

Douglass High School Renovation and Additions

Atlanta Public Schools

LOCATION:

Atlanta, Georgia

CLIENT:

Atlanta Public Schools

PROJECT DATA:

renovation/addition
gymnasium
auditorium
media center
kitchen/cafeteria
classrooms
offices

65,000 sf addition
225,000 sf renovation
290,000 sf total

SERVICES:

Master planning
Programming
Interior Design
Architectural Design
Construction Administration

COST:

\$27,000,000

DATE OF COMPLETION:

2004

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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The addition of two new buildings to an existing school proved to be a challenge in contextual sensitivity. The school has been an important part of the surrounding neighborhood for over 30 years, and despite its austere appearance, it is revered with much affection from not only the community of teachers, but the local residents as well. The design solution was to create additions totaling 65,000 square feet paying homage to the original school by respecting its scale and materiality, and then to create value on the campus through new programming offered by the new buildings and the addition of well-defined exterior spaces.

The new auditorium building includes a 700-seat performance space with a large proscenium stage and backstage shop for stage design. Also included in this building is a complete music suite including choral, instrumental and individual practice rooms. The spaces are connected with a two-story gallery space leading back to the main building.

The new gymnasium addition was designed to hold the entire student body on retractable bleacher seating for 3,000 with a main central basketball court. When the bleachers are retracted, the facility can be set up with two full basketball cross-courts. The facility also includes varsity and visiting team locker rooms. The main entrance lobby includes ticketing, public restrooms and a small concessions stand. The existing gymnasium and supporting spaces were renovated as well and include separate weight rooms for training.





