



bienes center for the arts at st. thomas aquinas high school fort lauderdale, florida

We were initially hired to assist with identifying the types of arts facilities which would best serve the school's theatre, music, and dance departments, as well as the type of general performance / assembly functions for both the school and the community, and proceeded to design the new complex. Extensive interviews with faculty, administration, student representatives, and members of the community resulted in the plan to move forward with a 300 seat flexible theatre and a separate yet linked 2,400 sq. ft. divisible studio building.

The result is a building that embraces and celebrates the public realm from Davie Boulevard and has an equally strong connection to the rest of the high school. The lobby is a classic "stage" itself with a light stair gracefully sweeping down and inviting one up to the multipurpose Oval Room. The flexible and beautiful oval space has a commanding view of its surroundings and can serve as a lecture hall, banquet room and Founders Lounge. While the South facade beckons the community, the North facade invites school activities with a covered drop-off, protected student gathering spaces and a two story glass enclosed green room that inspires students and performers and serves as a beacon to the campus and surrounding community.

Project Information

Area:	26,117 sq. ft.
Scope:	New Construction
Services:	Complete Architectural Services
Completion Date:	September 2008
Client:	St. Thomas Aquinas High School
Contact:	Rev. Monsignor Vincent Kelly 954.581 2206
Architect of Record:	Zeidler Partnership Inc (Michael Nelson - Director)
Contractor:	Pavarini Construction Co.
Project Delivery:	Construction Management
Construction Cost:	\$12.2 Million

