

Mater Academy Charter High School, Performing Arts Pavilion

Hialeah Gardens, Florida



Civica, LLC

Design team:

Rolando Llanes, Principal; Ivan Fajardo, Project Manager; Julio Guillen; Carlos Perez, Genesis Inman, Tomasz Modzelewski

Client:

Duke School Properties; Judith Marty, Principal

Capacity:

800

Area:

33,000 sq. ft.

Total cost:

\$4.1 million

Cost/square foot:

\$124

Completion:

February 2007

Photographer:

Gaston De Cardenas

The Mater Academy Performing Arts Pavilion is a 33,000-square-foot facility in Hialeah Gardens, Fla. The building is adjacent to Mater Academy Charter High School's main campus, and provides classroom and performing-arts support for the existing school. The facility is composed of 22 conventional classrooms, a drama room, multimedia lab and 200-seat lecture/multimedia hall.

The three-story building is designed to complement the contemporary architectural language of the existing school, while retaining its own unique characteristics. The building's primary facade is composed of three distinct elements: the performing-arts volume to the north; the main classroom component in the center; and the stair tower to the east. Individually, these three

components are symmetrical in composition. Together, however, the three

elements are assembled in a tripartite, asymmetrical composition that reflects the building's distinct program components: lecture hall, classrooms and circulation.

The tripartite composition also is evident as the building transitions from floor to floor, culminating in a third-story loggia that overlooks the lawn and is shaded by a cantilevered roof slab.

The 200-seat lecture hall also includes a second-level mezzanine with additional seats and is adjacent to a multimedia classroom. The lecture hall also is adjacent to a ground-floor drama room that provides back-of-house functions. The classrooms are organized along an exterior loggia that provides natural light to the rooms facing the lawn. A second bank of classrooms is organized along the east facade of the building. Service cores (bathrooms, mechanical elevator) are situated throughout the circulation spine.

