



guzzetta hall

akron, ohio

The Departments of Dance, Theatre and Music at the University of Akron had long suffered from inadequate and outdated facilities that were scattered around the campus and beyond. The Department of Dance occupied improvised dance studios within the sanctuary of an old abandoned church, several blocks from the edge of campus. We were hired to lead a team of national specialists and regional consultants to perform Programming, Masterplanning, and Design Services for phased major additions to and renovations of the existing Guzzetta Hall to better serve these Departments and numerous community arts organizations.

The master plan locates the additions on a parcel immediately adjacent to, and provides an interface with the existing Guzzetta Hall. The new building responds to campus master planning criteria and respects the surrounding context and patterns at the campus core. The program accommodates a new 450 seat performance space, several rehearsal studios, administrative offices and support spaces. The first phase of the project includes 7 dance studios, one of which also functions as a performance space, departmental offices, physical therapy spaces and a large atrium which in the future will double as the main lobby for the new theatre. This daylight flooded multi-level space serves as the heart of the facility ; a place where students, faculty and the public, merge to engage in a constant exchange of ideas and inspiration.

Project Information

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| Area: | 47,500 sq. ft. |
| Scope: | Additions |
| Services: | Complete Architectural Services |
| Completion Date: | Phase 1 - August 2006 |
| Client: | University of Akron |
| Contact: | Neil Sapienza 330.972.6223 |
| Architect of Record: | Zeidler Partnership Inc (Michael Nelson - Director) |
| Associate Architect: | Michael DiMaio and Associates |
| Contractor: | The Hammond/Bennett |
| Project Delivery: | Joint Venture Construction Management |
| Construction Cost: | \$11.4M |

