



## Cooperative Arts and Humanities High School



Architect: Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects

Location: New Haven, Connecticut

Program: K-12 Education

Completed: 2009

Size: 140,000 SF

Cooperative Arts and Humanities High School is a state-of-the-art facility for performance and education in the midst of New Haven's arts and entertainment district. It was founded in 1983 as a joint venture of New Haven and Hamden, and was originally located at the former site of Larson College.

The magnet school is for students to practice their art major that includes music, theatre, creative writing, visual arts, and dance. The new building, designed by Cesar Pelli, is a \$73 million state-of-the-art facility which includes a television studio, 350-seat theatre with fly loft, black box theatre, chorus and music rooms, 4 fully equipped computer labs, and academic facilities. The building was designed with frit, an insulated glass coated with a ceramic print on the buildings exterior to protect from solar glare and add visual appeal. The design is also a modern interpretation of traditional urban school architecture, adapted to a busy commercial neighborhood.

MEPF design was closely coordinated with acoustic consultant to ensure very low noise levels impacting performing arts spaces throughout. Urban setting required same level of coordination with utility company for careful location of roof-mounted equipment to curtail noise propagation.

*\* 2014 AIA Connecticut Design Award*