an immersive environment for kids. A great adaptive reuse project; all early childhood education centers should strive toward this level of imagination.” p. 12-13

“Beautiful space celebrating the energy and optimism of its students. Dynamic floor plan with a lovely balance of materials, textures and colors on the interior.” p. 14-15

“Very respectful to the original architecture. Good natural lighting and historical preservation; great ceilings and open space.”

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“A space to get kids excited to learn trades. Bright colors and architectural accents mimic machinery and equipment to form a seamless experience for end users.” p. 18-19

Todd Buerger

**ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS/
CHIEF FACILITIES OFFICER
BUTLER UNIVERSITY • INDIANAPOLIS, IND.**

Todd has been with Butler University since 2015. He served as Senior Project Manager before transitioning to Associate Vice President of Operations and Chief Facilities Officer in 2023. During that time, he has overseen the largest capital expansion in the university's history. Prior to Butler, Todd had an architectural consulting business since 2011 after 21 years as Principal and Owner at BSA LifeStructures in Indianapolis. Todd holds a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Bachelor of Environmental Design from Miami University. He is a licensed architect in the state of Indiana and is a member of the American Institute of Architects. He has served on several advisory boards within the design and construction industry as well as publishing and speaking engagements.

Ken Hagen

**SENIOR PROJECT ARCHITECT
OPN ARCHITECTS • DES MOINES, IOWA**

As a senior project architect at OPN Architects, a Midwest design firm with five studios, Ken has spent most of his 20 years of practice designing student-centric spaces. His recent experience includes multiple new high schools, master planning and implementation for several districts, a new performing arts center for a school district, and a re-imagined visitor experience at a performance venue for a university. He also led the transformation of a university's center for advanced engineering. In planning and designing spaces for both students and educators – from pre-K to postgraduate – Ken has an approach that is rooted in integrating pedagogy, design, and function. He finds inspiration in the intersection of materials and experiences. Color, texture, and lighting create mood and are a muse for both the designer and user.

Wendy Hynes

**DIRECTOR OF INTERIOR DESIGN
TAPPÉ ARCHITECTS • BOSTON, MASS.**

Wendy is a professional interior designer and educator with 25-plus years in practice, teaching and research in the design of learning environments, makerspaces and spaces for creative collaboration. As Director of Interior Design for Tappé Architects, she has overseen the design of numerous new libraries and award-win-

ning K-12 school buildings. Additionally, as a professor at Purdue University, she conducted a program of research in the design of makerspaces and active learning classrooms with a focus on the correlation between design and student engagement. Her findings have been shared at international conferences, national lectures and published in industry and academic journals. She combines this research with industry knowledge and the owner's desires to bring the highest level of design to the project team.

Jake Slobodnik

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
BLUE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT • OVERLAND
PARK, KAN.**

As the Executive Director of Operations for Blue Valley School District, Jake has the honor of working alongside an amazing team dedicated to improving the lives and educational opportunities for nearly 23,000 students. Through strategic, long-term planning and careful implementation, Jake's team oversees all operational aspects of food and nutrition services, business operations, transportation, goods and services procurement and distribution, printing services, facility maintenance, grounds, custodial, and all capital improvement projects.

At Blue Valley, he has overseen over 170 capital improvement projects totaling more than \$400 million, including Blue Valley's two newest elementary schools, Aspen Grove and Wolf Springs. From initial conception, budgeting and planning to implementation, Jake's primary focus is to provide opportunities for all students to learn in a way that best suits their needs, providing staff with the resources they need for success, and offering patrons of Blue Valley facilities they can be proud of.

Jake obtained his Bachelor and Master of Architecture degrees from the University of Nebraska and is a LEED Accredited Professional.

Amanda Vigneau

**DIRECTOR
SHEPLEY BULFINCH • BOSTON, MASS.**

As an experienced Interior Designer, Amanda has worked in multiple sectors, with a focus on educational, student life, and workplace environments. She enjoys the intersection between exterior and interior, the integration of old and new, and exploring how technology incorporates into our clients' daily lives. She works with clients to push beyond perceived standards and envision a space they would have not imagined possible.



CROW ISLAND SCHOOL Citation

DLR Group

**NORTH KANSAS CITY SCHOOLS
EARLY EDUCATION**

Gladstone, Missouri..... pp. 12-13

“Way to turn a vacant big-box store into an immersive environment for kids. A great adaptive reuse project; all early childhood education centers should strive toward this level of imagination.”

—2023 JURY



COLLEGIATE Citation

Little Diversified Architectural Consulting

**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY-CHARLOTTE,
SCHOOL OF NURSING & HEALTH
SCIENCES**

Charlotte, North Carolina pp. 14-15

“The balance of warmth and cool building materials are done quite nicely. The special details here are quite intentional and well done.”

—2023 JURY



SPECIAL Citation

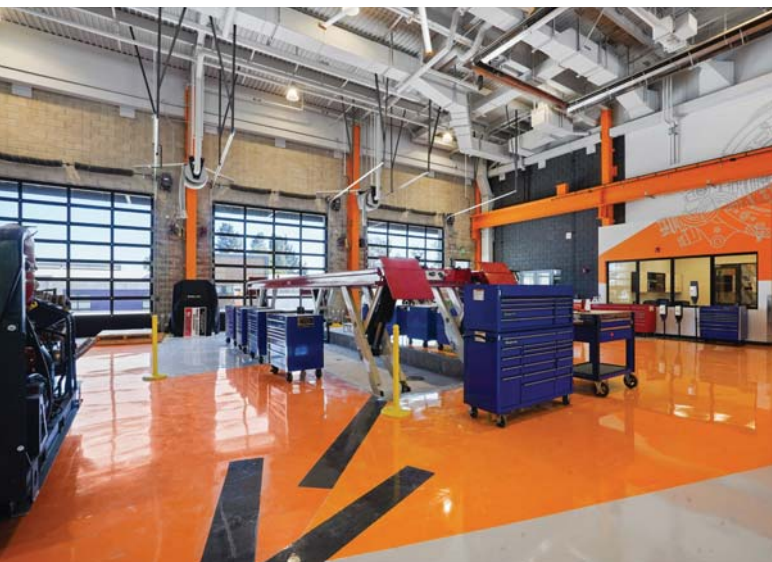
EwingCole

BURK-BERGMAN BOAT HOUSE

Philadelphia, Pennsylvaniap. 16

“Very respectful to the original architecture. Good natural lighting and historical preservation; great ceilings and open space.”

—2023 JURY



SPECIAL Citation

San Bernardino City Unified School District

PACIFIC HIGH SCHOOL CTE, TRANSPORTATION AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTER

San Bernardino, Californiapp. 18-19

“A space to get kids excited to learn trades. Bright colors and architectural accents mimic machinery and equipment to form a seamless experience for end users.”

—2023 JURY

NORTH KANSAS CITY SCHOOLS EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

Gladstone, Missouri



DLR Group

Client
North Kansas City Schools

Total area
112,000 sq. ft.

Total cost
\$19,500,000

Total cost/ square foot
\$175

Completion
August 2021

Photographer
©MICHAEL-ROBINSON, courtesy of DLR Group



The North Kansas City Schools Early Education Center is home to nearly 1,000 early childhood learners. It has been described by administrators as a wonderland of learning and the happi-

“Way to turn a vacant big-box store into an immersive environment for kids. A great adaptive reuse project; all early childhood education centers should strive toward this level of imagination.”

—2023 JURY





est place on earth. The design team was challenged to turn vacated strip mall retail space—a cavernous, dilapidated big-box store—into a colorful, welcoming, and child-friendly environment.

To break down the scale of the building and strengthen a sense of community, the design creates smaller, more intimate neighborhoods, or “pods,” each with a biophilic theme. Because of the young age of the learners (3 to 5), most of whom cannot yet read, each pod also has a corresponding color to assist with wayfinding. Each neigh-

“Our kids talk about their butterfly school. They talk about their neighborhoods and how their neighborhood is the best. Our kids very much have a sense of belonging. I believe the design for this facility has absolutely attributed to that sense of belonging.”

—KATIE LAWSON, ED.D., NKC SCHOOLS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS

borhood provides easy access to distributed resources for educators and students, to reduce transition time and recapture that time for learning. 🌱



NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY-CHARLOTTE, SCHOOL OF NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES

Charlotte, North Carolina



The architect designed a nursing and health sciences classroom facility at Northeastern University's Charlotte campus. The upfit of a high-rise tower serves 400 students with training space for nursing, speech pathology and health sciences programs. The design embodies the university's goals by providing an immersive, experiential environment that is globally recognizable. The design maximizes flexibility and growth, and emphasizes sustainability and wellness.

The space is organic and expressive, featuring fresh, unexpected color combinations that convey the energy and optimism of Northeastern and its students. The "long lounge" welcomes collaboration and events and is subdividable to accommodate small or large groups. It connects to a shared break area and indoor/outdoor public spaces, with biophilic design incorporated throughout. All public areas are flooded with natural light and offer stunning outdoor views. The facility is a vibrant and welcoming

Little Diversified Architectural Consulting

Associated firms: AME Consulting Engineers, Thorburn Associates, Palacio Collaborative

Client
Northeastern University

Area of project entry
12,422 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry
\$4,000,000

Cost/square foot of project entry
\$322

Total area
40,000 sq. ft.

Total cost
\$10,000,000

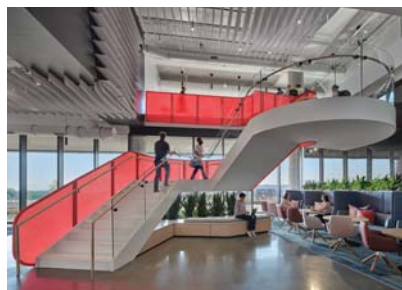
Total cost/square foot
\$250

Completion
January 2023

Photographer
Halkin Mason Photography

"Beautiful space celebrating the energy and optimism of its students. Dynamic floor plan with a lovely balance of materials, textures and colors on the interior."

—2023 JURY





space that captures the essence of North-eastern University and the surrounding community. It provides a modern and flexible environment for students and faculty to learn and collaborate, with a focus on sustainability and wellness. 🌱



BURK-BERGMAN BOAT HOUSE

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Boathouse Row, situated along a scenic stretch of the Schuylkill River, is one of Philadelphia's most cherished landmarks. It includes the Burk-Bergman

Boathouse, home to the University of Pennsylvania's three varsity rowing programs. Constructed in 1875, this is one of the oldest boathouses in the country. However, the facility has not been able to keep pace with the program's demands and needed a comprehensive renovation to help Penn rowing meet its full potential.

The design reconstructs and overbuilds an addition to the boathouse pavilion and addresses many operational deficits while revitalizing this iconic landmark. The design respects the historic exterior of the structure while completely renovating and modernizing the interior. Reconfigured program spaces include a soaring entrance lobby and grand hall featuring trophies and memorabilia, a lounge and meeting area with integrated audiovisual capabilities, a historic vaulted ceiling, and a restored balcony overlooking the river.

Expanded to accommodate larger workouts and host special events, the new ERG room is enhanced by a panoramic view of the river, skylights providing ambient daylight, and an exposed structural system that is a modern interpretation of the building's historic king post trusses. Improved boat storage and maintenance and modernized locker rooms, coaches' rooms, and additional support space create a true home for Penn Rowing. Equal space for men and women athletes and a new elevator provid-

ing ADA access to the second floor make the building a reflection of Penn's values and mission of inclusion and opportunity. 🏆

"Very respectful to the original architecture. Good natural lighting and historical preservation; great ceilings and open space."

—2023 JURY



EwingCole

Client

University of Pennsylvania

Area of project entry

16,100 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$10,700,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$665

Completion

October 2022

Photographer

Halkin/Mason Photography



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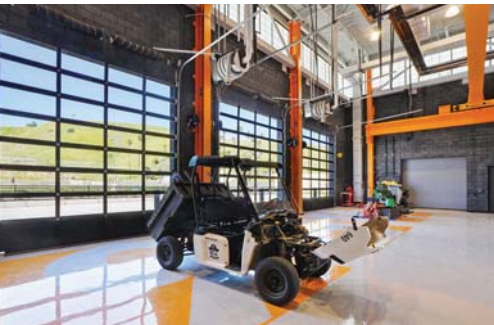
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PACIFIC HIGH SCHOOL CTE, TRANSPORTATION AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTER

San Bernardino, California



The Transportation and Advanced Technology Center is the first of its kind at any high school in the state. As part of San Bernardino City Unified School District's commitment to sustainable transportation solutions, the goal in creating the center is to prepare students for a career in the commercial transportation industry.

At the center, students receive hands-on training with leading-edge technology used in the repair and maintenance of

various commercial vehicles, such as diesel, natural gas and electric trucks. The facility is equipped with state-of-the-art machinery and tools, ensuring students have access to the best resources. Key equipment

San Bernardino City Unified School District

Associated firms: Oakview Constructors, Ruhnau Clarke Architects

Client

San Bernardino City Unified School District

Total area

21,859 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$12,500,000

Total cost/square foot

\$572

Completion

July 2022

Photographer

Revepix





includes a Level III electric vehicle charger, a 7.5-ton overhead crane, an electronic

training S.E.T., and a computer alignment system. Students also work with cutaways

of turbochargers, alternators, starting systems, engines, and transmission trainers, as well as a diesel engine trainer.

“We firmly believe that by investing in our students and offering them the opportunity to develop marketable skills through the Transportation and Advanced Technology Center, we are preparing them for a prosperous future in a high-demand field,” said Tom Pace, director of facilities and planning for San Bernardino City Unified School District. “Our students will now be certified and can land career jobs directly out of high school, without needing additional schooling at a junior college.”

This groundbreaking initiative demonstrates commitment to providing students with the best possible education and resources to set them up for success in their chosen career path. 🏠



“A space to get kids excited to learn trades. Bright colors and architectural accents mimic machinery and equipment to form a seamless experience for end users.”

—2023 JURY

Q&A with Heather Bender

Director of Commercial Product Marketing, Clopay Corporation



Heather Bender

What challenges in education facility design are architects bringing to Clopay?

Two concerns are brought to us more than any others when it comes to designing education facilities. The first is extreme weather preparedness. International Building Code, Federal Emergency Management Agency standards, and local codes like the Miami-Dade wind load requirements specify that education facilities in certain areas of the country have safe rooms or storm shelters



CrossingGard® Grille with ThreatProtect™ allows schools to limit mobility during a lockdown event without interfering with safe egress when necessary.



StormDefender® rolling storm shutters turn bright, open spaces into code compliant safe rooms with their ability to withstand 250 mph winds.

to protect occupants from high winds associated with tornadoes and hurricanes. The second is student safety and security. According to the CDC, 70 percent of US schools run active-shooter drills with their students. It only makes sense that new facility construction and renovations would look to use design as another tool to avoid tragedy.

What products are architects specifying for schools facing severe weather threats?

Our StormDefender® ICC- and FEMA-compliant rolling storm shutters are the most popular choice for their ability to transform public spaces into severe weather shelters. They can withstand up to 250 mph winds and take the force of a 100 mph impact. And beyond their performance, architects appreciate the aesthetic benefits. StormDefender

doors can be almost invisible in the open position, and they can be customized to cover multiple openings or even banks of windows to maximize natural light. This keeps typical safe room spaces like cafeterias, classroom pods and gymnasiums open and airy instead of dark and claustrophobic.

How is Clopay helping architects meet school security concerns?

Increasing protection without escalating budgets or creating an environment that worsens the psychological toll on students is the real challenge here. Compartmentalization is a growing strategy—shutting down hallways and sections of schools to limit the ability of a threat to move freely through the building. However, compartmentalization can't interfere with egress requirements. We developed the CrossingGard® Grille with ThreatProtect™ specifically for that purpose. The grille operator integrates with existing alarm systems to promptly close during lockdown events. It also opens when the fire alarm is triggered to provide safe egress. Key override gives full access control.

Learn more about our solutions for education facilities here:





CONGRATULATIONS

kga

Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
Early Childhood Language & Learning Center
Eagle Pass, TX

BOCKUS PAYNE

Francis Tuttle Danforth Campus
Edmond, OK

Clopay Corporation celebrates the architects and designers who are creating safer, smarter and more inspiring learning environments.

Thank you for making our products part of your award-winning designs. We are proud to partner with you.



CORNELL **COOKSON**



GOLD Citation

Delawie

KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS

EDUCATION

San Diego, California p. 24

“Cool ceilings, great natural light. The shades of blue and warmth of wood tones balance each other out really well.”

—2023 JURY



SILVER Citation

Kirksey Architecture

HUMBLE ISD KINGWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Kingwood, Texasp. 26-27

“I’d love to have lunch here. Love the use of light and color. The living forest concept in the cafeteria is spectacular.”

—2023 JURY



BRONZE Citation

Perkins Eastman

BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY

Boston, Massachusetts.....p. 28

“The balance of warmth and cool building materials are done quite nicely. The special details here are quite intentional and well done.”

—2023 JURY

*According to a 2021 study.

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KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION

San Diego, California



The project encompasses the new three-story, 89,000-square-foot Knauss Center for Business Education and renovation of the 47,000-square-foot Olin Hall. The Knauss Center for Business Educa-

tion transforms the iconic, award-winning University of San Diego campus, providing the students with 23 new classrooms, a financial markets lab and data analytics lab. The facility has board meeting rooms, the

Nexus Theatre and a 250-seat auditorium. The Student Success Center unifies advising, career development, mentoring and other student services. The exterior of the building is designed to complement the 16th-century Spanish renaissance architecture featured on the campus.

The Knauss School of Business is an unparalleled place for learning and innovation to help prepare students to succeed not just academically, but as ethical leaders who are inspired to make a difference in their communities. 🏡

“Cool ceilings, great natural light. The shades of blue and warmth of wood tones balance each other out really well.”

—2023 JURY



Delawie

Associated firm:
Perkins&Will

Client
University of San Diego

Area of project entry
32,353 sq. ft.

Total area
134,574 sq. ft.

