

ARLINGTON ISD

CENTER FOR VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

2021 LEsolutions DESIGN AWARD



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*ARLINGTON ISD CENTER FOR VISUAL
AND PERFORMING ARTS*

01

ARLINGTON FINE ARTS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

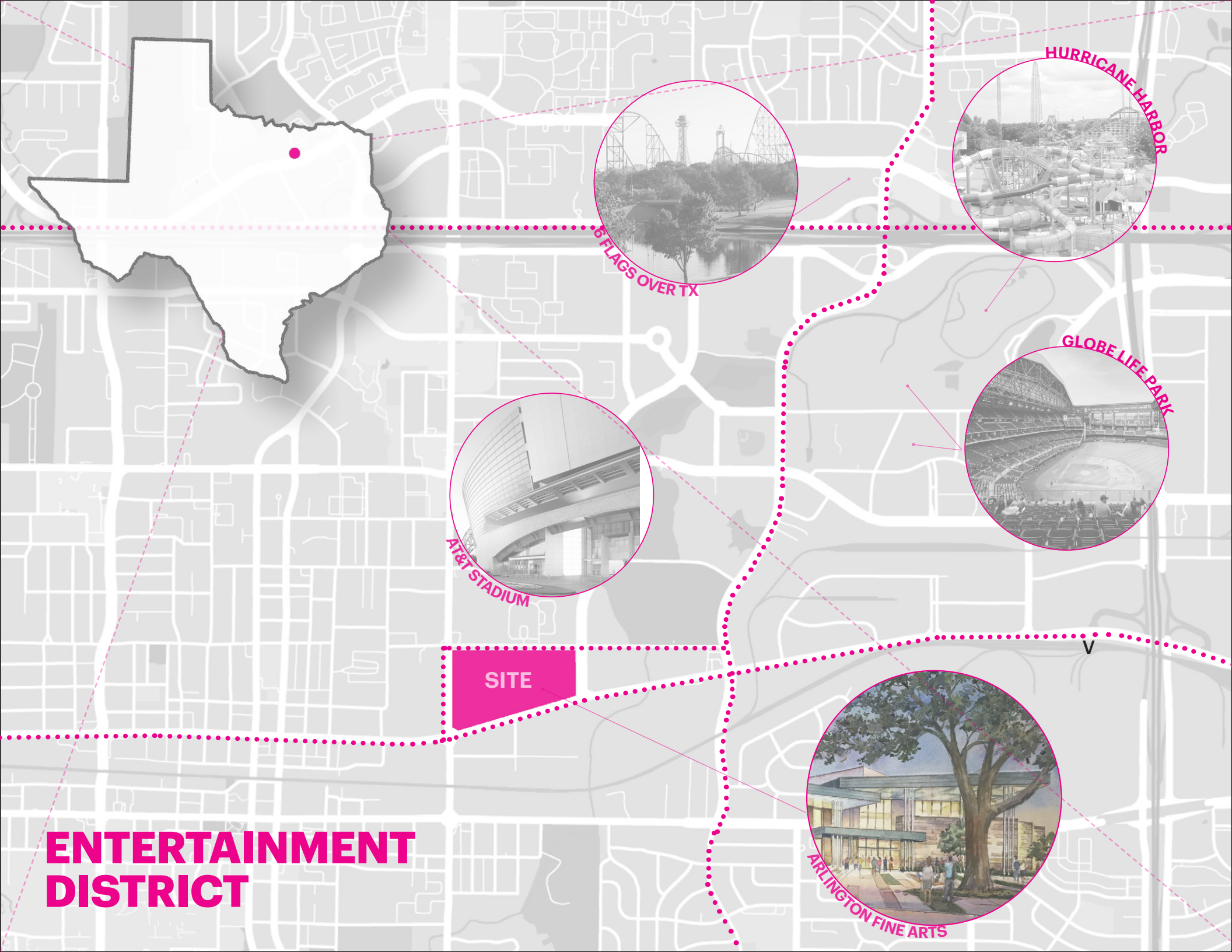
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“A Bridge to Student’s Futures”

“The Center for Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) is an investment by the community and the school district to create a world-class facility for arts education that would give their students a bridge to their future and provide a distinct advantage upon graduation when they are launching a professional career. ”

Through an inclusive design process, the design team guided the Arlington Independent School District in defining its vision and needs while rigorously balancing budget to deliver maximum value. The result is an Arts Center that knows what it is, hosting dedicated venues for music and theater that are right-sized for age-appropriate experiences that will propel high school students to the top of their class when competing for coveted spots at national higher education institutions. We worked closely with school district officials and stakeholders to distill the needs of the district’s fine arts programs so these could be addressed through the design. Instead of creating a multipurpose auditorium for both concerts and plays, HKS delivered two dedicated spaces under the same roof: a handsome 1,200-seat concert hall and a high-tech, 450-seat theater – all within the school district’s budget. The facility also accommodated a gallery for use by students and professionals, as well as functioning classroom spaces for advanced art, dance studio, music courses and other learning spaces and ultimately, a comprehensive fine arts facility.





