

Altieri

Hamilton College

The Kennedy Center for Theatre and the Studio Arts

Architects: Machado Silvetti

Location: Clinton, New York

Completed: 2014

Size: 72,000 sf

Services: MEP/FP

Hamilton College is the third oldest college established in New York State. Founded as an academy in 1793, it was chartered as Hamilton College in 1812 in honor of its inaugural trustee, Alexander Hamilton. The private, liberal arts college has a current enrollment of 1850 students.

The new Kennedy Center for Theatre and the Studio Arts is sited directly across from the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art. Together with a McKim Mead and White-designed building for the art history department, and a new lawn and pond designed by Reed Hilderbrand, the new Center is part of a highly visible arts quad. A key part of the new facility is a unique kind of studio art space — large common areas for classes and exhibitions, smaller workshops and studios surrounding those areas, and a new interdisciplinary, digitally-based Studio for Trans-media Arts and Related Studies (STARS). The combined spaces far surpass the offerings of the List Art Center, which was originally built in 1970 and renovated more than 15 years ago.

The new building includes a fully equipped, flexible theatre (175 seats), with support spaces and dressing rooms, accommodating various types of productions from any culture or period. The main performance theatre has enabled the department to expand its productions and provide students with vastly improved performance and teaching venues. The College's theatre productions consistently draw full audiences from the campus community and the region, and the new building is able to accommodate larger audiences. A smaller laboratory theatre (100 seats) is used for senior projects, class projects, guest artists, and some public performances. The facility includes an independent heating-cooling plant featuring both air-to-air and air-to-water heat recovery systems.