Total cost
\$67,500,000

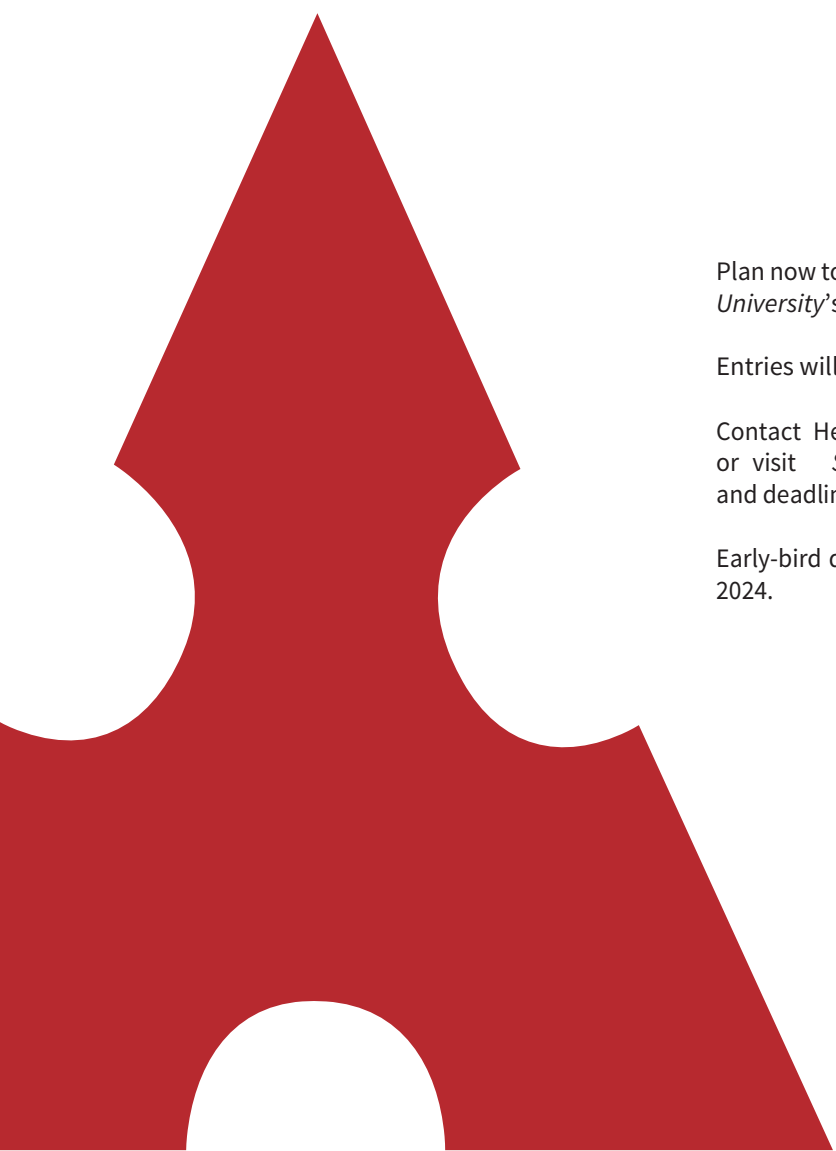
Total cost/square foot
\$502

Completion
June 2022

Photographer
Gaffer Photography;
Pink Media Productions

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HUMBLE ISD KINGWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Kingwood, Texas



Kirksey Architecture

Client

Humble ISD

Total area

205,000 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$48,215,297

Total cost/square foot

\$235

Completion

January 2023

Photographer

Slyworks
Photography



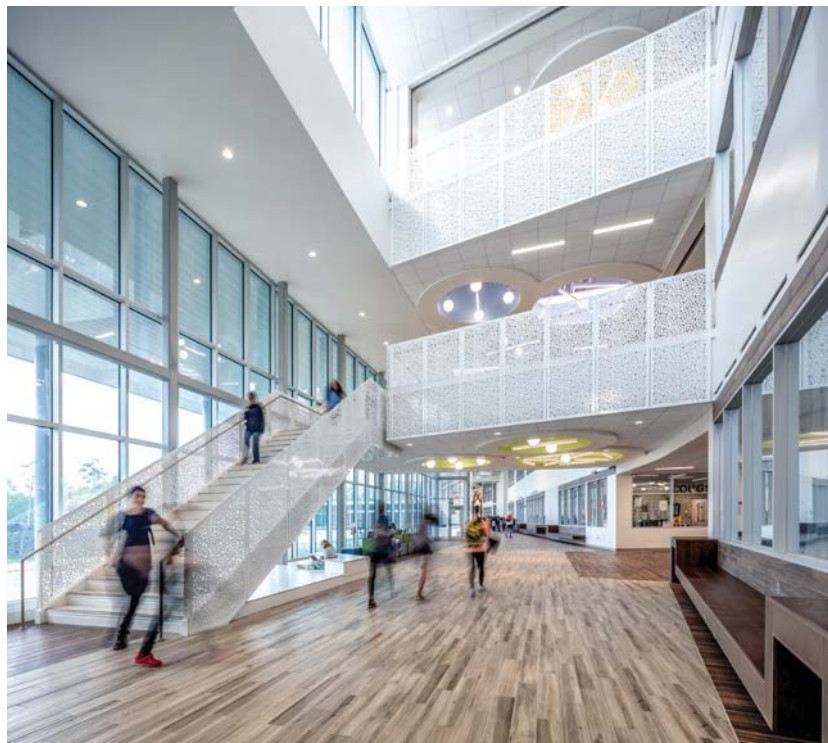
Humble ISD’s Kingwood Middle School resides on over 18 acres and is situated to the north of campus athletic fields. The three-story replacement school building has many double-height

elements—the media center, cafeteria, and the gyms—as well as a connecting corridor that brings all elements together. Flexibility is at the heart of the school; the cafeteria serves as a central gathering place for din-

ing and as a reception lobby for student performances and productions.

Kingwood’s Culinary Arts CTE program is outfitted with high-quality restaurant-level equipment and is viewable by students





"I'd love to have lunch here. Love the use of light and color. The living forest concept in the cafeteria is spectacular."

—2023 JURY

through the prominent use of glass in between spaces. Additionally, the building has administration, classroom spaces, science and CTE lab spaces, a flexible black box/theater used for dance and fine arts, and athletic facilities.

The design incorporates the concept of Kingwood's "Livable Forest," using ample natural light and sustainable materials to combine interior and exterior spaces into a cohesive learning environment. There is space for collaboration, integrated physical activity, and movement, and classrooms are roughly 200 square feet larger than the original school. Car and bus drop-off and pickup are optimized to relieve traffic on the neighboring streets. 🌲

BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY

Boston, Massachusetts



Every floor is a stage, and every wall is a gallery—a central tenet of Boston Arts Academy, the city of Boston’s only public high school dedicated to the visual and performing arts. Situated across from Fenway Park, the new five-story school engages the street edge by bringing visibility of the art, performance, and STEAM programs to the forefront of the urban experience. To achieve the core tenet, art and per-

formance space are integral to interior architecture. The monumental stair doubles as an informal gathering and performance space.

A ramped access point provides accessibility to the lower “stage.” Exposed concrete walls and metal celebrate the tectonics of the building structure, and wood seating and ceiling baffles counterbalance the hard materials with warm tones. Public art commissioned by the city activates the space above

“The balance of warmth and cool building materials are done quite nicely. The special details here are quite intentional and well done.”

—2023 JURY

Perkins Eastman

Associated firm:
SMMA

Client
Boston Public Schools

Area of project entry
10,280 sq. ft.

Total area
153,476 sq. ft.

Total cost
\$137,000,000

Total cost/square foot
\$893

Completion
August 2022

Photographer
Robert Benson
Photography



the stair with dynamic visual displays.

Adjacent to the open dining hall, the area is used extensively during lunch hours. Students are encouraged to perform, whether rehearsing their latest skit or musical ensemble or having fun with karaoke. 🎤



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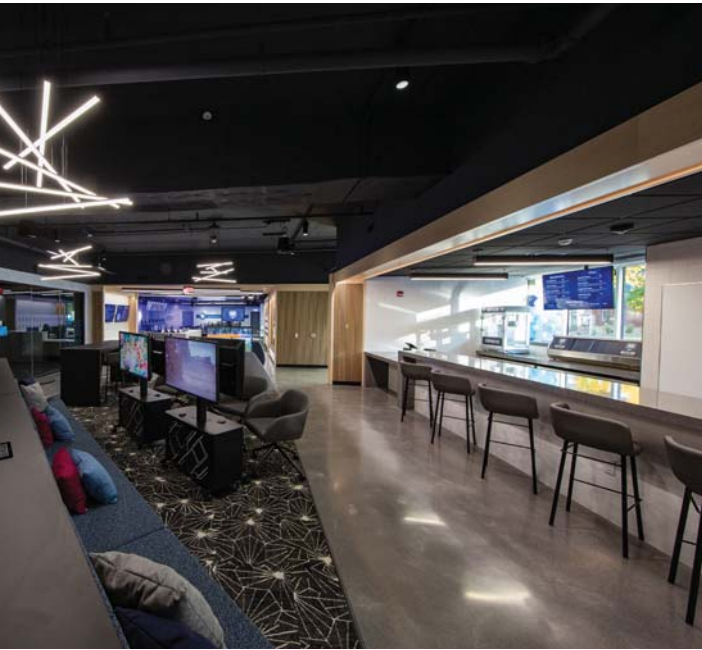
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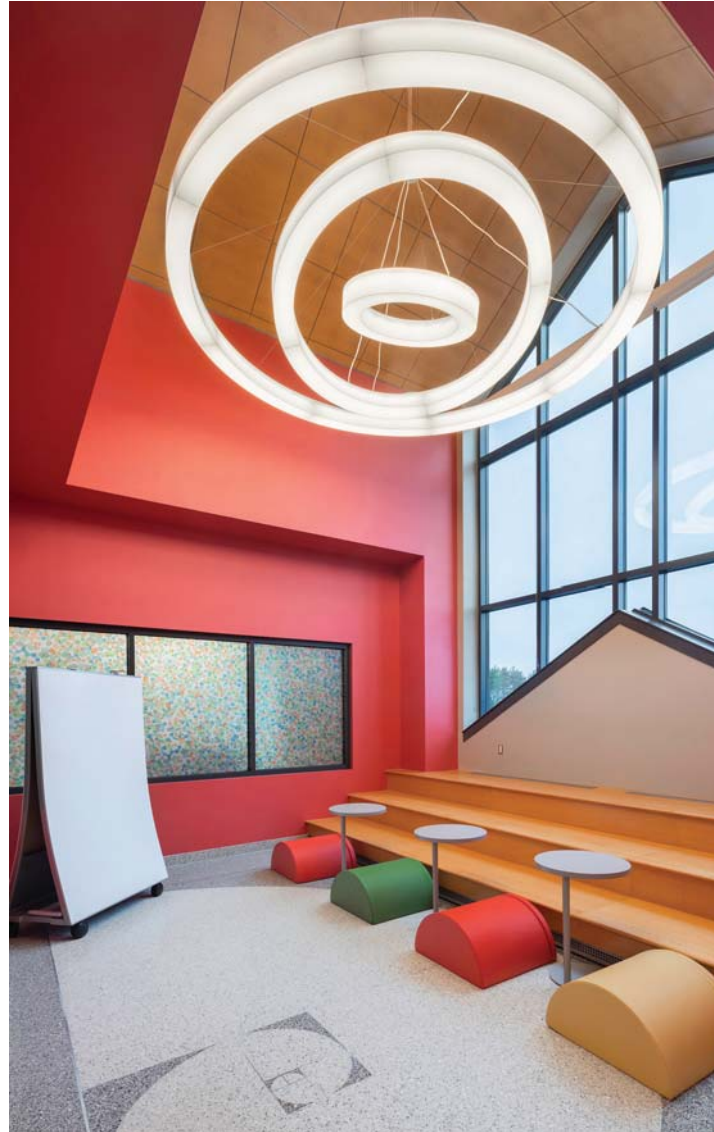
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PAUL D. WACHHOLZ COLLEGE CENTER

Kalispell, Montana



The overall goal of the Wachholz College Center was to meld two programs that are usually separate — performing arts and athletics — into one facility. The project theme: Music in Motion.

The performing arts portion of the center features McClaren Hall, a 1,000-plus-seat performing arts center with state-of-the-art acoustics and the flexibility to accommodate concerts, lectures, dance performances, and musical theater productions. Additional music classrooms and individual practice spaces enable students to further rehearse and collaborate. The facility also houses a reception hall and art gallery, and an outdoor amphitheater rounds out the

performance and gathering spaces.

Leveraging the idea of Music in Motion, the design team ensured all elements of the facility responded to and aligned with this theme — everything from the very visible exterior elements that represent musical. ▲

Cushing Terrell

Associated firms: Swank Enterprises, RPA, Alpine Geotechnical, Schuler Shook, Threshold Acoustics

Client

Flathead Valley Community College

Area of project entry

51,418 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$21,466,877

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$417

Total area

67,170 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$28,043,295

Total cost/square foot

\$417

Completion

June 2022

Photographer

Longviews Studios



PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Festus, Missouri



The new, sophisticated Performing Arts Center (PAC) addresses the needs of various performance opportunities for the community and school teaching environment.

With its distinctive met-

al panel façade, the PAC supports the performing arts program and provides performance and practice spaces for music and theater departments. The auditorium seats 750 and includes a large stage and fly loft.

Seating capacity is mostly spread over the raked main floor with additional seating on raised levels at the rear of the auditorium. The large wood proscenium includes recessed linear cove lighting. Using many design components, the theater includes textured masonry, auditorium seating, glass rail system, an ADA-compliant stage, orchestra pit, and band/choral shells and risers.

A monumental stair with a clustered glass chandelier connects to the existing school and descends to a dramatic faux wood portal. The portal is illuminated with recessed linear lights and directs patrons to the auditorium entry corridor.

Designers used modern and simple elements throughout the interior with a "higher-education ambience" to uplift the educational atmosphere and inspire students. 🏡



Archimages

Client

Festus R-VI School District

Area of project entry

13,264 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$6,419,776

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$484

Total area

28,000 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$13,557,618

Total cost/square foot

\$484

Completion

February 2022

Photographer

Travis Van Buren

SETON HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA RENOVATION

Cincinnati, Ohio



The Seton High School cafeteria renovation project provides the opportunity to capture, create and redefine the school's identity. The space's design evokes a sense of pride in the student, faculty and administration. It will continue the

school's evolution into a premier academic institution and speaks directly to its long and esteemed history in the Cincinnati, Ohio, community. The project is significant to the redevelopment of campus.

Maintaining consistency with the campus redevelopment, the cafeteria renovation enhances the school's future plans, which call for increasing student enrollment. The project fulfills the expectation of higher-quality spaces in materiality and functionality.

Halo Cafe, as it was renamed, is no longer just a "cafeteria" but now enables various activities to take place. Students will be able to use the space to dine, socialize and participate in group study sessions. The various student activities are possible because of a host of seating styles and arrangements.

One of the central features of the design is the creation of a new dining experience. The design takes its cues from postsecondary institutions—wood paneling in the ceiling and its contemporary seating options. This environment will set expectations for students' future academic experiences and will be a departure from the dining experience normally found in high schools.

The space has multiple food stations that provide an assortment of culinary options—from traditional cuisine to locally inspired items. There are three stations, Home Cooking, From the Garden, and Around Cincinnati. The cafeteria kitchen was modernized

to support the food options.

The cafeteria redevelopment also includes renovation of the adjoining courtyard to provide an exterior eating option. The outdoor space also has varied seating options, from bench seating to more traditional picnic-style table and chairs. Two large triangular canvas canopies provide a cover from the elements. 🌳



DNK Architects

Client

Seton High School

Area of project entry

11,088 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$2,166,290

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$195

Total area

74,192 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$7,000,000

Total cost/square foot

\$94

Completion

July 2020

Photographer

JM Wolf

BALLFIELD ROAD CAMPUS

Lincoln, Massachusetts



Lincoln Public School's Ballfield Road Campus serves about 650 K-8 students. Constructed in six phases between 1948 and 1994, the campus is defined by early examples of modernist architecture framing an exterior commons beloved by the wider community. The school district recognized the qualitative



value of the facility. Still, it was committed to providing an improved facility that could support a modern curriculum and meet the town's sustainability aspirations. Together with its local partner SMMA, EwingCole conducted programming workshops with educators and hosted outreach and engagement sessions with the community. The resulting 165,000-square-foot phased renovation and addition preserves many existing classrooms and introduces new 21st-century learning spaces that support project-based learning and student collaboration. The design approach for the new construction references the existing site's modernist vocabulary. Renovated areas employ a super-insulated envelope and judicious use of triple-glazed window units. Overall, the project employs renewable energy strategies, HVAC systems integration, and plug load management to deliver a net-zero-ready facility. 🏡

EwingCole

Associated firm: SMMA

Client

Lincoln Public Schools

Area of project entry

50,400 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

Confidential

Completion

September 2022

Photographer

Raj Das Photography

CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Kirkwood, Missouri



The Christ Community Lutheran School is a unique, three-story, multipurpose center facilitating religious (K-8) youth and adult learning. Key concepts incorporated into the design include security and safety, student and staff traffic flow, future expandability, connection to daylight from all learning spaces, and maximum flexibility. All spaces are designed to foster collaboration, communication and creativity. The facility houses

a childcare center, 15 classrooms, STEAM/robotics lab, computer lab, art room, administrative offices, flexible conference/meeting rooms, and a multipurpose commons/cafeteria to accommodate student educational and social functions.

Wide corridors allow for safe movement and feature fun “confetti” flooring patterns, collaborative breakout areas, vivid school colors, and geometric “fun” seating. Glass walls and doors provide connections be-



tween classrooms and increased supervision, as well as opportunities for combined grade-level group work.

Large windows throughout corridors and all classrooms provide ample daylighting and outdoor views to support student learning, spatial orientation, and mental health. Classroom color schemes involve light walls with a bright colored feature wall to create appropriate levels of stimulation and student focus. 🧑🏫



Archimages

Client

Concordia Lutheran Church

Area of project entry

20,357 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$4,030,686

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$198

Total area

36,036 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$7,135,078

Total cost/square foot

\$198

Completion

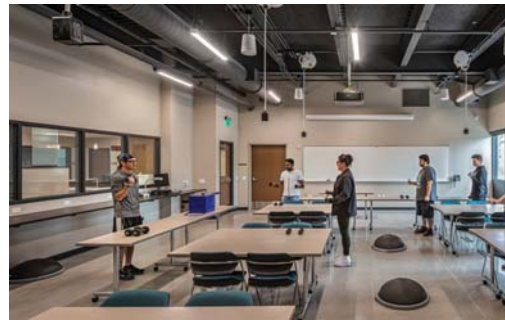
July 2019

Photographer

Travis Van Buren; Nicole Luedloff

DELTA COLLEGE MIDLAND CENTER

Midland, Michigan



TowerPinkster worked with Delta College to design a new facility at its Midland, Mich., satellite campus, which focuses on flexible teaching spaces for general education, skilled trades and health care. The STEM-based classes offered in the new building serve as an entry point to career options.