HURRICANE HARBOR



6 FLAGS OVER TX



GLOBE LIFE PARK



AT&T STADIUM



SITE



ARLINGTON FINE ARTS

ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT



SCOPE + BUDGET

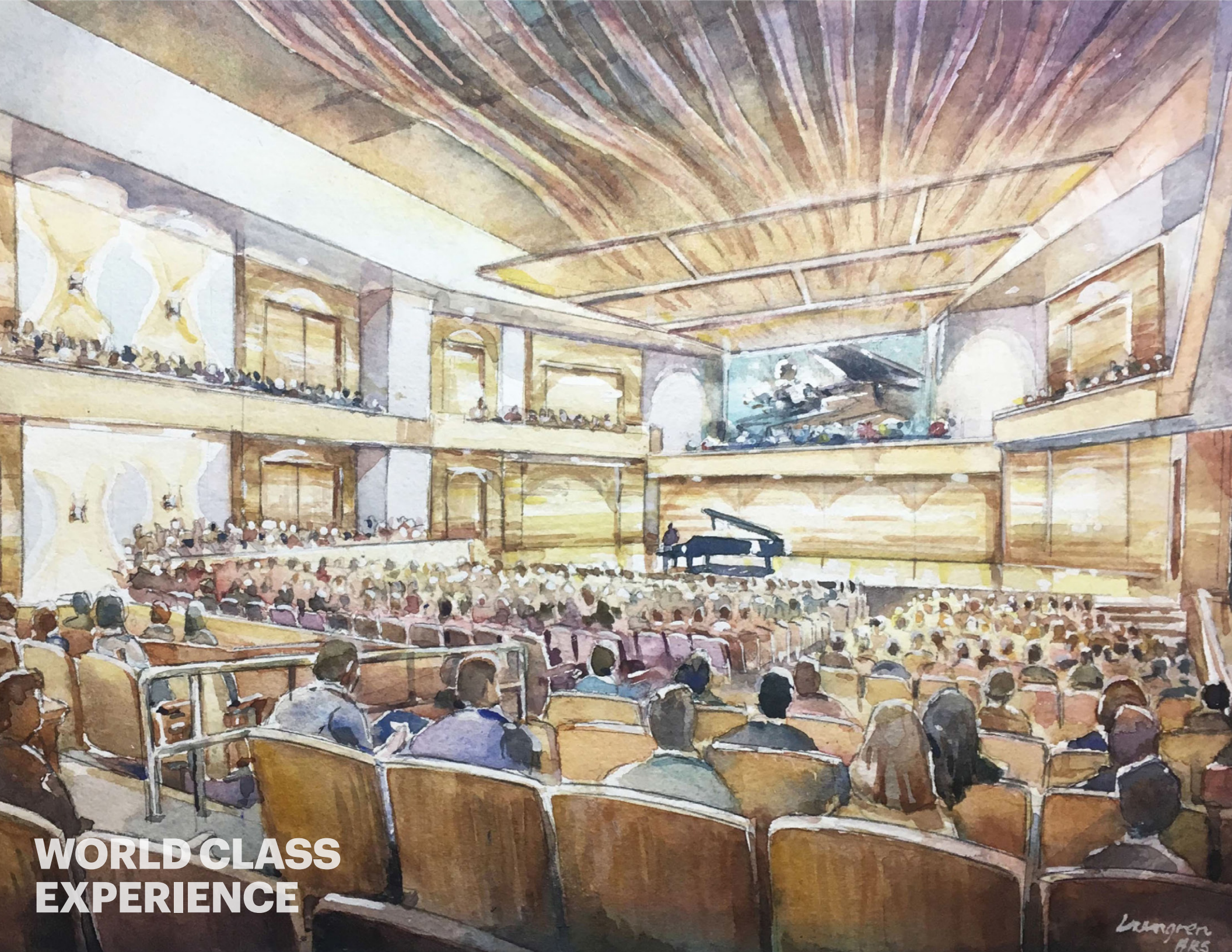
Location: Arlington, TX
Sector: Education
Site Area: 28.5 acres
GSF: 93,000 SF

Construction Cost: \$42,418,744
Budget: \$51,117,868
Cost Per Square Foot: \$456/SF
Completion Date: November 2020

Uses: Concert Hall
Theater
Art Gallery
Education Spaces
Community Events
Learning Spaces
Banquets
Ticketed Events
Sculpture Garden
Meetings/Trainings



**COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**



**WORLD CLASS
EXPERIENCE**

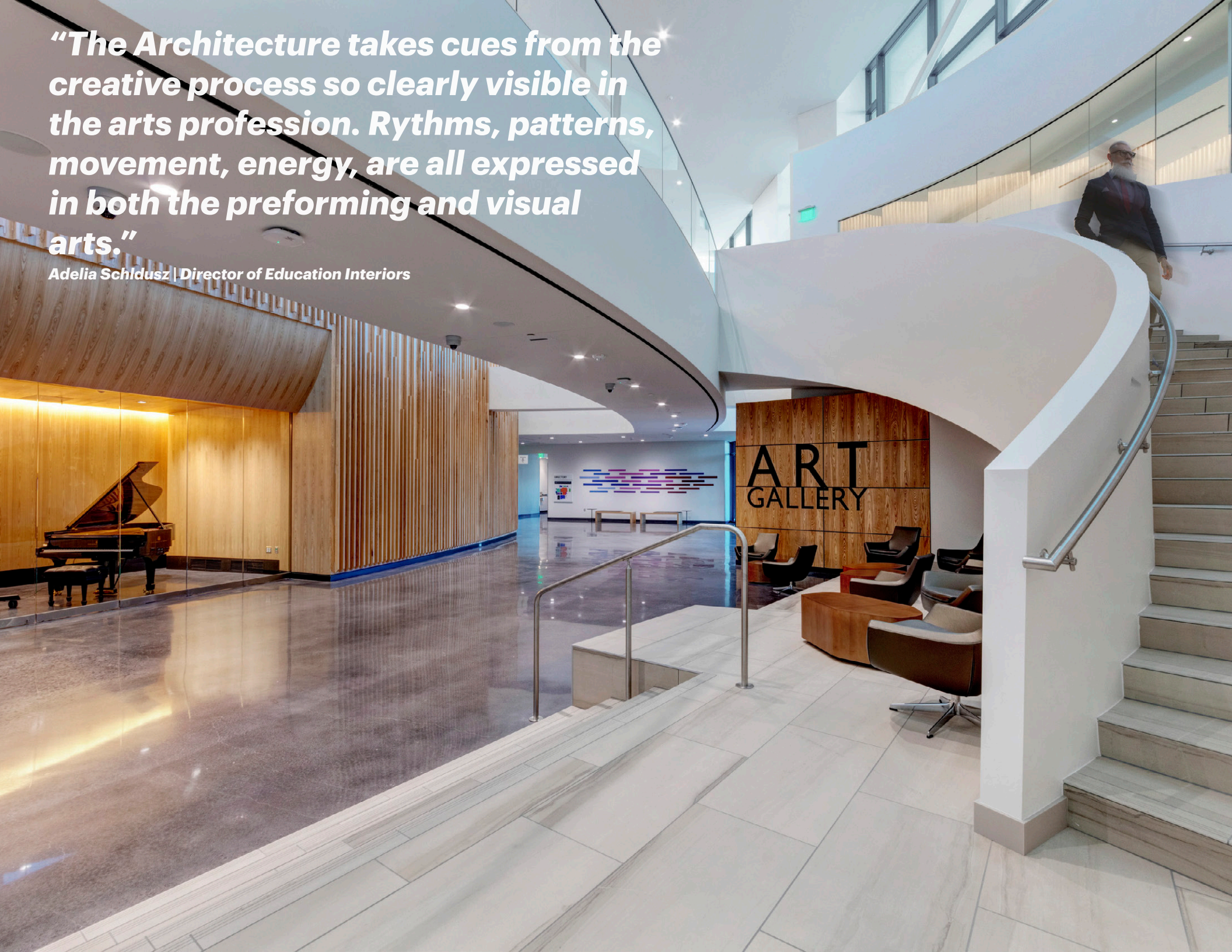
Livingston
ARS



**ELEVATED SENSE
OF ARRIVAL**

"The Architecture takes cues from the creative process so clearly visible in the arts profession. Rythms, patterns, movement, energy, are all expressed in both the preforming and visual arts."

Adelia Schildusz | Director of Education Interiors



SCHOOL + COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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02



“The first time a student sings or plays in the hall, their reaction is always laughter and big smiles. Professional musicians say it’s on par with the best halls in the metroplex.”

-Michael Stringer | Assistant Director of Fine Arts over AISD.

ARLINGTON FINE ARTS SCHOOL + COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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CLIENT PROFILE

Arlington ISD is a public school district in north Texas serving more than 63,000 students. The mission of the Arlington Independent School District is to empower and engage all students to be contributing, responsible citizens striving for their maximum potential through relevant, innovative, and rigorous learning experiences.

