



Mater Academy Lakes Middle School

Hialeah Gardens, Florida



CIVICA, LLC – Architecture & Urban Design

Design team:

Rolando Llanes, RA, Principal-in-Charge;
Julio Guillen, LEED AP, Project Manager;
Tomasz Modzelewski; Jose Valderrama

Client:

Galloway Lakes II, LLC/Academica
Corporation; Rene Roviroso, Principal

Capacity:

1,000

Space/student:

70 sq. ft.

Area:

70,000 sq. ft.

Total cost:

\$7.4 million

Cost/square foot:

\$106

Completion:

June 2011

Photographer:

Rolando Llanes

The Mater Academy Lakes Middle School is a 70,000-square-foot, two-story middle/high school facility on a 10-acre site in Northwest Miami-Dade County, Fla.

The Mater Lakes campus is situated amidst residential and civic uses and is served by two flanking roads that help facilitate the school's link to the adjacent residential neighborhood, as well as the more remote communities it serves.

The L-shaped building is built around a 1-acre lake situated in the center of the campus, and its program includes typical classrooms, science and art labs, library, cafeteria and administrative areas.

The classroom wing has two lengthwise loggias that offer covered access and filtered natural light to all educational rooms. The building's east wing includes the cafeteria/multi-purpose room, library, science

and art labs, and a covered loggia that doubles as a spillout area for lunches.

The building's architectural character and massing strategy are both formal and picturesque, enabling the school to remain consistent with its residential surroundings, as well as to project the civic scale necessary for educational buildings. 