The new three-story facility has high-level technology, special-use training rooms, six to eight classrooms, and basic science and computer labs designed to strengthen Delta's ability to deliver the highest caliber of college education and

workforce training. Each classroom has visual display surfaces and modular furniture. With skilled trades and health care as the focus, the teaching spaces offer the flexibility of hands-on learning. The CNA lab has hospital bed stations for simulated care, and an Anatomage class contains a digital Anatomage table, a tool for 3D anatomy visualization.

The facility provides multipurpose, student services and administrative support areas, and is available for community use. The design has recently received LEED Gold certification. ▲



TowerPinkster

Client

Delta College

Area of project entry

15,400 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$4,996,992

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$324

Total area

33,900 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$11,000,000

Total cost/square foot

\$324

Completion

January 2021

Photographer

Justin Maconachie

LYNDHURST MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lyndhurst, New Jersey



Di Cara |
Rubino Architects

Client

Lyndhurst School District

Area of project entry

145,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$53,000,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$366

Completion

September 2022

Photographer

Mike Van Tassell

The new Lyndhurst Middle School accommodates 650 students in grades 6 to 8. Through a dynamic collaborative design process, innovative learning spaces that support modern teaching methodologies are present throughout the school. Breakout spaces outside classrooms, think tanks, and a grand "learning stair" in the central student commons all promote engagement, discovery, group

problem solving, and the sharing of ideas.

Students can take advantage of numerous outdoor classroom spaces and inviting shared spaces such as the media center and expansive student commons. Other notable features include a three-story academic wing, a visual and performing arts theater, and a full-size gymnasium with auxiliary gym, locker rooms, weight room and multipurpose athletic field. The

academic facilities include science labs, a state-of-the-art culinary arts facility and 27 active learning classrooms, many of which are dedicated to instruction in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Technological amenities include classrooms with the latest AV and IT features, wi-fi service and charging stations, and a massive video display screen in the central student commons. ▲



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL, NEW NORTH CAMPUS SCHOOL (PHASE 1)

Des Peres, Missouri



St. Paul's Lutheran School and Church in Des Peres, Mo., decided to erect its new school in two phases to replace a structure that was built more than 60 years ago on a five-acre site enclosed by two major roads, the city hall and park.

Phase I called for demolishing a 6,000-square-foot addition and building a multistory addition with a new school entrance, administrative offices, K-8 classrooms, art, science and STEM classrooms, library and conference rooms, along with

an ICC 500-rated storm shelter. The narrow site and its proximity to the existing church posed several challenges and opportunities. The lower floor of the addition is below grade with an adjacent secured playground. Design planning enabled the mass of the school addition to be in appropriate scale in relationship to the church, the most prominent structure on the site. The addition was built using a steel frame with brick and stone veneers that complement St. Paul's Lutheran's existing school and church. 🏡



Cordogan Clark & Associates

Client

St. Paul's Lutheran School

Area of project entry

About 37,700 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$9,167,112

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$245

Completion

March 2021

Photographer

Matthew McFarland

TEMPLETON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Tigard, Oregon



The original James Templeton Elementary School was constructed in 1966, making it the district's oldest elementary school building. It was

determined that the school needed to be rebuilt to meet modern safety and educational standards. After close collaboration with the community, Arcadis IBI designed a new elementary school in tandem with a rebuild of its cohort middle school—on the same campus—through careful phasing and sequencing.

The design team engaged with students, staff, parents, community members, and district leaders from pre-bond planning through construction. Those discussions resulted in a building designed to be reflective of the community and responsive to the needs of future generations.

To respond to the differing needs of each learner, classroom neighborhoods were designed as a sequence of student experiences: from individual to group ownership, and from less to more autonomy. Individual spaces include classroom window nooks

with nature views, and “porches” outside each classroom that fit one to four people, providing some autonomy yet maintaining visibility. Classrooms can accommodate large group instruction as well as smaller group activities. Small group zones in the extended learning area are shared by all classrooms in the neighborhood and feel



“I expected the students to behave differently in their new school, but what I didn't expect was that the building would let me rethink the way I teach.”

—5TH GRADE TEACHER, TEMPLETON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



more publicly owned.

Flexible furniture supports a variety of activities. It is organized around built-in anchors like markerboards, display walls, and window desks. Floors, ceilings, and

exposed structure define circulation away from anchor points. Interior windows provide transparency, implied supervision, activation, and view corridors to the outside world and the rest of the school, increasing students' awareness of their place within the larger community.

The school provides unique ways for students to experience the classrooms from the inside out and outside in. The scale is broken down to suit younger children and create places for small moments of delight and discovery. 🧑🏫

Arcadis IBI Group	
Client	Tigard-Tualatin School District
Area of project entry	6,500 sq. ft.
Cost of project entry	\$2,670,850
Cost/square foot of project entry	\$411
Total area	Total cost
75,220 sq. ft.	\$28,700,000
Total cost/square foot	
\$382	
Completion	Photographer
November 2019	Josh Partee



BLACK ROCK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Villanova, Pennsylvania



**Spiezel
Architectural
Group**

**Associated
firm:**
Fielding
International

Client
Lower Merion
School District

**Area of project
entry**
215,000 sq. ft.

**Cost of project
entry**
\$78,695,000

**Cost/square
foot of project
entry**
\$366

Completion
August 2022

Photographer
Marissa Moss

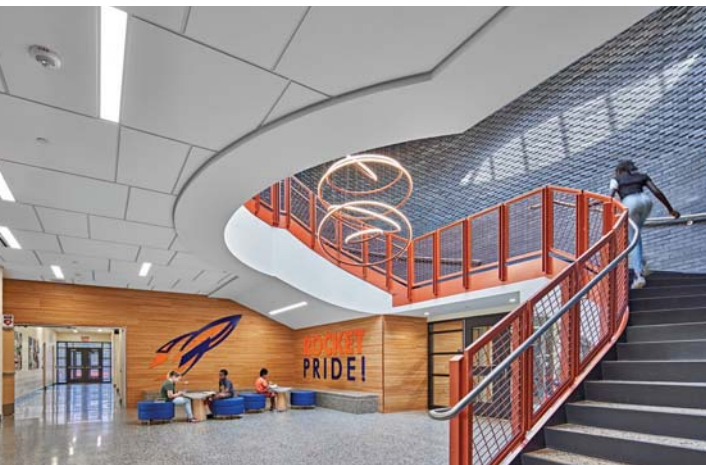
Focusing on guiding principles developed to complement the district’s strategic plan, Black Rock Middle School provides a cutting-edge learning environment for grades 5 to 8. The center of the new building is a two-story “heart” space with a gathering stair that opens onto an educational courtyard overlooked by the media center.

Complementary educational spaces include 12 collaborative learning communities, art, science, music, physical education and a state-of-the-art theater designed to provide an innovative learning experience for up to 1,200 students. ▲



CENTRAL ELEMENTARY

Grand Rapids, Michigan



TowerPinkster worked with Kelloggsville Public Schools to replace an outdated building with a new elementary school. The facility has tall ceilings, separate wings for each grade level, and plenty of natural light. The two design schemes generated for the project were named “Playful Skies” and “Ready to Launch.” The design team was inspired by Kelloggsville’s “Rocket Pride” mantra and wanted the building design to inspire students to look upward toward bright futures.

The two-story foyer, the “Rocket Silo,” hosts a skylight and a curved staircase to the second floor. The staggered brick texture creates visual interest above the stair that reinforces the idea of upward movement. The shadows created by the brick wall paired with the light fixture and skylight above vary slightly from day to day, creating an ever-changing and dynamic effect.

The first floor includes 19 general education classrooms, three special education classrooms, a stand-alone cafeteria, a gym, and a large media center. The media center furniture is reconfigurable, enabling the space to be arranged for various group sizes and event types. 🚀

TowerPinkster

Client

Kelloggsville Public Schools

Area of project entry

1,100 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$249,942

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$227

Total area

63,815 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$14,500,000

Total cost/square foot

\$227

Completion

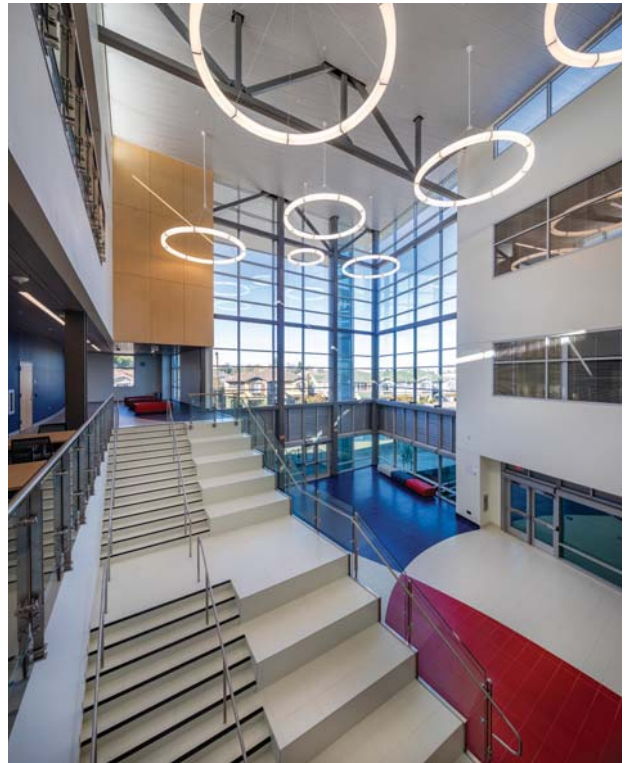
September 2021

Photographer

Jason Keen Photography

CRAWFORD HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

San Diego, California



Built on an existing campus, the Crawford High School Performing Arts Center is a newly completed facility with a 450-seat theater, four performing arts classrooms, 15 standard classrooms, a law court classroom and campus administrative offices.

The design concept for this facility evolved into a three-story steel moment-frame building with a dynamic three-story atrium.

Sprotte + Watson Architectural and Planning

Associated firms: Wiseman & Rohy Structural Engineers; Pocock Design Solutions; Turpin & Rattan Engineering; Jensen Hughes; Salas O'Brien; Snipes-Dye Associates; George Mercer Associates; Simpson & Gumpertz & Heger; Parron-Hall

Client

San Diego Unified School District

Area of project entry

12,798 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

Confidential

Total area

82,854 sq. ft.

Total cost

Confidential

Completion

December 2022

Photographer

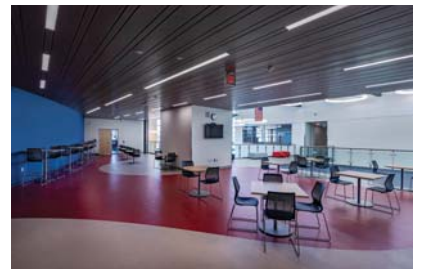
Pablo Mason



With a large grand stair and bridges, the atrium physically connects the theater, classrooms and administrative functions vertically and horizontally. Natural light is transmitted into the atrium through curtain wall, storefront and clerestory windows. Features of the atrium interior include a fresh interpretation of school colors, the use of ceramic tile, luxury-vinyl tile, warm wood laminate accent panels, perforated linear metal ceilings and creative furniture selections. The common space additionally serves as a pre-function space, a place for gatherings, announcements, and assemblies that contains

flexible collaborative areas with visual displays. This inviting space encourages student use, interaction and social learning.

The facility encompasses a surprising level of complexity because of the different types of occupancies and the size of the structure. There were challenges working out acoustics and fire ratings. The atrium alone required one-hour fire separation from the remaining building. Fire-rated walls, windows and doors were incorporated along with a smoke evacuation system, including large first-floor louvers and large exhaust fans at the third-floor clerestory windows. 🏡



“It is humbling to be a part of a community that values public education, and it is incredibly rewarding to see the results of that investment.”

— DR. LAMONT JACKSON
SUPERINTENDENT, SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Harrisonburg, Virginia



James Madison University's College of Business was severely constrained in Showker Hall. It had an enrollment of 4,400 students in a facility designed to accommodate 2,100 when it opened in 1991. The renovation of Showker Hall and a four-story expansion alleviated overcrowding and created a business education hub on par with the best business school facilities in the country. A three-story, light-filled atrium serves as a community space for students, faculty, and staff. The atrium connects the college's signature spaces: the Capital

Markets Lab, the Innovation Collaboration and Entrepreneurship Lab, and student services. The Learning Concourse at the southwest end of the atrium overlooks a new lower-level, 300-seat dining hall that also serves as informal study and lounge space. The dining area opens onto a terrace with outdoor seating and views of Newman Lake. A fourth-floor oculus provides sweeping 360-degree views of campus. At the north end, a double-height promenade links the extension with Showker Hall and provides a new entry from the campus core. 🧑‍🎓



Moseley Architects

Associated firms: Robert A.M. Stern Architects; Vanasse Hangen Brustlin; HG Design Studio; Howe Engineers; Shen Milsom & Wilke; Tipton Associates; Stone Wall Hill Partners; Froehling & Robertson; CW Tesco; Downey & Scott; New Media Systems; Rod Barresi & Associates

Client	James Madison University
Area of project entry	14,200 sq. ft.
Cost of project entry	\$1,712,500
Cost/square foot of project entry	\$121
Total area	210,000 sq. ft.
Total cost	\$70,822,000
Total cost/square foot	\$337
Completion	June 2021
Photographer	Francis Dzikowski Photography



Architectural Portfolio

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KENNEWICK SCHOOL DISTRICT, AMISTAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Kennewick, Washington



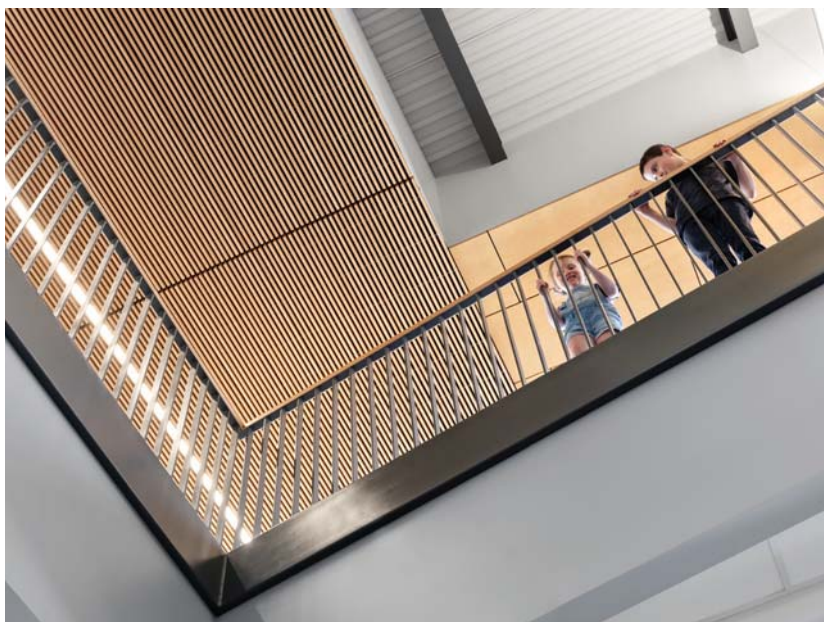
The design of Amistad Elementary School provides a central public zone and "mixing chamber" that maximizes daylight and views to all learning spaces and creates inviting, safe and secure outdoor environments. A well-defined corridor was established for vehicles and pedestrians by relocating the existing parent drop-off. At the same time, the scale of the

two-story building was brought down at the entry with the single-story administration offices and library.

Teaching opportunities outside the classroom were created, such as a learning stair at the entry, indoor small group instruction, and outdoor learning environments, all of which bring learning into the 21st century. The landscape expresses a

connection between the entry courtyard and playgrounds, which enliven the public zone, and view corridors were created at the classroom wings where small group instruction takes place, enabling daylight to flow into the corridors.

Amistad Elementary creates an environment conducive to learning, exploration and creativity. To achieve this, the building has a variety of areas and materials that maximize natural light and create a tranquil atmosphere. The exterior features CMU and phenolic panels that mirror the warm tones of the Central Washington landscape. Inside, wood and painted MDF panels provide a sturdy and textured feel, and green, blue and yellow accent colors add



ALSC Architects

Client

Kennewick School District

Total area

88,700 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$26,878,374

Total cost/square foot

\$303

Completion

December 2020

Photographer

Tony Roslund



a cheerful touch. Soft cushions are placed in classroom window bays so that students can appreciate the outdoor scenery.

The learning stair is designed to encourage movement and social interaction, and the library serves as a hub for focused study and research. The central gathering area is an open space for collaborative activities such as lectures and performances. Each area is designed to be flexible and accommodate a variety of activities. Outdoor teaching and gathering spaces take advantage of the natural landscape. 🌳



PINE VILLAGE ELEMENTARY

Pine Village, Indiana



The new Pine Village Elementary is a preK-6, two-section, two-story “community” school for the Metropolitan School District of Warren County. The building makes numerous references to the rich history and heritage of this unique town through dynamic supergraphics on the walls as the exterior material palette and design details. Some of these exterior details include a mass timber two-story entry canopy and lobby that reference a

World War II-era historic gym with “lamella” arched wood structure, and brick and stone accents that reference a previous Italian Romanesque school that once stood on the site. The interior supergraphics make use of historical images and contextual graphics to celebrate local culture and heritage. All these respectful nods to the past are blended with contemporary, innovative programming, forms, and materials in a bold view to the future.

By 2020 the existing elementary building was well past its useful life span, and community growth created the need for a new building. The new elementary site and building plan are carefully laid out to enable construction while the adjacent existing building was still in use. New parking and playgrounds are to be installed over summer after the old building is demolished.