PROJECT SCOPE

- Performance Space
- Creation Space
- Learning Space
- Production Space
- Hospitality
- Food + Beverage
- Wellness
- Community
- Outdoor Space
- Flexibility/Adaptability

DESIGN OBJECTIVES

- Elevate the experience of students as they develop into bona fide artists.
- Minimize development impact while preserving the natural beauty of the site.
- Create beloved venues for students and the community alike.
- Create safe, inclusive and inspirational spaces for learning and the art.

ARLINGTON FINE ARTS DESIGN FOR EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES

THE CLIENT'S ASK

"The Arlington Independent School District asked for a world-class performing and visual arts center to serve students from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade."

The facility had to accommodate not only a stand-alone performing arts venue and gallery for use by students and professionals, but also functioning classroom spaces for advanced art, dance studio, music courses and other learning spaces and ultimately, a comprehensive fine arts facility. In addition, the project's location within the city of Arlington's prominent Entertainment District required the design of a pedestrian-friendly site.

The process consisted of a series of alignment and design charrettes conducted at the project's inception that allowed the district to identify project performance goals and priorities. It was through this process that the district capitalized on the idea of creating a community venue, one that stretched its arms out to the Entertainment District and placed the arts in Arlington on the same stage as the world-class sporting venues.



ARLINGTON FINE ARTS SCHOOL + COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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THE PROBLEM

“Students are unable to express themselves, feeling a lack of identity. They are learning who they are just as much as they are learning math or science. ”

The district did not have comparable existing facilities despite its world class award winning program. Talented students did not have the means to express themselves as is so crucial to young adult development. The facility had to accommodate not only a stand-alone performing arts venue and gallery for use by students and professionals, but also functioning classroom spaces for advanced art, dance studio, music courses and other learning spaces and ultimately, a comprehensive fine arts facility. In addition, the project's location within the city of Arlington's prominent Entertainment District required the design of a pedestrian-friendly site, and the School boards budget was incredibly small.



EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

*ARLINGTON ISD CENTER FOR VISUAL
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03



