

A.R. MARANI, INC.

BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS, SINCE 1992

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Friends School of Baltimore Performing and Visual Arts

Address:

5114 North Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21210

Owner:

Friends School of Baltimore

Architect:

Ziger / Snead

Project Description

The primary goal of the project was to transform a plain, noisy auditorium into a beautiful, a acoustically designed state-of-the-art performance center with tiered seating that accommodates the entire student body of the upper school.

The control room, high up in the back of the theater, allows students to look over the audience to the Stage, and to control lights, sound, video, curtains and various intercoms. Over the rebuilt Stage is a wire tension grid comprised of 1/8" aircraft cable that allows students to walk above and shine lights down onto the set. Behind the Stage is the Scene Shop, a large workshop used for building and painting scenery. A ships ladder in the Scene Shop allows students access to the wire tension grid via a catwalk and an acoustically rated door. The Scene Shop is linked to the Stage by acoustically rated doors, the largest pair creating a 10' x 10' opening used to move scenery onto and off of the set. The center is served by a new and very quiet HVAC system.

The reimagined facility also features a two story glass atrium that combines with a new lobby to create a gathering space. Downstairs there are renovated art and photography studios and an art gallery.