RATIO

Client

MSD of Warren County

Area of project entry

3,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$726,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$242

Total area

63,639 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$15,430,000

Total cost/square foot

\$242

Completion

August 2023

Photographer

Al Ensley



The new school includes numerous innovative/flexible learning spaces, including a media center and learning riser at the crossroads of the school, and small group learning spaces within the academic wings. Strategic placement of spaces enhances visual connections and minimizes interrup-

tions and distractions. The building naturally follows existing terrain; a ramp connects the main academic wings with the gym, cafeteria and other special spaces. A community fitness center at the main entrance facilitates community needs, fosters a sense of community ownership, and has views down into the gym. 🧑‍🦰



SECCHIA PIAZZA AND HERITAGE RESTAURANT

Grand Rapids, Michigan



The new Secchia Piazza at Grand Rapids Community College transforms an existing outdoor roof terrace into an indoor, multiuse event space. The

new room is part of the Secchia Culinary Institute and an extension of its teaching restaurant, whose renovation was also part of the project.

The Piazza's name honors the donor's Italian heritage and identifies the room as a place for students and the community to gather in celebration. Its principal feature is a conical, colored-glass skylight whose colors and kaleidoscopic patterns are inspired by the warmth of the Mediterranean and the abundance of the harvest. At night, programmable LED lighting further highlights its dramatic interior. Full-height glass walls on two sides of the room engage views of the city, and sliding doors open to a balcony and connect events to the outdoors.

This landmark project brings visibility to a vibrant and growing college and creates a new kind of event space that uses its culinary and hospitality programs to serve not only the college but also the city and region. ▲



Progressive AE

Client

Grand Rapids Community College

Area of project entry

9,500 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$6,131,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$645

Completion

October 2022

Photographer

David Sparks

UPPER MERION AREA HIGH SCHOOL, STUDENT COMMONS

King of Prussia, Pennsylvania



The Upper Merion Area High School provides career and higher-education-level learning spaces to prepare students for achieving their greatest potential once they graduate. The flexible building organization moves away from a traditional content or age configuration to be more centered on student aptitude and career interests. Various learning spaces are provided throughout the building, including

small and large group instruction areas either in private workspaces, open areas or the two multilevel learning stairs.

At the heart of the facility, the student commons area is a true adaptation of spaces found in higher education. Used throughout the day for multiple activities, the multilevel accessible design is intended to adapt to any student's individual learning style and promote self-motivated learning and so-

cialization. The adjacent learning commons and breakout spaces on the second level offer resources to supplement project-based learning through research and collaboration. Situated at the main entrance to the school, this two-story space will accommodate pre- and post-event activities held in the adjacent athletic and performing arts complexes. 📍

SCHRADERGROUP architecture

Associated firms: Snyder Hoffman, Renew Design Group, Wallover Architects, William H. Lane Inc.

Client

Upper Merion Area School District

Area of project entry

9,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$3,078,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$342

Total area

345,000 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$118,000,000

Total cost/square foot

\$342

Completion

August 2022

Photographer

Todd Mason,
Halkin Mason
Photography



BUTLER UNIVERSITY ESPORTS PARK

Indianapolis, Indiana



Butler University's Esports Park serves as a multiuse, tech-forward, esports and innovation space. Esports Park has the technological capabilities to host an esports competition with live broadcasting capabilities, as well as a viewing audience. The center is home to the varsity and club-level esports teams, as well as a communal gathering spot for students and the community.

Populous, a leader in esports design, designed the space for maximum flexibility, so that the space can be easily configured for a wide spectrum of academic programming, special events, lectures and student

gatherings. With high-performance gaming PCs and consoles, event and coworking spaces, a café, office areas for partner organizations, and a studio and production room, the venue will provide a hub for the tech community and expand Butler's growing presence in esports.

The technology systems include a central server that connects to each computer via the cloud, eliminating the need for high-performance computers at each station. On the competition floor, careful consideration was given to ensure that every participant has the same experience in terms of performance and connectivity, as required by

current esports design and competition standards. For example, every cable is the same length at each competition station. In addition, all MEP systems met or exceeded the university's standards for energy efficiency and reliability.

Lighting controls are coordinated with



Populous

Associated firms:
Heapy, AECOM

Client
Butler University

Area of project entry
7,360 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry
\$4,500,000

Completion
August 2022

Photographer
Zach Dobson Photography



the audiovisual technology to create a highly interactive space. The design team served as a “go between” for the university and the primary A/V vendor, ensuring that all equipment and supplies were realistic, met the project requirements, and would be delivered on time and seamlessly integrated into the construction schedule. In addition, the aggressive schedule required expedient performance and close collaboration with vendors, team members, and client representatives. 📍

“Our esports vision is built on three pillars: competition, curriculum, and community. The Esports Park is integral to the community pillar. It’s a hub that serves as a connection point for the campus community, Indy’s growing sports tech community, and the community at large.”

—JOHN LACHETA, MANAGER OF FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS, BUTLER UNIVERSITY



MSOE, WELCOME CENTER

Milwaukee, Wisconsin



MSOE's Welcome Center has been renovated to provide a contemporary and informative space for current and prospective students, families, and alumni.

The building has an open and welcoming layout, ample natural light and comfortable seating areas, an auditorium for large gatherings, and smaller "Spirit Rooms" for admissions engagement. The lobby features a large, interactive multi-panel display wall that is user-friendly and intuitive, making

it easy for visitors to navigate and find the information they need. The bookstore and spirit wear shop showcase the latest MSOE apparel featuring mobile display fixtures. Admissions administration offices were also incorporated into the space. The exterior facade, including glazing and terra-cotta tiles, has been updated to improve the building's appearance.

In addition to its practical resources for the school, the center also serves as a hub for community engagement and outreach, hosting events and activities for the MSOE community and the greater Milwaukee area.

For a prospective student, community member or alumni, the Welcome Center is an ideal place to connect, learn, and grow. 📍

RAMLOW/STEIN Architecture + Interiors

Client

Milwaukee School of Engineering

Area of project entry category

20,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$4,650,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$233

Completion

August 2022

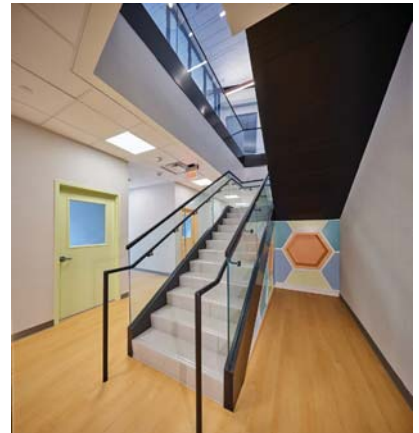
Photographer

Tricia Shay



YAKOV & HAVA TELYAS CHABAD JEWISH CENTER

Clinton, New Jersey



Designed for users of all ages, this community center features materials that ground it in its natural surroundings.

Providing landscape views in three directions, an airy lobby greets users toward its focal point—a jewel box space that serves as a social gathering hub with multiple uses—library, café, lounge, meeting space and shop. An amphitheater extends from the lobby for services, teaching, performances, and social celebrations to extend outdoors.

The sanctuary and adjacent social hall provide a spiritual space for worship, celebration, and learning. The wooden ceiling soars overhead; light and air flood the space,

giving an open welcoming feeling.

Encouraging young adults to use the center, a teen lounge provides informal hangout space physically separate from adults and children, yet visually connected to the main spaces by means of an interior glass partition. The remainder of the upper-level program consists of five general-use classrooms and offices.

The lower level features a parenting room, staff lounge, and six early childhood education classrooms with direct access to a protected outdoor play area. 🧡



Landau Zinder Architecture

d/b/a Joshua Zinder Architecture + Design

Client

Chabad of Hunterdon County

Area of project entry

17,000 sq. ft.

Total area

23,000 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$7,500,000

Total cost/square foot

\$326

Completion

September 2022

Photographer

Juan Vidal

THE RALPH J. ROBERTS BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



The first Philadelphia-area Boys Club has served Germantown neighborhood youth since 1898. With

Germantown's 1940s economic decline and demographic shifts, both the clubhouse and its programming have slowly declined. By 2016 the building could no longer operate under its conditions.

To avoid destroying the landmark and urban streetscape, demolition was scrapped in favor of a transformation of the deteriorating clubhouse into The Ralph J. Roberts Boys and Girls Club. The exterior needed massive restoration, and historic elements were to be salvaged. The pool/pump house, collapsing since the 1970s, required complete re-



moval. Internally, accessibility, safety and circulation redesign were challenging because the four-story building had seven different levels. The gymnasium's beautiful timber wood trusses needed extensive repair. The oft-flooded basement demanded vast remediation.

The central stair corridor renovation creatively maintains and modernizes. Spaces created include a literacy center, learning center, STEM class, tech center, teen center, two gyms, music room, cafe and game room. The transformed Ralph J. Roberts Boys and Girls Club now provides programming after school, on weekends and during the summer for over 3,000 disadvantaged youth annually. 🧑🏫

Heckendorn Shiles Architects

Client

Boys and Girls Club of Philadelphia

Area of project entry

27,300 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$9,300,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$341

Completion

September 2021

Photographer

Don Pearse Photographers

ROMNEY HALL

Bozeman, Montana



The renovation of Romney Hall on the Montana State University campus modernized the historic building, constructed in 1922, while preserving its character and meeting the needs of a growing student population. The project transformed the former physical education building into much-needed instructional space, adding 17 classrooms and centers for mathematics, writing, veterans and students with disabilities.

The starting point for the project was a consensus that the character-defining features of this Italian Renaissance-style build-

ing should be retained and used as a guide for planning. Plans included modifications to bring the building up to code, improve energy efficiency, add restrooms, reinforce the building against seismic events, and provide accessibility at all levels. The goal of providing 1,000-plus classroom seats was accomplished through various classroom types ranging from 24-seat instructional rooms to a 300-person “classroom in the round,” which showcases the former gym floor.

In alignment with the university’s sustainability commitments and the state of Montana’s High-Performance Building Standards

to modernize the historic building to meet 21st-century student needs, Romney Hall received LEED Gold certification. 🏆

Cushing Terrell

Associated firm:
SRG Partnership

Client
State of Montana

Total area
66,756 sq. ft.

Total cost
\$28,184,019

Total cost/square foot
\$422

Completion
December 2021

Photographer
Karl Neumann Photography



WANNALANCIT STAIR RESTORATION

Lowell, Massachusetts



Matz Collaborative Architects

Associated firm: Boston Building Consultants

Client

University of Massachusetts Lowell

Cost of project entry

Not provided

Completion

March 2020

Photographer

Keitaro Yoshioka

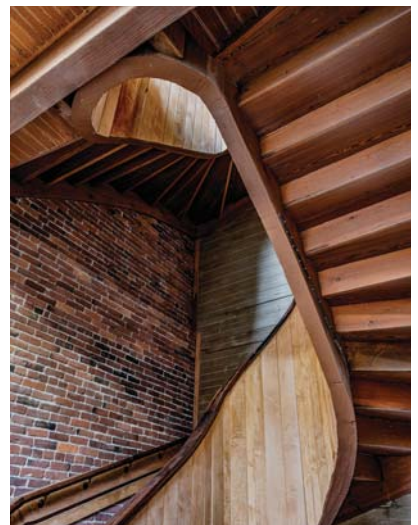
This wonderful project restores an existing semicircular wood egress stair at UMass Lowell's historic Wannalancit Mills. The existing 100-plus-year-old stair had begun to sag over its years of heavy use and was no longer in compliance with the building code.

The renovation carefully maintains as much of the original stair as possible and provides new structural elements that replicate the original design. Concealed metal straps are added to the center "ribbon" railing, reinforcing the main struc-

tural support without changing the aesthetic. Modifications to the enclosure provide a modern fire rating while maintaining the design integrity of the original stair. Existing architectural elements such as metal stair tread covers were restored. Those that were beyond repair were replicated. Molds for future repairs were provided to UMass Lowell. Elements requiring updates to meet code, such as the guard railing, were modified to match the existing aesthetic.

The finished product is a safe, compliant, secure egress stair restoring the historic

character of the original Wannalancit Mill complex. ▲



FOREST HILLS NORTHERN HIGH SCHOOL, PROJECT NEXT

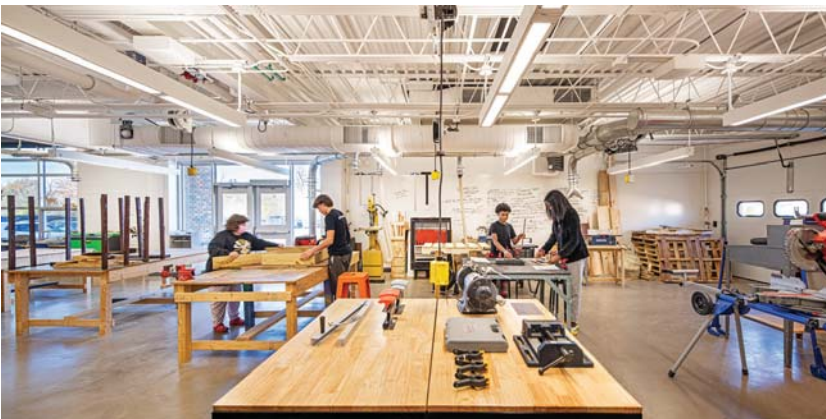
Grand Rapids, Michigan



Forest Hills Northern High School offers its students a new way of learning through a project-based program called Project NEXT, a four-year parallel path program that was driven by a vision to provide students with hands-on learning. Supporting a program that prepares students for life through soft skills like communication, teamwork, public speaking and independent thought was central to the design. The spaces are intended to be multipurpose, flexible, and connected

to achieve the program's vision. Students in the program must identify and propose solutions to real-world problems, so spaces that fuel collaboration and creativity are essential. Redesigning the school's west wing to accommodate those needs started with converting a courtyard into a central learning commons. Next to the commons, each grade level has its own pod of four classrooms that can be interconnected for collaboration and co-teaching as needed. One of the goals of project-based learn-

ing is to create cross-pollination between disciplines and build cohesion between curriculums. Labs were added for wood-working, culinary arts, chemistry, biology, and other life skills. 🧑‍🔧



GMB Architecture + Engineering

Associated firm:

Owen-Ames-Kimball

Client

Forest Hills Public Schools

Total area	Total cost
37,000 sq. ft.	\$8,000,000

Total cost/square foot
\$216

Completion

December 2021

Photographer

John D'Angelo Photo

GAME DEVELOPMENT DESIGN SCHOOL

Burleson, Texas



Welcome to the Game Development Design School, where innovation meets education in a transformative learning experience. Born from the opportunity to transform a commercial property with a state-of-the-art events venue into an unparalleled learning environment, the school's open concept features glass, steel, ambient lighting, and alternative seating that evoke a high-tech, industry-inspired atmosphere.

The curriculum at this groundbreaking school is geared toward students who often slip through the cracks in traditional educational settings; those with Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADD/ADHD, and other learning

differences thrive here. They earn business and industry endorsements in arts, audio/video technology, and communications through computer science, video game design, and multimedia arts courses. By the end of their junior year, most students have earned one or more industry-based certifications in programs like Adobe Photoshop and Python.

This classroom-free environment challenges the conventional school model with a flexible layout that supports various educational delivery methods. Teachers here creatively accommodate over 400 independent learners who take ownership of their education, choosing how they learn and col-

laborate, while developing essential life skills such as prioritizing, problem-solving, and interpersonal communication. The school fosters a sense of community that values good citizenship, compassion, responsibility, and community service.

The Game Development Design School is not for everyone, but for those who thrive in its environment, the results are impressive.



Pfluger Architects

Client

Burleson Independent School District

Area of project entry

33,787 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$6,320,849

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$187

Completion

October 2021

Photographer

Wade Griffith Photography; Mike Elmore, Pfluger Architects



The school's revolutionary approach has helped students significantly improve test scores across multiple subject areas. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking and prepares students for future careers that may not yet exist—making it an ideal environment for self-starters and creative thinkers seeking a non-traditional learning experience. Ultimately, this trailblazing institution provides students with tools and opportunities that prepare them for a rapidly evolving world. 🚀

“We’re the only school that I know of that has no classrooms. The open nature and transparency allow collaboration between teachers—and teachers with students—making us much more of a family. I think, because of that community, our students excel, as reflected in their test scores, and we are consistently pushing and achieving educational milestones.”

— BRAD SCHILDER, PRINCIPAL, GAME DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN SCHOOL AT BURLESON



HERNDON HIGH SCHOOL

Herndon, Virginia



This high school project includes three additions totaling 120,516 square feet and renovation of the 292,193-square-foot original building to meet the requirements of the Fairfax County Public Schools Education Specifications. The admin/library wing south addition at the front of the school dominates the entry façade and provides a new welcoming school image. The new science wing and

band/music north addition are situated at the rear of the facility. The school's key interior features include Main Street (main circulation spine), orientation nodes at strategic locations, conversion of the cafeteria into a food court, a new library on the second floor, a renovated auditorium, and an expanded main gymnasium with an arena seating configuration. The interior finish palette uses the school's colors (red and black)



Hughes Group Architects

Client
Fairfax County Public Schools

Total area
412,709 sq. ft.

Total cost
Not provided

Completion
December 2021

Photographer
Helmuth Humphrey- Apertures



orientation nodes. Infrastructure improvements include HVAC system and electrical system replacement, data/security upgrades, and selective shell improvements, which include window replacement and roof replacement masonry wall repairs. 🏠



PEEKSKILL HIGH SCHOOL, STEAM INNOVATION CENTER

Peekskill, New York



The new STEAM Innovation Center at Peekskill High School brings together students in art, theater, music, science, math, technology, and robotics, maximizing opportunities for exploration, collaboration and fabrication in a cutting-edge learning environment.