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ARLINGTON ISD
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**ARLINGTON FINE ARTS
EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT**
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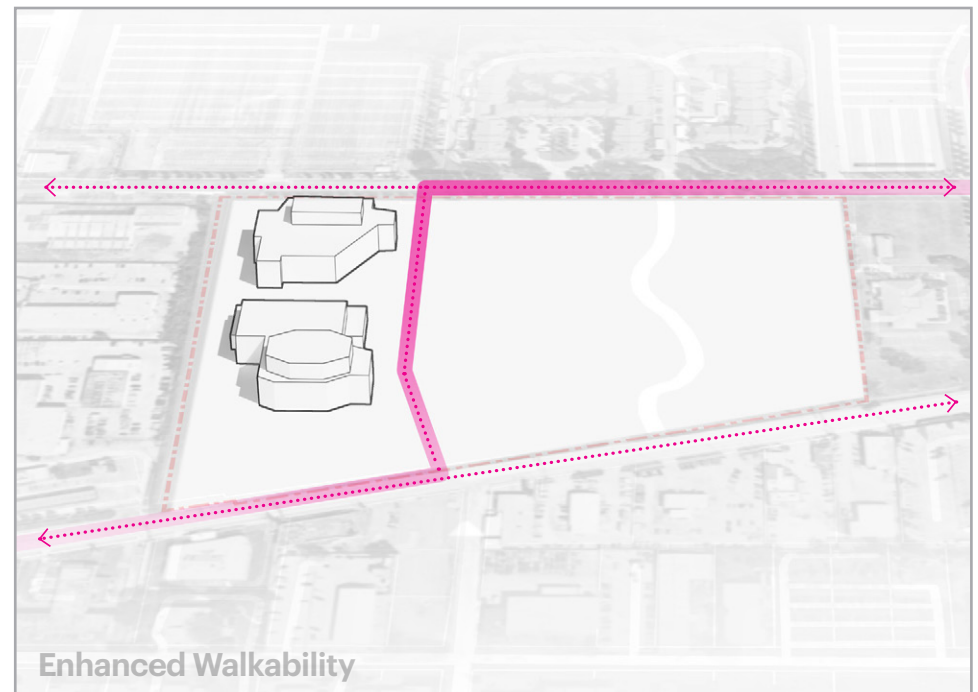
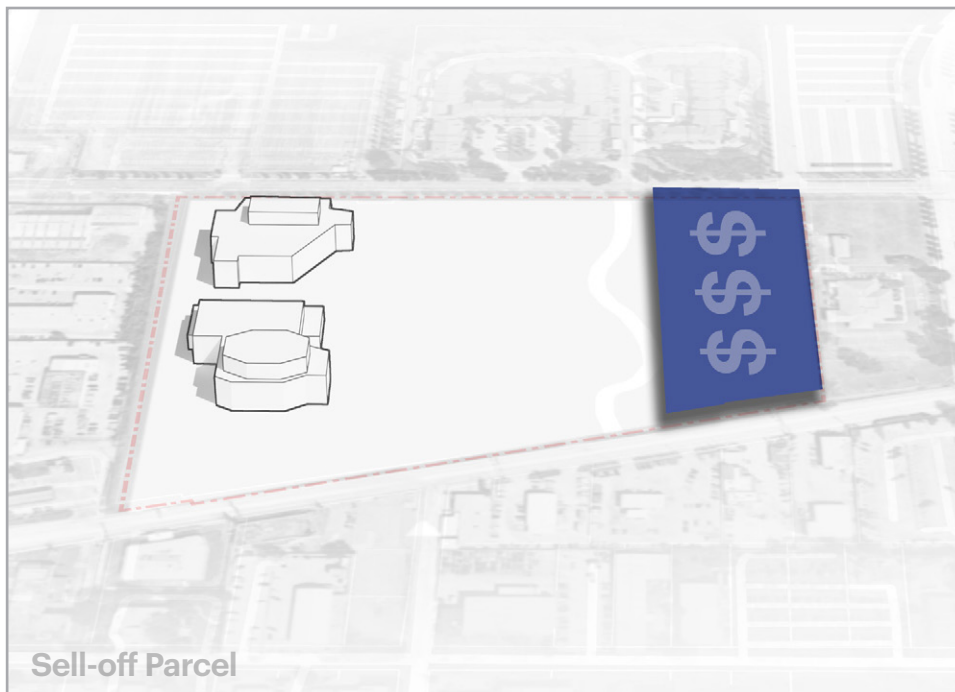
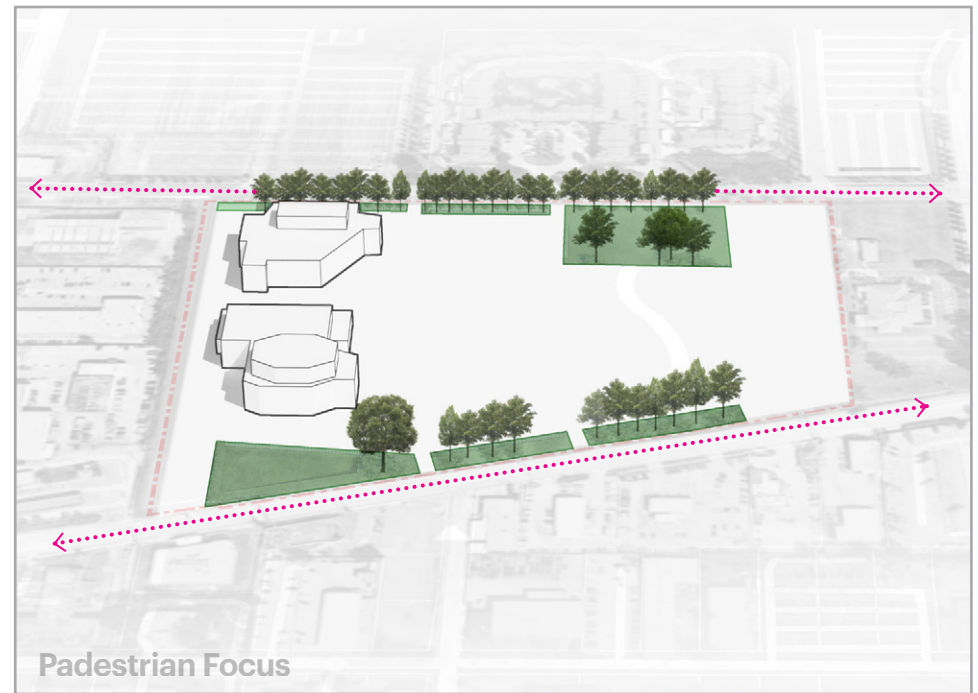
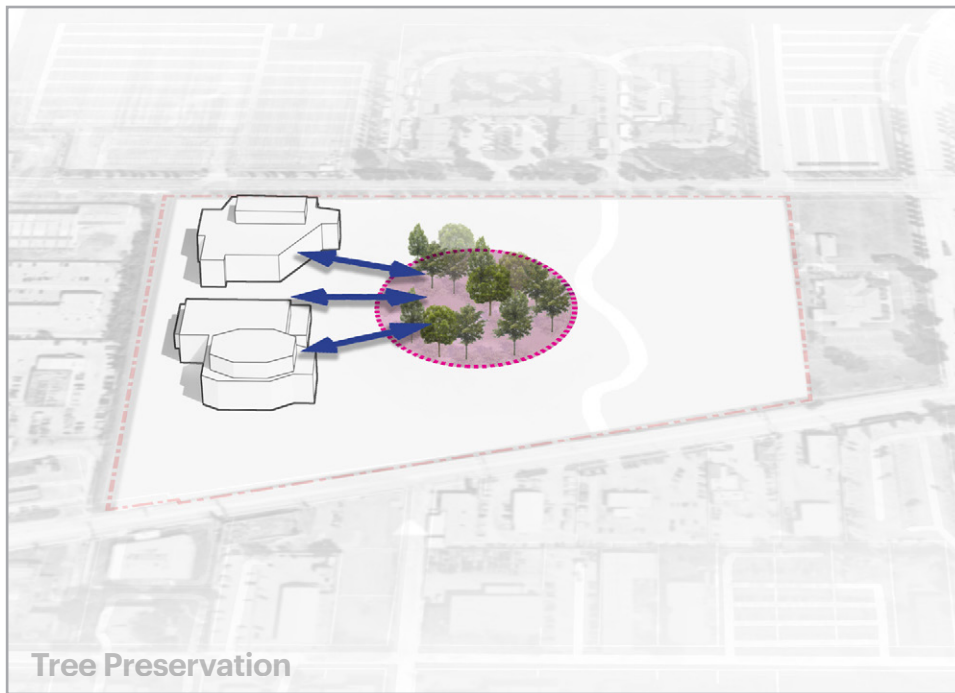
SOLUTION

