

Fine Arts Building Rehabilitation and Additions - SUNY Oneonta

Oneonta, New York



The State University Construction Fund engaged architecture+ to provide design and construction administration services for the \$11 million Rehabilitation of the Fine Arts Building at the State University College at Oneonta. Constructed in 1968, the building houses the Music, Art, and Theater Departments as well as general classrooms, the Campus Art Gallery, and two theaters. Programming meetings were held to reach consensus on the renovations and additions needed by each Department and to balance priorities within a predetermined budget.

The Music Department work upgraded existing recording studios, classrooms, and offices, along with substantial remediation to better control humidity within this sensitive area. A humidity controlled 12,000 square foot addition houses state-of-the-art electronic/acoustic recording studios, rehearsal rooms, secure instrument storage, and a large performance space. We engaged nationally-respected acoustical engineers to ensure that these studios would present the best acoustic conditions for practice, performance, and recording.

The Art Department was renovated and rearranged to enhance instructional studios and accommodate a more advanced art program. A high-priority concern for fire safety led to the design of additions for gas-fired ceramic kilns and a metals foundry outside the main building.

The Theater Department dressing rooms, make-up rooms, costume construction studio, and green room were renovated to better address contemporary theatre operations and education. A new theater classroom and departmental offices were also provided.

This extensive project impacted every corner of a large and complex building, requiring that we develop a comprehensive phasing schedule allowing portions of each department to remain in operation as adjacent construction work proceeded, and to minimize disruption to activities that were unable to be relocated.