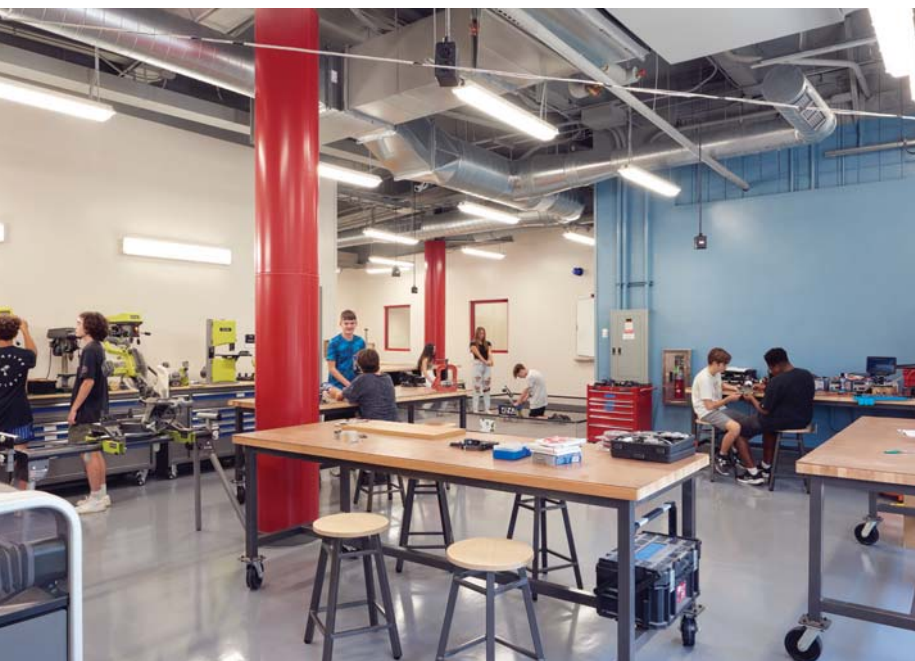
Created in a storage space and outdated art and technology classrooms, the awkward wedge shape lent itself to nesting the

classrooms around a central “mixer” space that supports casual interaction, small group breakouts, large gatherings and exhibits.

Flexible, movable furniture is provided throughout, enabling spaces to be easily adapted to endless configurations. Walls covered in whiteboard enable teachers and students to write, design and share ideas in full view. Magnetic walls and glass display cases supply exhibit space throughout.

Light was infused throughout the center by enlarging and adding windows, adding glass doors, and incorporating glass partition walls. The use of glass also makes the activities and exhibits in the STEAM Center visible to students and community members, spreading interest in the program.

The center provides a space for the school’s successful robotics team to host regional competitions. 🤖



Mosaic Associates Architects

Client

Peekskill City School District

Area of project entry

11,526 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$3,800,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$330

Completion

January 2022

Photographer

David Lamb Architectural Photography

SLIFKA CENTER FOR JEWISH LIFE AT YALE

New Haven, Connecticut



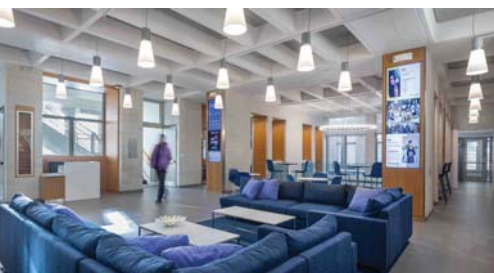
The leaders at the Slifka Center for Jewish Life at Yale recognized that to better engage with the campus and satisfy programming needs, the building required a major modernization. Their vision led to a complete renovation, reinforcing Slifka's role as a thriving, vital member of the university community. Phase one has recently been completed.

Additional room was needed; however, zoning placed limits on new construction, so space was added inside wherever possible. Informal socialization, meeting, study and relaxation spaces were developed to make the building more inviting. Student spaces were moved to the first floor, and administra-

tion was moved upstairs.

To increase lower-level dining hall seating, an underused courtyard was enclosed with walkable terrace skylights. New lounge "nooks" also convert to additional seating. A new hallway provides access to the terrace from the expanded lobby, where counters with barstools overlook the dining hall. The kitchens were replaced and building systems upgraded to increase efficiency.

Appropriately, Yale's illustrious blue now also helps reinforce the connection to the university. 🏡



Landow and Landow Architects

Client

Slifka Center for Jewish Life at Yale

Area of project entry

14,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$5,100,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$364

Total area

21,000 sq. ft.

Total cost

Not provided

Completion

August 2022

Photographer

Paul Warchol Photography

SOLOMON SCHECHTER DAY SCHOOL, MACHAR CAMPAIGN RENOVATION

Northbrook, Illinois



Perkins&Will

Client

Solomon Schechter Day School of Metropolitan Chicago

Area of project entry

15,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$1,970,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$132

Completion

August 2022

Photographer

Tom Harris

As part of its “Machar” (Hebrew for “Tomorrow”) campaign, Solomon Schechter sought to transform dated and underused spaces to support its mission to deliver academic excellence rooted in the Jewish faith.

The expansion of the main entry lobby creates a welcoming, active hub for learners, educators and visitors. The new design increases natural light, pre-function space and informal areas for connection and gathering.

The (Beit Knesset) worship center, used as a multifunctional space, balances warmth and spirituality with technology-rich resources to accommodate large gatherings. With the renovation, this space now has strong visual connectivity to the entry, symbolizing how faith is at the center of the school.

A formerly underused meeting space became a central connecting corridor and a hub for inquiry and experiential learning.

This “collaboratory” (makerspace and art), in conjunction with the redesigned library, forms the academic heart of the campus.

The three major project areas provide next-generation learning spaces that prioritize impact on every student and the school community at large. 🙏



THIEL COLLEGE, RHODEHOUSE MEMORIAL SCIENCE BUILDING

Greenville, Pennsylvania



The Rhodehouse Memorial Science Building at Thiel College underwent a comprehensive renovation. The building, which was dedicated in 1959 by Vice President Richard Nixon, was one of the most dilapidated and underused buildings on campus. The renovation, funded partly by alumni donations and a state grant, was done in two phases over three years.

The first phase included a new exterior façade and the building's lower level, which is home to the new Graduate Physician's Assistant and Speech-Language Pathology programs. The second phase renovated the first and second floors, which house

undergraduate programs such as chemistry, biology and physics. The renovation aimed to provide facilities that support cutting-edge research and education. The renovations modernized the building's HVAC and electrical systems, equipment, and furnishings, and created flexible spaces that can adapt to different research needs.

The renovation not only improved the appearance and functionality of the building but also helped boost the college's enrollment through its new programming. The renovation

was completed with the support of the surrounding community and is an investment in regional economic development. 🙌

ThenDesign Architecture

Client

Thiel College

Area of project entry

36,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$7,000,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$194

Completion

May 2022

Photographer

ThenDesign Architecture



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA, INNOVATIVE EDUCATION STUDIOS

Tampa, Florida



shipping container-inspired set of “floating” offices. 📺

Gresham Smith was called on to re-envision the University of South Florida’s former TV studio into a new home for its digital storytelling team.

For this project, the designers worked with video and multimedia team members to determine their specific goals for performance and aesthetics in a space they call their office as well as their studio and classroom area. The result is a unique and flexible space—complete with two editing rooms, two faculty labs, a recording room, a sound room, a classroom and offices—for a team with many stories to tell. The design team worked with the university to curate an interesting palette of neutral materials and textures that would be visually interesting to shoot photography against without distracting from the content, including a



Gresham Smith

Client

University of South Florida

Area of project entry

8,501 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$943,722

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$111

Completion

February 2022

Photographer

Seamus Payne



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Austin, Texas



This renovation of the University of Texas at Austin College of Education transformed the facility through a reorganization of spaces throughout the building and a comprehensive refresh of the common areas. The internal reorganization enabled previously scattered departments and research centers to coalesce into definable academic suites, which created gains in spatial efficiency as well as improved staff productivity. New office suites balance openness and privacy in a mix of open and individual offices. Hybrid work modes are addressed through huddle and conference rooms that can accommodate virtual meetings, and the “collaboration café” is

designed for in-office employees to hold impromptu team meetings and collaboration sessions.

The renovation further seized upon the opportunity provided by the reorganization to insert student-centered spaces into the program, as the building previously lacked a social and academic hub for the college’s students. From this highly visible location adjacent to the building’s main entry and a new Student Services Center, the Glickman Student Lounge acts as a magnet to draw students to the college and also serves as destination within the building where students can benefit from connection to their peers as well as academic faculty. 🧑‍🎓



McKinney York Architects

Client

The University of Texas at Austin

Area of project entry

260,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$18,410,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

Not provided

Completion

March 2022

Photographer

Patrick Wong

ASI GROUP IS PROUD TO PARTNER WITH THESE AWARD-WINNING ARCHITECTS ON CREATING TOMORROW'S EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

ASI Group would like to congratulate the architects and firms that designed these outstanding educational facilities. We are proud that these designers have specified the ASI brand, the leader in washroom accessories, partitions, lockers and visual display products.

Mount Vernon Group Architects

Wareham Elementary School

RATIO Architects

Sunman-Dearborn East Central
High School Natatorium

RATIO Architects

Pine Village Elementary School

DLR Group

North Kansas City Schools
Early Education Center

Ashe Broussard Weinzettle Architects

Living Learning Commons,
Louisiana School for Math,
Science, and the Arts

McCarty Holsaple McCarty

Zeanah Engineering Complex,
University of Tennessee

French Associates

West Bloomfield Middle School

O'Connell Robertson

Belton ISD Lake Belton
High School

McKinney York Architects

The University of Texas at Austin,
College of Education Renovation

Harvard Jolly Architecture

A.D. Henderson University School
& FAU High School - Phase I

Stantec Architecture

Kettering University Learning
Commons

GMB Architecture + Engineering

Forest Hills Northern
High School Project

RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE, DUKE HALL

Ashland, Virginia



Nestled within the historic Randolph-Macon College (RMC) campus, Duke Hall stands out as a striking, three-story multiuse building that serves

as a hub of academic and athletic activity. Adjacent to the home football stands, the facility is perfectly positioned to support the college's longstanding goal of attracting



top-quality, well-rounded athletes.

During creative development, the college expressed a desire for Duke Hall to meet several key needs, including supporting both men's and women's sports, as well as housing the new Physician Assistant (PA) program and several other classrooms. To accomplish this, every inch of space has been carefully designed to serve a distinct purpose. The first floor is home to men's and women's locker rooms and training facilities, and the second floor features the suite of football offices, an athletic program office suite, general academic classrooms and a VIP room overlooking the football field.

The third floor is dedicated to Randolph-Macon's PA program, which has a wide range of facilities that simulate real clinical environments, including patient exam rooms; flexible classrooms for large group sessions; a multipurpose skills lab where students gain hands-on experience with physical examinations, suturing and bedside ultrasounds; small group interaction rooms; and a distinctive common space. To foster school and community pride, Duke Hall has a bright and modern look and feel. Contemporary finishes and furnishings have been selected to create a welcoming atmosphere. The strategic interior design decisions also include the incorporation of the college's bold black and gold branding throughout the building.

Thanks to thoughtful space planning and purposeful interior designs, Duke Hall is a unique and impressive testament to the integral role that athletics play in holistically educating and developing students. 🏈

CPL

Associated firm: EDC

Client

Randolph-Macon College

Area of project entry

46,222 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$11,000,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$238

Completion

April 2023

Images

CPL



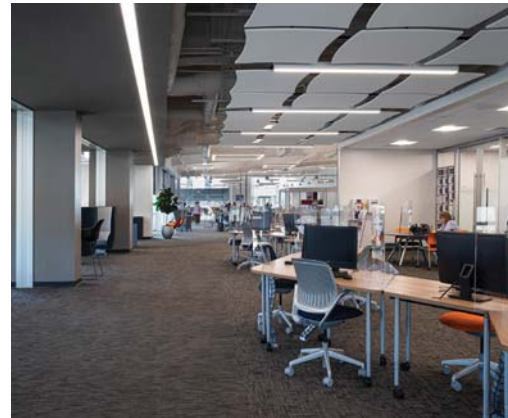
“CPL worked hand in hand with our teams to meet our needs for this unique facility. They worked with us to design each detail and took the time to listen to our needs for the project.”

— PAUL T. DAVIES, VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE, RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE



ANNE SPRINGS CLOSE LEARNING COMMONS

Rock Hill, South Carolina



Following a feasibility study of the York Technical College Learning Commons, the design team planned the renovation and expansion of the Anne Springs Close Library. The project transformed the library into a state-of-the-art Learning Commons, serving as the campus centerpiece and cultural core of the college. In addition to the traditional library functions, it has a grab-and-go cafe, classrooms, offices, meeting rooms and makerspaces, as well as additional storage and stacks. 📖



McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture

Client

York Technical College

Area of project entry

34,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$9,500,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$279

Completion

August 2019

Photographer

Gary Matson

CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

Clayton, Missouri



The School District of Clayton needed assistance in redesigning its high school library to meet the changing needs of its students. Clayton High

School's library had not been renovated since 1990. To reflect its commitment to a rich and rigorous academic culture, the district wanted to offer its students a collegiate-level library experience. Traditional K-12 libraries were designed to be a static space for the use of instructors leading a large class. A higher education approach required a transformation into a versatile space supporting self-directed learning and freedom of choice.

The transformation of the Clayton High School Library focused on these priorities:

- Multiple meeting spaces.
- Well-defined zones for different activity



- and noise levels.
- Flexible furniture plan.
- Restorative space.

The redesign installed four new demountable wall study and focus rooms to fulfill the need for study and focus rooms. Students now have more options for independently organizing work, study, or extra-curricular club meetings. Clear sightlines and glass wall study rooms subtly balance student privacy with safety and security. 🚶

Bond Architects

Client

School District of Clayton

Area of project entry

9,572 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$1,300,000 (\$800,000 construction, \$500,000 furniture)

Cost/square foot of project entry

Not provided

Completion

September 2023

Photographer

Neil Endicott

MCGHEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Channelview, Texas



Huckabee

Associated firm:
Stewart Builders

Client
Channelview ISD

Area of project entry
7,000 sq. ft.

Total area
161,836 sq. ft.

Total cost
\$37,716,833

Total cost/square foot
\$234

Completion
October 2022

Photographer
Grant Van Hoose, Huckabee

McGhee Elementary is a new campus that consolidates two aging schools into a contemporary setting for K-5 students. Reading comprehension was a guiding force in the design. The team created a dynamic library that connects the entry to academic wings—illustrating that

reading is important to the learning journey. The library is composed of core stacks, group settings, a makerspace and an overlook with an area for presentations. Forms within the library reflect the organic nature of a park—with “topographical” changes, spaces for refuge and tree-like structures that extend upward to the second floor. The adjacent courtyard mimics this kinetic style to create a united indoor/outdoor learning

space. Bold colors and generous natural light enhance a sense of fun and exploration. A variety of space provides student autonomy in selecting a comfortable spot for reading or peer-to-peer connection.

A series of ramps flow naturally throughout the library to aid accessibility between levels and provide all students with a retreat to read. The ramps feature writable surfaces and spaces to sit within the casework. ▲



NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, I.D.E.A. CENTER

Honolulu, Hawaii



The I.D.E.A. Center (Innovate, Discover, Explore, Achieve) is a multipurpose building featuring a modern school library facility and makerspace. The main library space is designed to foster a love of books and learning among young readers. Clerestory windows in the large, high-ceilinged room provide daylight as well as views of the green ridges surrounding the school. Noelani's large-print book collection is featured in built-in bookshelves, which flank

reading nook window seats. A cozy story area with a colorful rug and movable shelving, and a technology classroom support the library's current needs and future flexibility.

Floor plan efficiencies and the use of outdoor walkways and generous lanai spaces for student circulation enabled the center's required program to include a makerspace, an open, flexible space for gatherings and project-based learning. Climate-sensitive design features include a natu-

rally ventilated space, open to the outdoors. The I.D.E.A. Center's distinctive sawtooth roof was designed to accommodate a photovoltaic system. The roof also highlights the building's sustainable water management strategies, which include cisterns, bioswales, and a rain garden (infiltration basin).



Urban Works

Associated firms: WCP; Ki Concepts; Sam O. Hirota; Nagamine Okawa Engineers; Interface Engineering; Nash Architectural Solutions; Lensa Consulting; BRC Acoustics & Audiovisual Design; J. Uno & Associates; Geolabs; Garcia and Associates; Ralph S. Inouye Company

Client

State of Hawaii Department of Education

Area of project entry

7,699 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$5,679,300

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$740

Total area

9,317 sq. ft. (building, 7,699 sq. ft.; covered walkway, 1,618 sq. ft.)

Total cost

\$5,922,000

Total cost/square foot

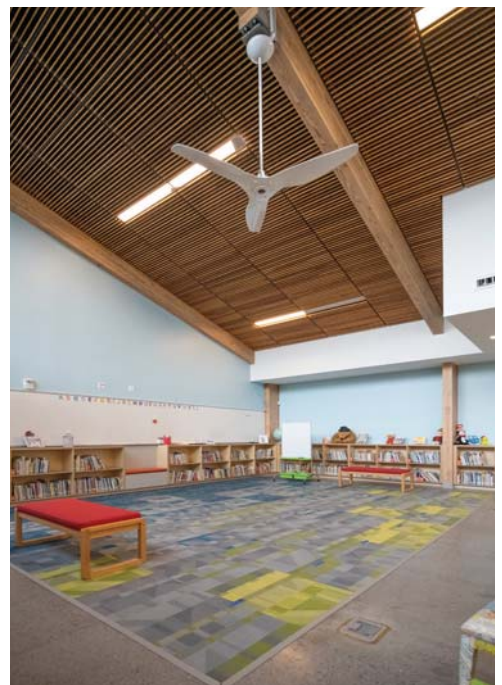
\$636

Completion

November 2021

Photographer

Kevin Loo-Chan



WEBB SCHOOL OF KNOXVILLE, UPPER SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

Knoxville, Tennessee



The Upper School Achievement Center is focused on innovation in learning and features an immersive learning visualization lab with a full wall 18-foot-by-6-foot touch screen. Adjacent spaces in the research and innovation center provide opportunities for augmented reality and virtual reality studies as well as collaborative workspaces. The library is primarily focused

on digital media and innovation; stacks have been moved to a quiet zone elsewhere in the building.

This innovative achievement center addition has been placed at the center of the upper school building as an easy resource for students. The entry to the center is placed prominently in a popular student commons/gathering area. The commons

features ample collaborative areas as well as a new cafe serving bar.

The design team conducted extensive research to guide the school as it strives to meet its mission of "re-imagining an extraordinary education." Clearly, innovative education spaces are changing at a rapid pace and have transformed classroom designs. 🏡



McCarty Holsaple McCarty

Client

Webb School of Knoxville

Total area

12,000 sq. ft. (new: 5,800 sq. ft., renovated: 6,200 sq. ft.)