"We worked closely with school district officials and stakeholders to distill the needs of the district's fine arts programs so these could be addressed through the design."

The design team established site development objectives rooted in the spirit of the Entertainment District Zoning Overlay and worked with city officials to get buy-in to the interpretation of the prescriptive ordinance to achieve a vision that creates a community destination.

This vision derived was a master plan that strategically divided the 28.5 acre site into a three major zones; a development zone, a preservation zone, and a sell-off parcel that gave the district the ability to leverage as future development. The outcome is the creation of a pedestrian focused "main street" that becomes the front court of two major developments: The Center for Visual and Performing Arts and the Athletics Center. The master plan enhanced walkability, saved most mature trees on-site, leveraged synergies for shared parking areas and created a mid-block north-south pedestrian connection through the site.







**"School is something that
you learn - reading and
writing. Education is what you
learn from the family, from
the environment, from the
community.**

-Roy Bunker | Social Activist

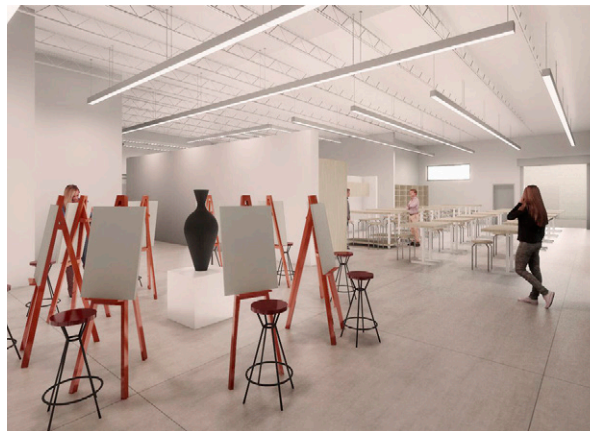
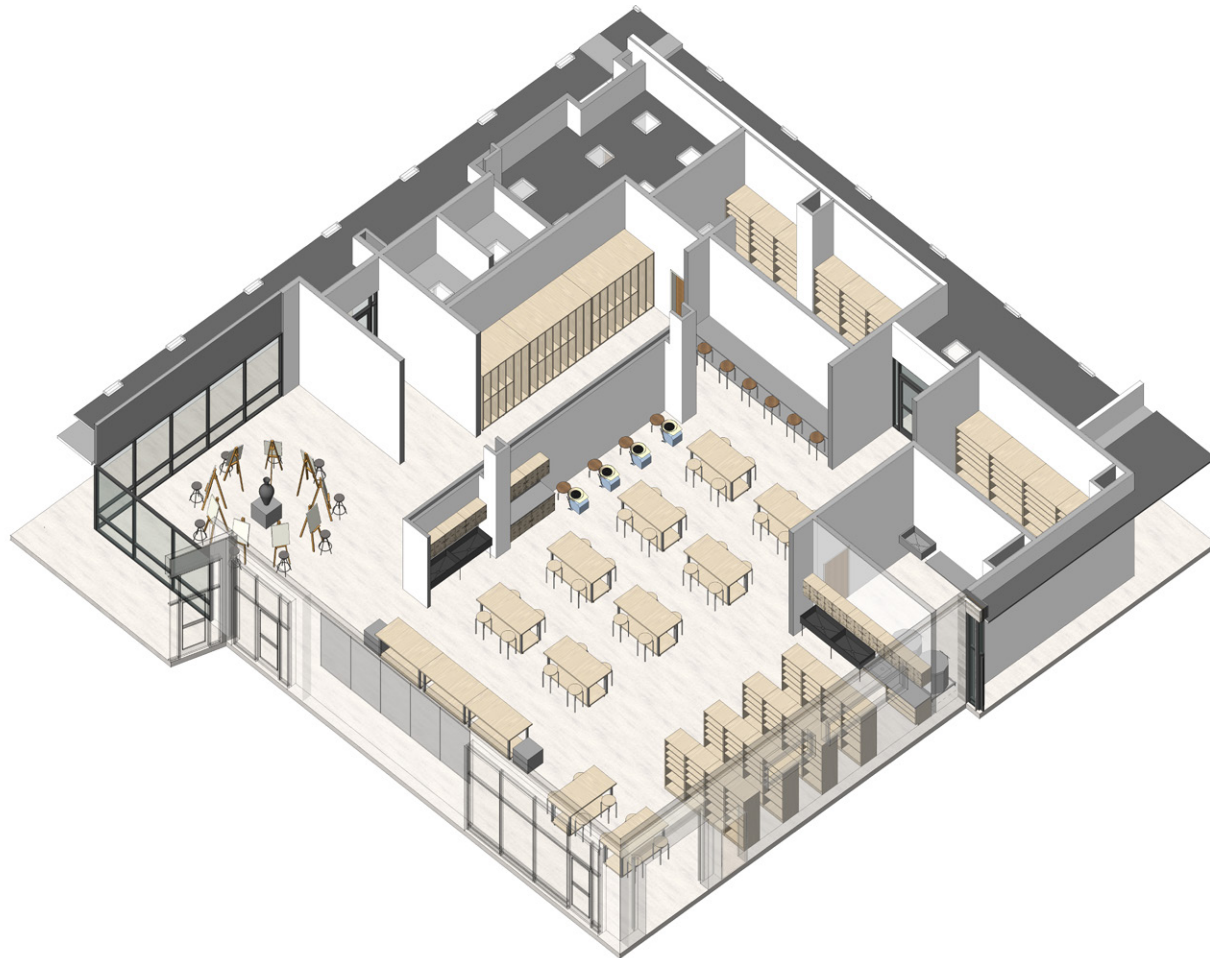
**ARLINGTON FINE ARTS
EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT**
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VISUAL ARTS STUDIO

