

ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA



Pike - McFarland - Hall Associates, Inc.

Design team

Kyzer & Timmerman Engineers, Structural Engineer; Engineering & Technical Services (ETS), Inc., Civil Engineer; Owens & Associates, Inc., MEP Engineer; Foodesign Associates, Inc., Food-Service Consultant; Strategic Connections, Inc., Acoustics Consultant

Client

Horry County Schools; Cindy Elsberry, Superintendent

Area

136,788 sq. ft.

Total cost

\$24.4 million

Cost/square foot

\$178.38

Capacity

1,840 (includes 250 for community meeting room and 450 for auditorium)

Space/student

195 sq. ft.

Completion

November 2007

Photographer

Robert E. Mikrut Photography

Based on a team-teaching approach, the academy incorporates spaces for education majors such as performing arts (both production and theatrical), dance and TV production; graphic arts, digital/graphics processing and studio art; science, with pre-engineering, pre-med and environmental science.

Project elements:

- Bright colorful spaces and natural light were integrated to inspire students and staff.
- The main lobby entrance serves as single entrance for after-hours use leading to a student commons area and auditorium.
- The centralized cafeteria dining area accommodates student activities, and after-hours theater and community functions.
- The 450-seat auditorium was designed as a functioning theater, but its focus is an education space, with a full working stage with motorized rigging and thrust, a mezzanine technology grid and production booth, enabling students an understanding of all areas of theater production, including acting, dance and music, set design and audiovisual technology.
- Infrastructure was incorporated to enable full video recording of theater performances and live broadcasting.

•A graphic-arts suite was designed with four pods of arts education emphasis surrounding a central digital design hub, along with a full digital graphic-arts studio. 🌿