Total cost

\$2,854,600

Total cost/square foot

\$238

Completion

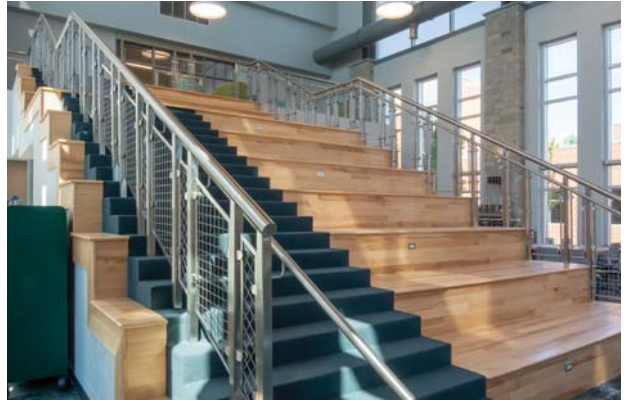
August 2020

Photographer

Morgan Nowland; Denise Retallack

WEST BLOOMFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL

West Bloomfield, Michigan



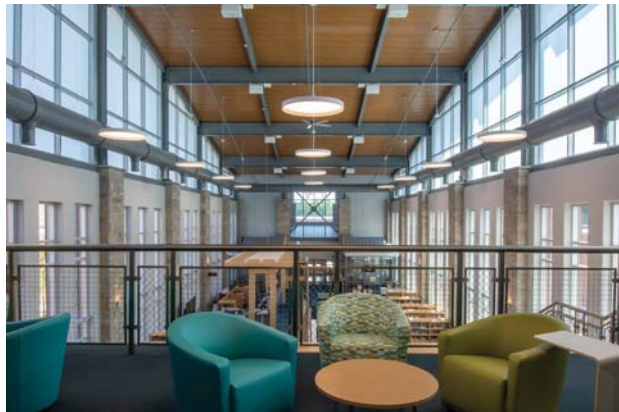
The focus project of the West Bloomfield 2017 Bond program called for combining two existing middle school buildings in one central location. The new building revolves around the “wave” of the media center, or iCenter as it is known in the West Bloomfield

School District.

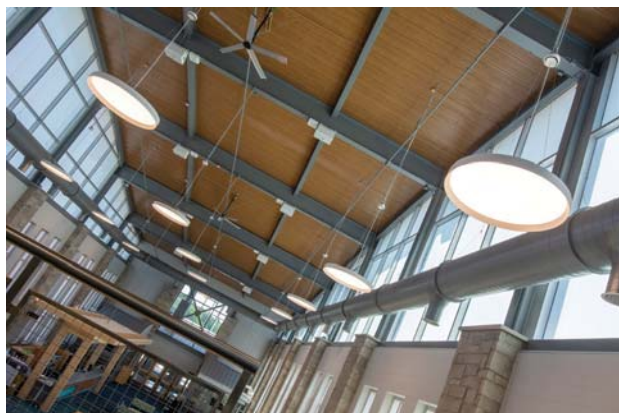
Students can use the Learning Stair as a means of circulation from the first to the second floor, and it can be used as a collaborative space for all group sizes. The space includes a STEAM area furnished with mobile tables and storage for

tinkering activities. Flexible soft seating throughout the space can be reconfigured for individual reflection and group collaborative work. Small group rooms include technology for student sharing and presentation. Access to two adjacent courtyards enables learning to extend to exterior spaces and atmospheres, while providing a safe experience for students of all abilities.

LED lighting; fritted glazing at the second-floor fenestration; and sun control at the first floor. These building features are an integral part of the inquiry, investigation, and introspection aspects of the learning experience that takes place in this space. ▲



The wave shape of the roof defines the two-story space of the media center and reinforces the iCenter as the center of the learning within. The wave roof rolls from the building entrance to the second-story level and subtly represents the school mascot—the Lakers. The design of this space included acoustic metal deck with exposed construction; energy-efficient, high-volume, low-speed overhead fans; multiple layers of



French Associates

Associated firms: Strategic Energy Solutions, Shymanski Associates, Spalding DeDecker, IDS

Client

West Bloomfield School District

Area of project entry
8,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry
\$3,000,000

Cost/square foot of project entry
\$375

Total area
198,000 sq. ft.

Total cost
\$52,000,000

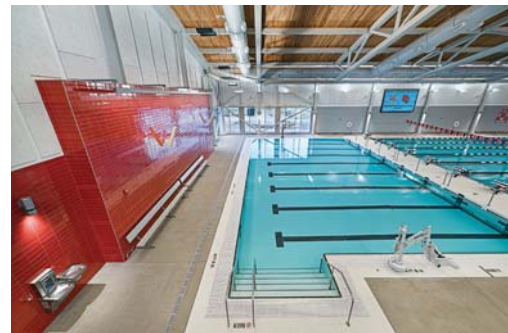
Total cost/square foot
\$263

Completion
August 2022

Photographer
Rick Lipski

EAST CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL NATATORIUM

St. Leon, Indiana



In collaboration with Sunman-Dearborn Community Schools, this new natatorium designed by RATIO features a unique “tech wave” form within the plan layout and on the exterior roof form and entry canopies. References to “wave frequency” appear through the exterior and interior de-

sign in layering and patterning of materials and finishes. The primary entrance to the natatorium is positioned as the dominant campus gateway; access to the high school and all exterior athletics lead from this central beacon.

The new pool is an eight-lane “stretch



RATIO

Client

Sunman-Dearborn Community Schools

Area of project entry

28,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$14,800,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$529

Completion

September 2022

Photographer

AJ Waltz; Mark Beebe



25" competition-compliant pool, with diving, lap swim, and warm-up/cool-down areas. Seating for 500 is accommodated on a mezzanine-level area with retractable bleachers and glass panel handrails for spectator viewing. The locker rooms and support spaces accommodate physical education lockers for boys and girls, junior varsity and varsity locker rooms, a coach's office, a hospitality room, a lifeguard office, and lots of storage spaces. The lobby has modern architectural elements; wood, tile, and pops of color are used throughout the

space. Clear glass was used throughout the facility as visual transparency played a key factor in design.

The roof of the natatorium is a tongue-and-groove laminated wood deck, which serves as a thermal break to eliminate points of condensation at the roof; it also helps to "warm" the space. The natural wood tones at the ceiling are highlighted with soft "up-lighting" and offer a surprisingly warm and welcoming tone in what would otherwise be a sterile environment through standard-practice painted metal deck.

The natatorium will be enjoyed by students and the community through community swim lessons and club competition swim events, along with high school and middle school physical education classes. ▲



CENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Hanover, Massachusetts



The Center Elementary School, a LEED Silver-certified addition and renovation project, was designed in both scale and materials to seamlessly combine the renovated with the new construction. This efficient and cost-effective solution addresses the district's educational goals while providing improved and accessible community amenities.

Interiors are bright and welcoming in learning and public spaces. Appropriate

daylighting and adjacencies were a prime concern to the building's layout. STEAM learning takes place directly across from the media center, inspiring curiosity and providing the tools essential to project-based instruction. Color, volume, and a strong outdoor connection foster student interaction and collaboration among learners in welcoming and bright "Team Learning Areas." A central courtyard provides outdoor educational space and maintains a strong



connection to the interiors. The cafeteria presents a clean, bright, and flexible common area with strong visual connections to the outdoors. The auditorium, cafeteria, and gym are easily accessible from the main lobby and separated from learning spaces.

This proud new school serves as a cultural landmark for the community and was completed ahead of schedule and under budget. 🏡



Mount Vernon Group Architects

Client

Town of Hanover

Area of project entry

97,099 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$25,600,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$264

Completion

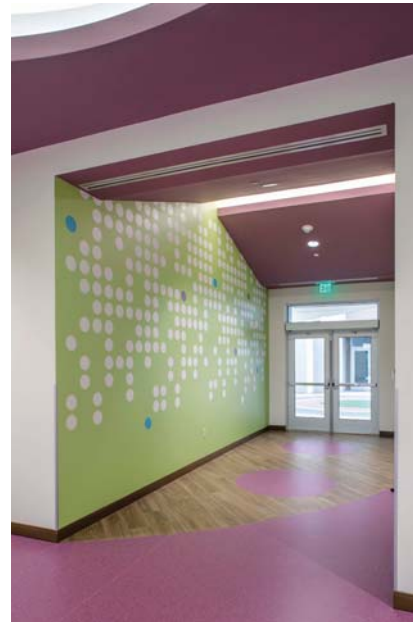
October 2021

Photographer

Brett Beyer Photography

KICKAPOO TRADITIONAL TRIBE OF TEXAS EARLY CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE & LEARNING CENTER

Eagle Pass, Texas



The Early Childhood Language & Learning Center is the first component of a master-planned educational campus for the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas. The Early Childhood Center is programmed to reflect a detailed analysis of the tribe's needs and goals for educating its youngest members. The facility features ample windows, lobbies, and circulation spaces of various scales and color palettes for wayfinding, and vibrant gathering spaces to reflect and enhance the joyous

time of early childhood. Generous windows invite natural light and reflect the cultural importance of a vital connection to nature. As the educational campus expands, the various components will be connected via covered walkways that serve two purposes – shelter, and a means to connect utilities to the central plant and between buildings. Exterior courtyards will serve as environmentally connected outdoor teaching spaces, featuring paving patterns that reflect the tribe's connection with nature. Ultimately,

while being cost-effective and efficiently managing user flows, the master plan will provide an engaging learning environment for the tribe's youth. 🏡



kga

Client

Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas

Area of project entry

28,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$28,200,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$1,007

Completion

November 2022

Photographer

Thomas McConnell

NORTH BRANCH DISTRICT EDUCATION CENTER

North Branch, Minnesota



The kindergarten addition and Early Childhood Learning renovation at the North Branch DEC adds six classrooms and renovates three existing spaces. A secure courtyard playground provides visual connections and natural light to spaces. A large motor room and renovated child-centered media area with a "learning tree" was designed for expanded student learning.

The facility's interior was "rebuilt" with new windows, new heating/ventilation/air-conditioning, boilers, chiller, electrical distribution, low-voltage technology, new finishes, and furniture. Energy efficiency was a top goal for the mechanical upgrades.

Furniture enhances learning experiences for students. A pilot program provided various furniture options. Staff had a say in the selections. Built-in colored window eaves in rooms match the furniture and finish colors, providing seating variety, dramatic play, and

learning settings. Color is ubiquitous: at floors, walls, ceilings, courtyard glass, main entry arches, skylights, and window fins. The kids love the color. 🧑🏻‍🎓



ATSR Planners, Architects + Engineers

Associated firm:
Kraus Anderson

Client
North Branch Public Schools

Area of project entry
74,905 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry
\$14,084,608

Cost/square foot of project entry
\$188

Completion
January 2020

Photographer
Troy Thies Photography

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MAUSTON, WEST SIDE ELEMENTARY

Mauston, Wisconsin



the entrances for shared spaces off the commons.

The building is split among three learning communities: kindergarten and 4K, 1st and 2nd grade, and the Montessori program. Each is defined by its own color. Shared classrooms are connected with large sliding pocket doors that also double as a whiteboard surface. The Montessori wing has its own shared kitchen space adjacent to a large collaboration area for hands-on learning. ▲

West Side Elementary houses 4K, kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade, and the district's Montessori program. The design supports the curriculum. Incorporating colors and various shapes to design elements throughout the building brings inspiration to students beyond the classroom, initiating cognitive development.

At the main entry from the northwest,

light flows into the warm and inviting commons; glulam beams stretch across the space. A bench is situated to the side of the entry with a wall that illustrates Mauston's history with photographs and custom graphics. School branding colors and integrated LED wall lighting highlight



Plunkett Raysich Architects

Client

School District of Mauston

Area of project entry

94,267 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$32,200,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$342

Completion

September 2022

Photographer

Tricia Shay
Photography;
Bryanna Pishion

WALLED LAKE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT, EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Novi, Michigan



The Walled Lake Early Childhood Center illustrates a progressive vision for high-quality educational space beginning with the district's youngest learners. The center was designed around the foundational elements of nature and play, supporting sensory, social emotional, deep, and hands-on learning for all students, with emphasis on empathy and inclusion. Drawing inspiration from nature, these elements are visible from the main entry through every space in the interior using natural materials, aesthetics, color, signage, and scale. Intentional design elements like the sensory lobby, the child-size door accessing the two classroom wings, the window alcove in each classroom, and the activity zone were all intentionally designed to support the whole child and connect to the HighScope learning curriculum.

Sixteen classrooms, including spaces for special education, create an inclusive environment. Flexibility is key; all classroom spaces can access one another and the common activity zone. The gross motor multiuse space supports physical therapy and indoor play opportunities for all students, and the backyard spaces aid in connecting the classrooms to nature. 🌲



TMP Architecture

Associated firms: Peter Basso Associates, CommTech Design, William A. Kibbe Associates, Spalding DeDecker

Client

Walled Lake Consolidated Schools

Area of project entry

38,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$9,528,790

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$251

Completion

June 2022

Photographer

Christopher Lark
Photography

COLLEGE OF THE
MAINLAND, STEAM/
ALLIED HEALTH BUILDING



JANUARY



HOBBS CTECH



FEBRUARY



BLUE RIDGE ISD,
BLUE RIDGE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



MARCH



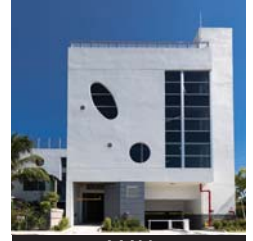
GARRISON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



APRIL



KLA ACADEMY



MAY



TEMPLETON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



JUNE



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KETTERING UNIVERSITY
LEARNING COMMONS



JULY



AMERICAN SCHOOL
FOUNDATION OF
GUADALAJARA



AUGUST



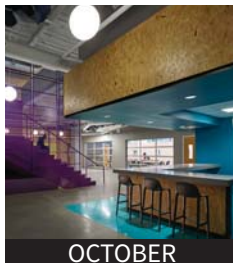
DELAWARE CITY
SCHOOLS, DEMPSEY
MIDDLE SCHOOL



SEPTEMBER



AFTER SCHOOL MATTERS
WING OF GATELY PARK



OCTOBER



IVAN G. SMITH
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



NOVEMBER



ECHO EDUCATIONAL
ENRICHMENT
CENTER & DR. DEBRA
PARRISH-HOOKS
ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER



DECEMBER



American
School&University

SchoolDesigns

WAREHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Wareham, Massachusetts



Serving over 1,020 PK-4 students, the new Wareham Elementary School is an efficient, cost-effective solution that fully responds to the district's educational plan for school consolidation and community aspirations for modern and accessible public amenities.

The building consists of two classroom "neighborhood" wings and a centralized community core. A change in topography

allows for a lower level containing kindergarten and pre-K; related administration is situated under one of the classroom wings. The central core of the building includes the gym, cafeteria and Innovation Hub, which is used by both school and community programs.

The two classroom wings create grade-specific learning neighborhoods and can be securely separated and shut down dur-

ing community events, after-hours activities, or emergency lockdowns.

The main entry features colorful wall graphics and terrazzo floors celebrating the town and its place in the world. Beaches, woodlands, cranberry bogs and natural wetlands and ponds inspire palettes for each grade's "learning neighborhood."

Floor patterns encourage circulation paths and active play for indoor recess.



Mount Vernon Group Architects

Client

Town of Wareham

Area of project entry

160,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$59,138,840

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$370

Completion

October 2021

Photographer

Brett Beyer Photography



The Innovation Hub is designed to support passive activities like reading and storytelling. Active movement and team learning is encouraged by adjacency to STEAM and art areas. Sustainable and durable materials are used throughout.

Systems and features consistent with the district's maintenance goals and LEED initiatives provide optimal interior learning environments. Flexible, multiuse educational and community spaces are all within a project that was delivered on time and

\$12 million under budget. The project has received LEED Silver certification. ▲

“Student-centered, bright, warm, with a design that would be timeless: Our vision has become a reality.”

— DR. KIMBERLY SHAVER-HOOD,
SUPERINTENDENT, WAREHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS



LOUISIANA SCHOOL FOR MATH, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS, LIVING LEARNING COMMONS

Natchitoches, Louisiana



The Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts is known as one of the best public high schools in the nation. The school was founded in 1982 to serve as the flagship public-supported high school in Louisiana. The architects were selected to provide living space for 360 students and student life staff in a new residence hall.

Concepts of connectivity and openness drive the formal organization of the building. A large, welcoming front porch provides the primary pedestrian entry, sharing a courtyard with an adjacent classroom building. The

wood elements at the underside of the porch roof delicately slip into the building to form a double-height lobby and campus living room, essentially a transparent glazed breezeway that opens to a terrace and courtyard overlooking the athletic field beyond. The south end of the lobby dramatically focuses on a mature grouping of live oaks, carefully preserved by the positioning of the building's footprint. They create a shaded gathering space for the students.

The commons area wraps and extends out from the living room in an inviting series

of gathering spaces, formal and informal, that balance social and academic needs. The student commons culminates in an intimate student lounge that opens to a covered porch and large firepit area, elevated and oriented west, overlooking the athletic fields.

The student residences themselves are organized into 10 independently functioning "neighborhoods." This organizational structure enables students to engage at a personal level and become more closely acquainted with one another. Each neighborhood has nine four-person suites and is supported by a hall commons, a quiet study lounge, laundry facilities, and an office and residence for a Student Life Adviser. ▲



**Ashe Broussard
Weinzettle
Architects/Tipton
Associates** (A Joint Venture)

Client

Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts; State of Louisiana Facility Planning & Control

Area of project entry

111,491 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$25,105,902

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$225

Completion

August 2021

Photographer

Alan Karchmer



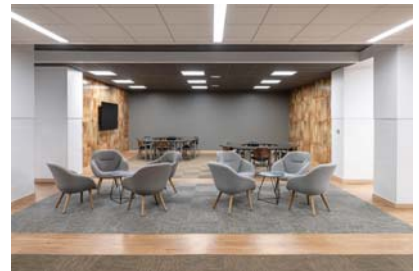
“The new Living Learning Commons gives students the opportunity to experience the community of a safe, innovative residence hall and have state-of-the-art technology at their fingertips while delving into the school’s unique college-level curriculum.”

— DR. STEVE HORTON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LOUISIANA SCHOOL FOR MATH, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE, WHITLEY RESIDENCE HALL

Commerce, Texas



The Whitley Residence Hall renovation is a student-centric project that offers engaging, collaborative and relaxed spaces for first-year residents. Branding elements throughout reflect the identity of the university and the hall, creating a sense of community among the students. From the lobby's supergraphic spirit mural to the yellow back-painted glass logo to vibrant, blue-tiled walls, a cohesive yet sophisticated look springs from the college's school colors.