“The arts studio and dynamic space becomes the tool that fosters, cultivates, and positively influences the lives of the students through art advocacy.”

Students are encouraged by teaching innovation, creative thinking and testing multiple perspectives with a technological and flexible environment. The philosophy that students that are never too young or too old to discover or be discovered, reiterates the notion of bridging the artist's future to success. Artists are encouraged to embrace new technologies and utilize them in extraordinary ways.

In addition, an outdoor courtyard area for students is programmed to provide visual and actual access to nature with an adjacent arts lawn, open environment, to express ideas outside of the physical studio.





“The students are able to project themselves into the ‘future of the arts’ with the CVPA’s Art Gallery venue space set to provide professionally curated art as well as for student art and talent to be displayed. The Art Gallery provides opportunity for the students to collect, interpret and continue to learn in a world-class educational environment.”



PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

*ARLINGTON ISD CENTER FOR VISUAL
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ARLINGTON FINE ARTS PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

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- Center of Visual and Performing Arts
- Athletic Center
- Outdoor Performance Plaza
- Sell-off Parcel
- Pedestrian Main Street
- Arts Lawn & Sculpture Garden
(Future Ampitheater)

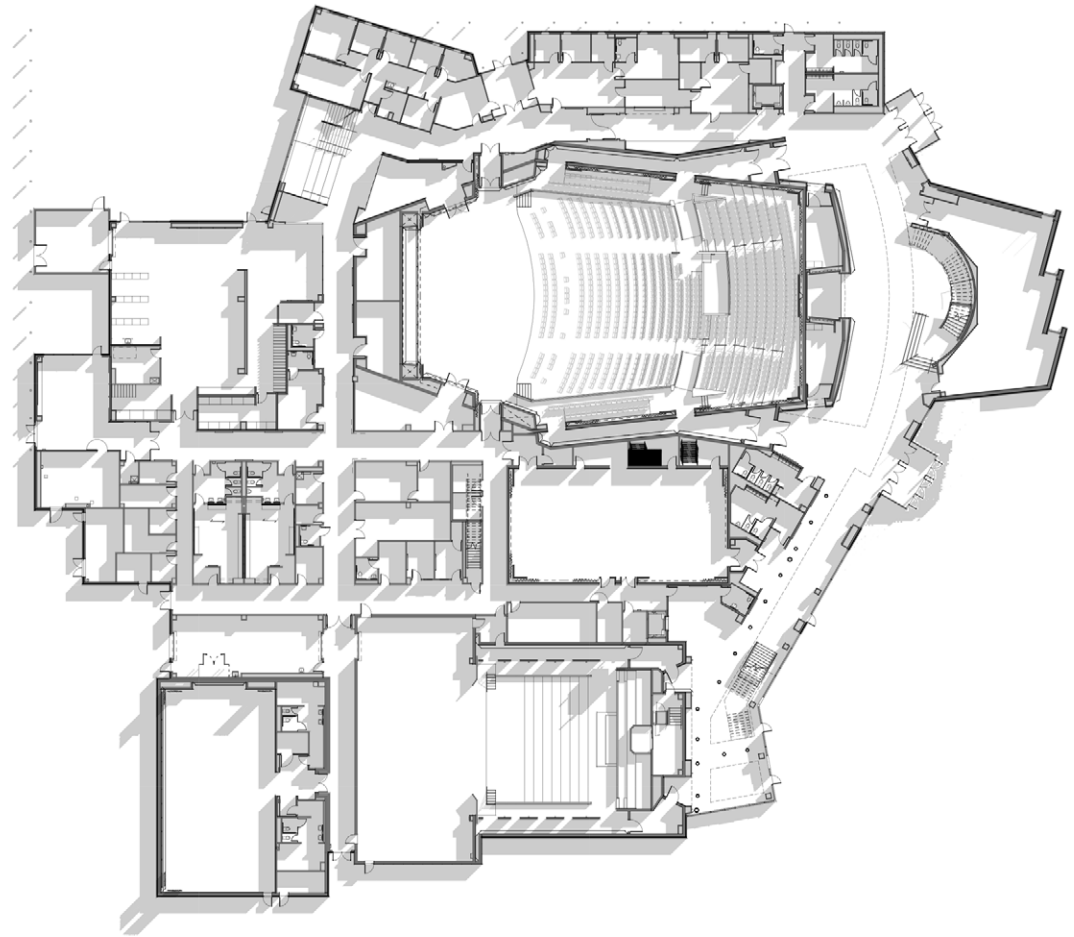


ARLINGTON FINE ARTS PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

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"The concert hall in the Arlington ISD Center for Visual and Performing Arts features a towering ceiling whose volume enhances how sound travels in the venue."

We worked with acoustical designers to outfit the geometry of the space to optimize acoustics, and a custom ribbon-like lit panel design that adds visual appeal and flexibility to the space while amplifying its acoustic performance. The studio theater is a smaller performance space -- designed in the same warm tones as the rest of the fine arts building -- where student actors can glance at the balconies and make eye contact with the audience. The space is equipped with a digital backdrop that broadens the range of scenery options for student and professional performances and the hall meets UIL OAP specifications.



RESULTS OF THE PROCESS

*ARLINGTON ISD CENTER FOR VISUAL
AND PERFORMING ARTS*

05

ARLINGTON FINE ARTS
RESULTS OF THE PROCESS
LEsolutions DESIGN AWARD



OUR RESULT

“The Center for Visual and Performing Arts differs from other standalone performance venues in that it features fully operational classroom spaces for advanced art, dance and music courses.”

The CVPA opened fall 2020 during the challenges of a pandemic and the district expects a steady stream of arts students cycling through the building every day. Music, art and dance courses are open to all Arlington ISD students and count as credits toward their graduation requirements. The community has Concert Hall second-to-none and is a world-class, beloved venue space. The CVPA will host dedicated venues, age-appropriate experiences that will propel high school students to the top of their class and will continue to bring together the community, through the arts.



SUSTAINABILITY + WELLNESS

*ARLINGTON ISD CENTER FOR VISUAL
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06

ARLINGTON FINE ARTS SUSTAINABILITY + WELLNESS

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PASSIVE DESIGN

“The building was sited to utilize passive energy to both minimize and maximize solar gains as appropriate. The east facing facade features floor to ceiling glazing, while the south and west are adorned with rhythmic masonry patterns.”

The presence of wood in the built indoor environment reduces SNS activation. SNS activation is the way that the body prepares itself to deal with stress. SNS activation increases blood pressure and heart rate. It also inhibits digestion, recovery, and repair functions in the body in order to deal with immediate threats. However, when the body spends prolonged periods in an SNS activated state health suffers both physiologically and psychologically. Wood, therefore, is one way to create a healthier built environment.

Wood uses less energy to produce than any other building material. In recent years wood has been called the “key building material to help fight climate change.

Savings from baseline

46%

Last reported on Dec 31, 2018

Baseline	Project Target	Predicted EUI
144.60 kBtu/ft ² /yr	78.09 kBtu/ft ² /yr	78.09 kBtu/ft ² /yr



***“Even before the CVPA opened its doors,
a steady stream of visitors from other
school districts, from museums, and other
architecture firms were requesting tours
to take a look. Everybody has their eye on
this building; it’s pretty spectacular.”***

-Dr. Christopher Anderson | Director of Fine Arts over AISD.