An esports room that includes consoles and gaming stations enables students to relax and socialize while playing their favorite games. Bold-colored acoustic panels and glass storefront dampen sound, while activating the space. An elegant marble-finished hearth centers the multiple comfortably furnished study pods in the main lounge, along with billiards tables.

A technology-rich collaboration space accommodates pop-up classroom activities nearby. Daylighting and campus views maximize the lounge's openness and outdoor connection.

Whitley Hall's modern living and collaboration spaces support the growing needs of the university with areas tailored to resident preferences while incorporating branding and gaming elements that enhance the student experience within the residence hall. 🏠

GSR Andrade Architects

Client

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Area of project entry

5,500 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$773,567

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$342

Total area

5,500 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$1,000,000

Total cost/square foot

\$182

Completion

September 2022

Photographer

Tracy Allyn Photography



WASHTENAW ISD, HIGH POINT SCHOOL

Ann Arbor, Michigan



High Point School serves about 70 special needs students from each of nine local school districts. The building has 32 classrooms

and includes 118,000 square feet of new space and over 12,000 square feet of renovated space, including the pool and gymnasium.

To support the students, many design elements are unique and accessible. Oversized, automatic doors and wide corridors ease traffic flow. All building areas feature flexible lighting with controls to calibrate lighting temperature from cool to warm colors as well as dimmers to adjust brightness.



TMP Architecture

Associated firms:
Mitchell & Mouat Architects, Peter Basso Associates, IMEG

Client
Washtenaw Intermediate School District

Area of project entry
132,894 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry
\$39,352,735

Cost/square foot of project entry
\$296

Completion
December 2021

Photographer
Christopher Lark Photography

New spaces designed for the social-emotional needs of students include interiors designed to prevent triggers: quiet rooms where students can decompress, updated acoustics in classrooms to reduce noises, and subtle, strategic colors. Two gross motor rooms have been equipped so students can get up and out of their apparatus with chairs and swings.

The school is now an equitable space, and all students have access to mainstream classes. 🏡

KETTERING UNIVERSITY, LEARNING COMMONS

Flint, Michigan



Stantec Architecture

Client
Kettering University

Area of project entry
105,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry
\$60,000,000

Cost/square foot of project entry
\$571

Completion
July 2022

Photographer
Jason Keen Photography

The new Kettering University Learning Commons is a 24-hour student hub and incubator for innovation and creativity. Connecting the ground floor to the existing Campus Center, the building features a four-story atrium topped by a skylight. The first and second floors have public gathering, dining and collaborative spaces, and the third and fourth floors house additional collaborative spaces and environments for

research, support, media, focus and projects. Forgoing the conventional book stacks of the academic library, the new Learning Commons has 100% "in-the-cloud" collections with over 900,000 e-books, 100,000 e-journals, and 100+ databases. Such a programmatic leap recognizes the importance of interaction and socialization to the future workforce, offering students a place to invite their workplace experiences onto campus

while extending their academic experiences into their growing careers.

The building systems speak to the permanence and longevity of the institution while the interiors offer flexibility and timeless elegance for the decades ahead. With power and technology woven throughout, the building can be transformed to meet academic needs and adapt to future programs or space reconfigurations. ▲



TREVECCA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY, JERNIGAN STUDENT CENTER

Nashville, Tennessee



The expansions and renovations of the Trevecca Nazarene University Jernigan Student Center rejuvenate a structure in the heart of campus. The three-story center previously included a 322-seat cafeteria, grill, administrative offices and conference spaces, a bookstore, a formal Presidential Dining Room and the campus mail room, along with student gaming and entertainment spaces.

The building now contains the university's spirit store, a high-end expanded kitchen, a larger dining room seating over 450, a cafe and marketplace directly adjacent to

an outdoor plaza, a new office suite housing student government and diversity council programs, and flexible student lounge spaces. Upgrading an existing monumental stair enhances the user experience while maintaining connection between floors.

The balcony of the third floor sits within the two-story volume of the main dining room, creating a visual connection between the spaces. Improvements to the president's dining room, expanded restrooms, new finishes, lighting and furniture re-energize the building as the center for student experience at the university. 🏡



ESa

Client

Trevecca Nazarene University

Area of project entry

35,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$12,300,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$351

Completion

May 2022

Photographer

Gabe Ford

A.D. HENDERSON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL & FAU HIGH SCHOOL, PHASE 1

Boca Raton, Florida



Phase 1 of this dynamic project replaced K-8 facilities with new technology-rich buildings. Visually exciting spaces

use both natural and artificial lighting. With the use of very color-specific LED lighting, areas are highlighted for perceived importance. Similarly,



Harvard Jolly Architecture

Client

Florida Atlantic University

Area of project entry

107,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$27,700,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$258

Completion

August 2022

Photographer

Chad Baumer



splashes of vibrant colors are used to excite the senses and challenge the norm that colors must be subdued for students of this age. To reinforce the multi-age social aspects of this K-12 school, a central stair with natural light was designed as the crossing point of the different ages.

In new transformable tech labs, students learn real-world engineering challenges and work with Lego-based autonomous robots. These spaces and programs help students develop employment and life skills, including critical think-



ing, time management and teamwork. Glass partitions are used in lab areas to showcase STEM activities.

The media center reading room and group project areas are designed to integrate technology and create digital labs including ceiling-mounted retractable data/electrical services. 🏠

THE FORGE

Florham Park, New Jersey



LAN Associates

Client

Florham Park School District

Area of project entry

3,375 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$1,000,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$296

Completion

June 2022

Photographer

Keith Williams

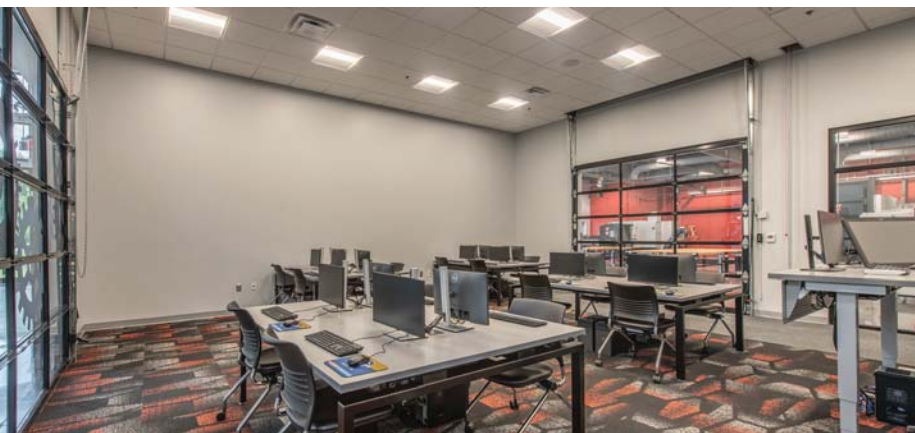
“The Forge” is a cohesive center for the maker movement and robotics studies at Ridgedale Middle School in Florham Park, N.J. It reuses outdated programmatic space for new STEAM methodologies. The design process kicked off with visioning sessions held to draw inspiration from stakeholder and student input. These were integral in transforming the former equipment drop-off into a sought-after production studio and robotics lab.

Entry to The Forge welcomes students with a new colorful graphic-infused corridor lined by glass walls that provide a peek into the learning zones. The new classrooms offer a vibrant center for modern learning that sparks creativity. Occupants are drawn to teaching walls and other learning areas dispersed throughout, which are highlighted by circuit board lighting. Movable wood slab tables offer additional flexibility by providing a place for group prototyping and the ability to break off into personalized solo designs. The design suite is equipped with personal whiteboards, green screens, camera equipment, and advanced prototyping machinery to provide opportunities for envisioning, producing, and marketing ideas. 🚀



CENTER FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Acworth, Georgia



In recent years, the state of Georgia has observed a growing need for skilled tradespersons in advanced manufacturing and emerging technologies. To support these needs, the Technical College System of Georgia partnered with CPL to develop a Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Emerging Technologies (CAMET) at Chattahoochee Technical College.

The full vision for CAMET emerged after extensive programming and planning sessions, where key project stakeholders emphasized priorities around cross-curricular collaboration, cooperative learning and space adaptability. These inviting discussions helped inform the final designs for the new facility, which features contemporary classrooms and interiors with flexible laboratory spaces as well as dedicated areas along public corridors for student gatherings and private study.

Additionally, the building's design and layout enable professors to monitor student activities in classrooms and laboratories—an instrumental aspect in maintaining a safe, communal learning environment. With glass walls and roll-up, garage-style doors, a direct line of sight between the laboratories is created, fostering a sense of connectivity throughout the facility.

Key program elements include space for high-tech industrial maintenance, robotics and advanced machining laboratories; multipurpose workspaces with adjoining classrooms; computer laboratories that promote interactive learning; a variety of faculty offices; and spacious conference rooms. To keep step with the evolving technology landscape, a wide range of

CPL

Client

Chattahoochee Technical College

Area of project entry

19,353 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$6,245,005

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$323

Completion

April 2022

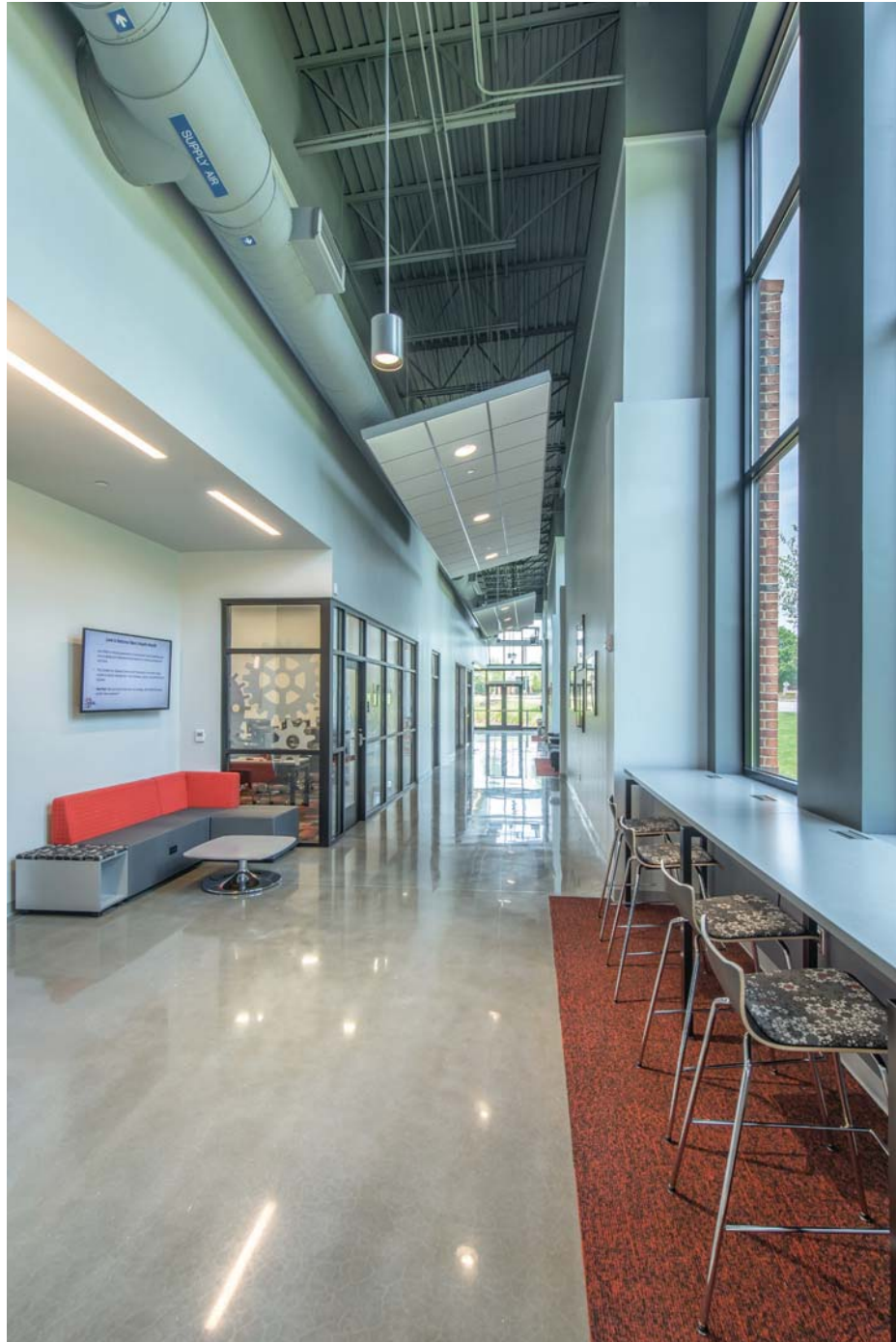
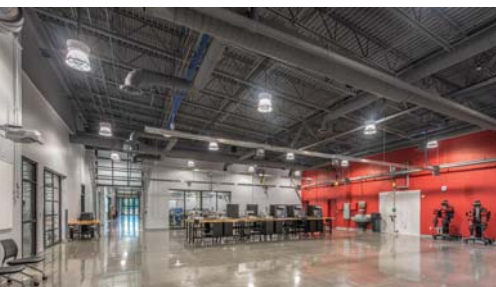
Photographer

J and D Images



modern accoutrements, including charging stations, video display boards and efficient building systems, are integrated throughout the space.

Today, the CAMET facility houses the college's Precision Machining and Manufacturing program and the Industrial Maintenance and Electrical Technology program, offering courses in robotics, aerial vehicle manufacturing and other arising technologies. With purposeful interior designs, the building provides the essential amenities to efficiently turn current and future students into advanced manufacturing technology experts. 🧑‍🔧



“CPL and its team of architects, engineers and interior designers have delivered a building that flexibly supports our evolving instructional needs with a striking interior that faculty, staff, students, industry partners and the community we serve have positively embraced.”

— DAVID SIMMONS, VICE PRESIDENT OF FACILITIES, CHATTAHOOCHEE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

FRANCIS TUTTLE TECHNOLOGY CENTER, DANFORTH CAMPUS

Edmond, Oklahoma



As outlying communities grow, the demand for access to affordable education and training follows. This academic building consists of two

stories dedicated to core classes and student support areas that articulate a proud industrial yet refined environment in support of the innovative solutions necessary to inform 21st-century students. Classes in entrepreneurship, engineering, bioscience and medicine, computer science, pre-nursing, cosmetology, automotive service technology, STEM, and interactive media serve a wide range of student interests. Additionally, the building houses a business incubator, seminar and training spaces for conferences.



At first glance, the split-level building is set back from the main road, nestled into a site that drops 55 feet from the northwest corner to the southwest corner, to minimize the impact of the height of the building on the adjacent residential neighborhoods. The exterior materials are honest in nature—a mixture of wood, concrete, and stone that flow naturally into the interior of the building.

Students and visitors enter through the building and are directed by clerestory windows into a main circulation hub, met by a glass-railed bridge overlooking a light-filled rotunda. The rotunda mimics a restful zone with space to work, connect, and enjoy an abundance of natural light, while encouraging instructors to break out of their classrooms, making use of the grand

“We believe our unique campus design provides the optimal environment for our students, staff and the community to connect, collaborate, and innovate.”

—KHAALIQ F. SALIM, DIRECTOR, DANFORTH CAMPUS, FRANCIS TUTTLE

Bockus Payne

Associated firms:

Allen Consulting; KFC Engineering

Client

Francis Tuttle Technology Center

Area of project entry

155,000 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$42,900,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$277

Completion

July 2021

Photographer

Justin Miers



stair for student seating—a unique option for energized learning.

The program encourages and facilitates the STEM Focused + Design Thinking process, an approach that centers on the principles of empathy, expansive thinking, and experimentation. Transparency into classrooms and Design Thinking Studios reveals activities within. The interior is inviting and durable, with exposed natural elements that inspire creative and inquisitive minds. Full-spectrum color and energized

shapes invite students to manipulate their environment by moving the furniture and

writing on the walls—engagement to the fullest. 🧑‍🎓



LEDERLE GRADUATE RESEARCH CENTER MAKERSPACE

Amherst, Massachusetts



This project creates a modern, flexible makerspace designed for innovation and adaptable to changes in the short and long term.

Facilities include an on-site parts dispensary and advanced prototyping equipment for a variety of electronics and robotics work. Flexible fabrication spaces enable students to carry out projects and experiments of various sizes and configurations.

Rapid prototyping enables students to design their ideas and test them while they're fresh. Lessons learned are quickly applied to the next iteration. This modern makerspace provides the required components, equipment, and facilities for innovators to create, learn, and create again.

Impromptu interactions, particularly with those of other disciplines or viewpoints, are understood to be powerful drivers of progress. It's these unplanned conversations that can create a thought process to solve a problem in ways not previously considered, accelerating innovation. Facilitating this is an on-site lounge with a view into



the workshop space, which provides opportunities for social interaction among students. 🧑‍🎓



Matz Collaborative Architects

Associated firm:
WSP

Client
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Area of project entry
Not provided

Cost of project entry
Not provided

Completion
October 2019

Photographer
Keitaro Yoshioka

ZEANAH ENGINEERING COMPLEX, UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Knoxville, Tennessee



In collaboration with SmithGroup, McCarty Holsaple McCarty designed the University of Tennessee Zeanah Engineering Complex to contain flexible laboratory spaces, laboratory support spaces, general-purpose classrooms, reconfigurable collaborative spaces, innovation labs, makerspaces, and administrative spaces. The facility is a new gateway to the Tickle College of Engineering and home to the top-ranked Department of Nuclear Engineering. It provides state-of-the-art instructional spaces along with research and development spaces for

the department, including safe and secure laboratories handling isotopes.

Three floors of active learning classrooms are dedicated to engineering fundamentals. A robust audiovisual infrastructure and an AV control interface are carefully planned for flexible space usage. The design is focused on innovative hands-on learning, student and faculty research needs, technology-rich learning spaces, and long-term flexibility to optimize adaptation to emerging programs and technologies.

This facility incorporates sustainable

elements such as the university's first major green roof. The facility meets the Tennessee Higher Performance Building Requirements and the State of Tennessee Sustainability Design Guidelines. 🌱



McCarty Holsaple McCarty

Associated firm: SmithGroup

Client

University of Tennessee

Area of project entry

232,250 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$107,490,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$463

Completion

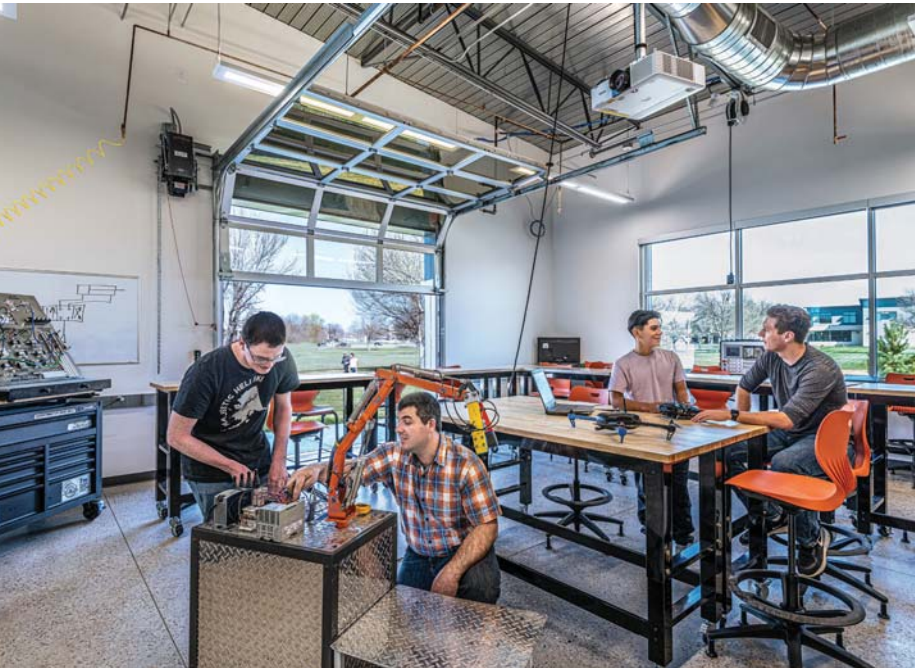
August 2021

Photographer

Keith Isaacs; Geneva Hil

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION CENTER

Ontario, Oregon



The Treasure Valley Community College Career Technical Education program was operating in a facility that had dated systems and equipment. With a need to modernize and expand, the architects designed a 12,000-square-foot addition and renovated the existing 15,000-square-foot shop to create an innovative learning environment.

This experiential environment is not your average classroom; the student-centered and technology-enriched layout includes active labs and workshop areas. The transformed CTE center adds high-demand programs for students, attracts industry partnerships, and has enabled the commu-

nity college to double its student population.

The design team collaborated with local business and industry partners to ensure relevancy. The need for future flexibility was prioritized to accommodate growth, modern technologies, career proficiencies, and workforce drivers. Local industry leaders' involvement has created an opportunity to build community connections for students and provides the necessary support to help mentor and guide them within their learning communities. This gives students access to hands-on experience, internships, and industry connections prior to graduation. 🧑‍🔧

Cushing Terrell

Client

Treasure Valley Community College

Area of project entry

26,955 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$6,415,323

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$238

Completion

November 2020

Photographer

Bob Pluckebaum



FAITH LUTHERAN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL, ODER FAMILY FLIGHT ACADEMY

Las Vegas, Nevada



The Ouder Family Flight Academy houses state-of-the-art flight simulators that train students in preflight procedures, cockpit familiarization, takeoff and landing protocols, and many other necessary aspects of flight while navigating students toward a career in aviation. The flight simulators are approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and enable students to train and gain experience in an accredited flight program.

The design of the classroom brings in elements of airplane hangars for an immersive learning experience. Ribbed acoustic panels

on the walls are shaped to look like metal panels. The roof structure is exposed on the interior and has suspended downlighting and acoustic panels in the shape of an airplane wing "rib."

Recesses in two walls incorporate iconic airplanes or highlight a specific time in aviation history. A third wall features a long linear recess with a landscape photo, ribbed acoustic panels at the top and bottom, and LED lighting that portrays the opening of a hangar door. Additionally, the flooring incorporates various runway markings to further convey the "spirit" of aviation. ✈️



kga

Client

Faith Lutheran Middle School and High School

Area of project entry

1,700 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$677,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$398

Completion

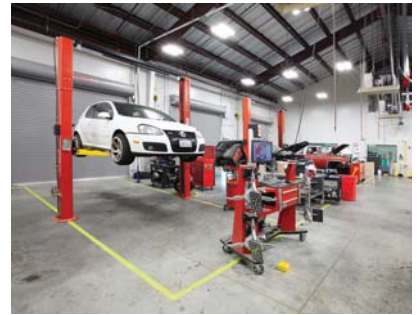
December 2021

Photographer

@Michael Tessler

LAKE BELTON HIGH SCHOOL CTE PROGRAMS

Temple, Texas



Lake Belton is the second high school in a community with a thriving CTE (Career & Technical Education) program, so the challenge was to continue a 50-plus-year legacy while designing for the future. Many students were unaware of the range of CTE opportunities available, so the visibility of these areas was purposefully increased. The ag programs (welding, floral, vet tech, etc.) were placed along a main path to classroom neighborhoods. Culinary was housed next to dining with windows facing the main commons. Large overhead doors connect programs while enabling them to

operate independently. Special mechanical systems included an exposed welding exhaust ductwork system, paint booth with dedicated exhaust system, and portable dust collectors and fume extractors to serve other equipment and promote layout flexibility.

CTE has its own entry, admin spaces, and parking to welcome industry instructors and provide easy access for large equipment. The project came in under budget, which enabled the district to add an auto shop. All program spaces include professional equipment, durable flooring, and flexible furniture for varied instruction. 🏠



O'Connell Robertson

Associated firm: Food Service Design Professionals

Client

Belton ISD

Area of project entry

40,600 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$11,002,600

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$271

Total area

391,877 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$106,675,484

Total cost/square foot

\$272

Completion

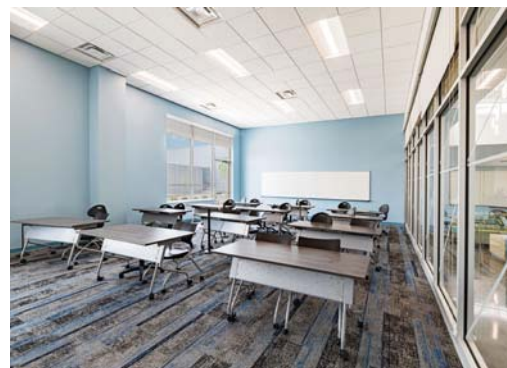
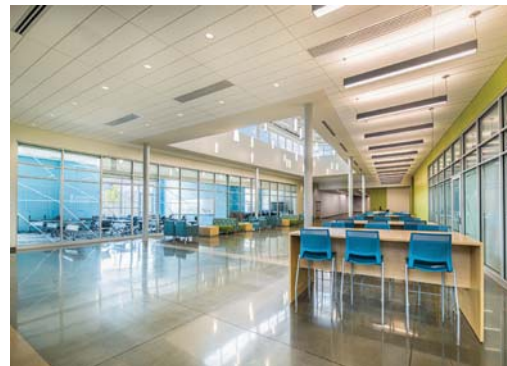
July 2020

Photographer

Wade Griffith;
Jaiy Braulick

LAUREL OAKS CAREER CAMPUS

Wilmington, Ohio



Situated next to a public air park, the Laurel Oaks Career Campus originally consisted of two main buildings separated by an open plaza. The buildings had multiple entrances, with no clear primary entry. They were difficult to navigate, and students and staff had to go outside to get to their other classes. The absence of dedicated corridors to individual rooms caused congestion and interruptions in lab spaces.

The project sought to connect the two buildings and create a cohesive campus identity that was consistent with the school's mission. Enclosing the plaza area and creating a new main entrance has unified the two buildings. The new "Connector" entry provides a more organized pickup and drop-off area for students as well as additional parking. Adding north and south corridors creates better accessibility and organized flow between lab spaces. 📍



MSA Design

Client

Great Oaks Career Campuses

Total area

160,000 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$43,000,000

Total cost/square foot

\$269

Completion

January 2022

Photographer

Tyler Gentry

MOMENTUM: MINNETONKA DESIGN AND SKILLED TRADES

Minnetonka, Minnesota



exploring construction trades, ample storage for tools and equipment, office space for educators, a gantry crane for large projects and a hands-on lab space for robotics and other classes.

Minnetonka High continues to grow its programs with the help of key private sector and community partnerships. With its unique brand, Momentum helps students explore trades while simulating real-world experience, and the program continues to increase enrollment every year.

Equipping the maker space with a large, oversized garage door and gantry crane creates space for teaching sustainable practices in construction design. Students can learn about prefabrication and modular building in a climate-controlled setting.

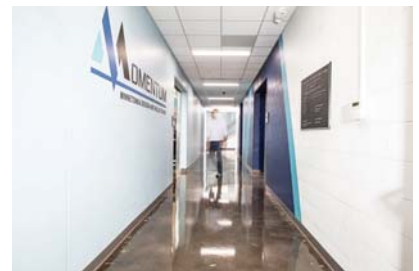
With the auto bay and the maker bay being a hub of activity, the design also provides a second-level acoustically isolated classroom for focused instruction.

Minnetonka High has a long tradition of career and tech ed opportunities with hands-on learning. The Momentum addition maintains this tradition. Community partnerships connect the work students are doing in the classroom to the business and educational opportunities in the area. 📍

ATSR designed an addition for Momentum: Minnetonka Design and Skilled Trades. The 10,300-square-foot addition provides learning space for students doing hands-on work in engineering,

design, construction, construction systems, manufacturing, and transportation.

The addition houses large and small group learning space, a full-service auto bay with four lifts, a large maker space for



ATSR Planners, Architects + Engineers

Client

Minnetonka Public School District

Area of project entry

10,300 sq. ft.

Cost of project entry

\$3,582,000

Cost/square foot of project entry

\$347

Completion

January 2022

Photographer

Philip Hussong Photography

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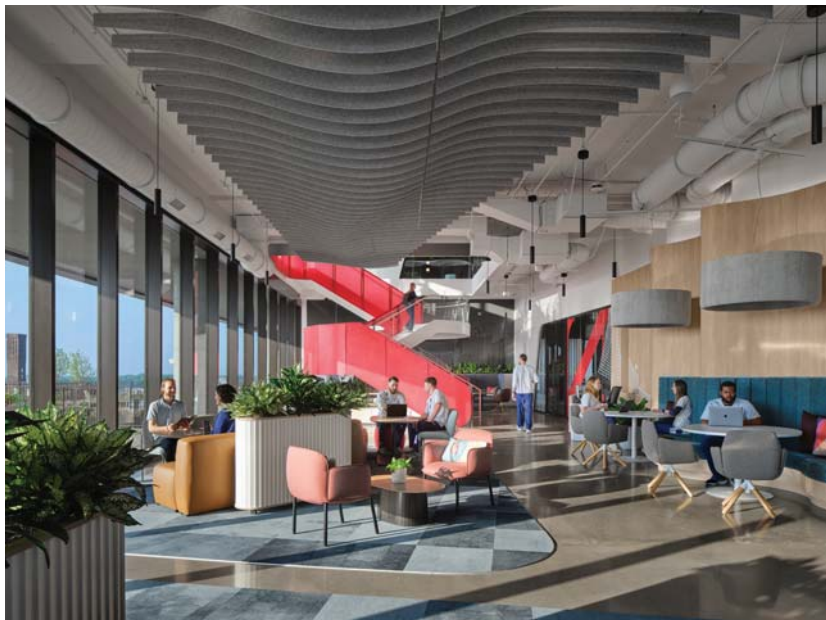
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A theater in an elementary school in the Franklin Special School District in Franklin, Tenn., provides an intimate space for performers and the audience.
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STORYTELLERS ON STAGE

Raising the curtain on functionality in school auditorium design.

by Vaughn Dierks and Beth Meadows

If all the world's a stage, then auditoriums are catalysts for a community's most poignant performances. Whether it's music or drama, educational lectures or celebrations, auditoriums are, at their core, storytelling spaces.

The goal of these spaces is to communicate to a larger audience, a concept that dates back thousands of years. At schools across the country, auditoriums are used to host school plays, band and choir concerts and lectures. But many of these facilities were created with an emphasis on flexibility over functionality. Overlapping square footage in a gym-theater combo or "cafetorium" may save a district money, but it can be a costly compromise to students' overall learning.

As education administrators decide to build or renovate theaters and auditoriums, they need to keep functionality at the forefront to ensure these spaces are the best possible for storytelling and learning.

Functionality first

Before considering whether to add an auditorium, school leaders should ask teachers, community members and other leadership: What are the primary goals for the space? Create a task force, and incorporate stakeholders at every level. That will ensure that decisions are based on input and feedback from a diverse group of people.

Determine which storytellers, or performers, will be using the stage and the ideal audience sizes for their work. From the storyteller's standpoint, would a theater-in-the-round with an audience surrounding the stage be most useful? Or, should the space be designed for elevated acoustics so that an entire orchestra can perform at its best? What technical level of stage will be needed for the presentation style in mind? In addition, how can the space support the learning environment for many ages and uses?

The responses to these initial questions can

guide the overall design and functionality of the auditorium. These spaces can serve multiple functions, including:

- Award ceremonies
- Band
- Choir
- Community uses
- Lecture spaces
- Movie nights
- Music performances
- One-act plays
- Orchestra
- Rentals
- Speech/debate
- Staff meetings
- Student assemblies
- Theatrical productions

For all ages and backgrounds—from actors to crew, kindergarteners to high school seniors—the space should be able to function for its main purposes and meet the needs of each group of users. Depending on the target age groups and learning objectives, certain types of auditoriums and layouts may be better than others, from the arched proscenium theater for a classic performance to the thrust stage extended on three sides into the audience with backstage room.

Middle and high school levels

As students transition into higher grade levels and the arcs of young performers begin to expand, so do the auditoriums used to develop new skills. At the middle and high school level, students are beginning to dive deeper into performance, such as drama and music, and need support spaces to continue broadening their skills. In some cases, schools may require separate auditoriums for acting versus concerts, but most will adjust design elements to best fit their needs within a singular space.

While a fanned audience arrangement is closer to the stage and generally favors drama and theater functions, angled walls are not as good for acoustics. Proscenium theaters, where the stage is separated from the audience by a defined arch or “fourth wall,” are some of the most common auditorium types to meet the needs of both drama and music. There may also be an extension past the stage called an apron that can house an orchestra underneath or provide additional space above for performers or speakers in front of a closed main curtain.

Black box theaters are another type of auditorium to support the experimentation and exploration of art and storytelling in higher grade



Small proscenium theater in an elementary school in the Franklin Special School District in Franklin, Tenn.
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Thrust auditorium at Shakopee High School in Shakopee, Minn.
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Black Box/recital hall at Shakopee High School in Shakopee, Minn.
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Proscenium theater with small thrust and steep rake at Mound Westonka High School in Minnetrista, Minn.
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Production studio at Shakopee High School in Shakopee, Minn.
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Proscenium theaters are some of the most common auditorium types to meet the needs of both drama and music.
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levels. Designed exactly as they sound, these spaces provide a large, flexible area for stages and smaller audiences to set up however best suits the needs for a particular performance or show. Many professional theaters use similar spaces to rehearse and block before final performances. Black box theaters provide students with an experimental lab to freely practice their presentation and communication skills. In essence, they are a miniature theater-in-the-round. Although these theaters are relatively rare at the K-12 level, they may be a part of a specialized performing arts campus.

All ages

Occasionally, districts that don't have an existing theater space and have multiple schools situated near one another may add an auditorium that supports students of every age and grade. These spaces can also host districtwide events and performances and typically have enough seating to house 500 to 600 audience members; however, some may accommodate 1,000 seats or more.

To ensure these spaces are flexible enough for more intimate group settings, the house can be divided into sections or segments so smaller groups can attend and not feel overwhelmed or spread out in a giant box meant for 500 or more attendees.

Having higher-end auditoriums with full fly lofts, rigging systems and catwalks available to elementary and middle school students can have many benefits. Those amenities expose students to a developmental, lifelong appreciation for the arts at a young age and enable older students to engage with younger ones and share excitement and interest in storytelling and performance. There may even be opportunities for middle or elementary students to get involved in high school performances when appropriate.

Some schools may be able to provide students with a variety of performance spaces and theater types at the elementary, middle and high school levels and give them opportunities to evolve as they move onto the next stage. The possibility of having different venues to create a wider range of opportunities should be part of any discussion on what is needed for the community. Whether actors or musicians, crew members or public speakers, the right auditoriums can set students up for success both on the stage and far beyond. ■

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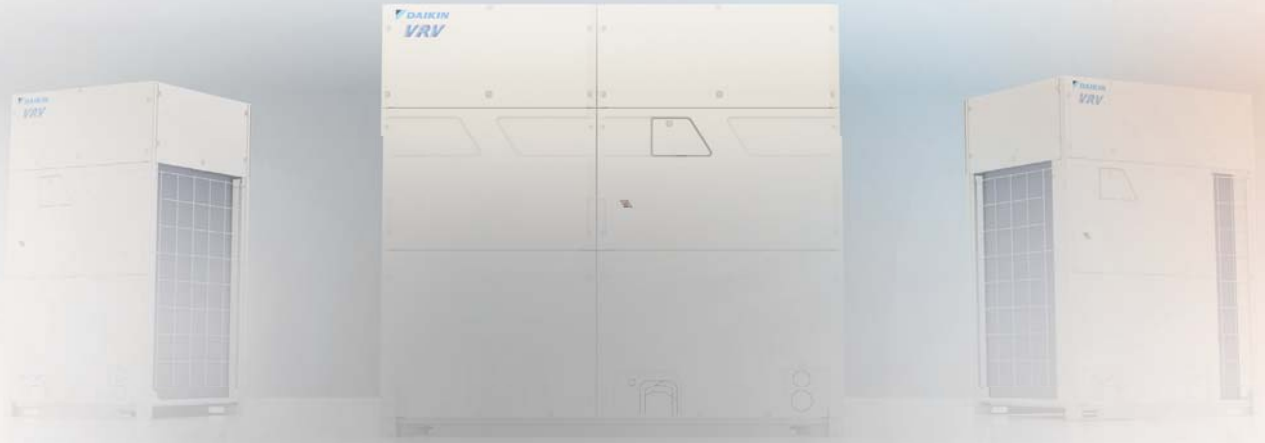
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