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Bonita Center for the Arts

BONITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SAN DIMAS, CALIFORNIA



SIZE

29,000 SF

STATUS

Complete: 2014

CONSTRUCTION COSTS

\$22,500,000

CLIENT / CONTACT

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II5 West Allen Street
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PROGRAM: Located on the San Dimas High School campus, the Center for the Arts is a CHPS-verified 700-seat performance facility designed to support a growing array of programs from local school productions and visiting theatre companies, including drama, choir, instrumental performance, musical theatre, dance, and lectures.

SOLUTION: Visitors enter a two-story lobby space that can accommodate groups of over 400 people for gatherings before and after performances. They can then use either a dramatic curved staircase or an elevator to access balcony-level circulation. Also accessible from the lobby are ticket booths, a classroom-sized multi-purpose room, and restrooms.

At the heart of the CASH/AIACC award-winning building is the stage and audience chamber. With three seating tiers including a balcony, the design provides the audience with a more intimate viewing experience, superior sight lines, and an enriching theatrical experience. Exterior spaces such as a garden and amphitheatre further support the program. The project's community-oriented nature is emphasized by the implementation of Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) criteria. In addition to key sustainable design strategies to reduce water consumption and manage energy use, the project implements innovative technology solutions that contribute to the building's aesthetic. Computer-controlled louvers on the building's entry façade control the amount of sunlight cascading into the building but also provide a pleasing and inviting modern aesthetic. For the interior, a sophisticated, energy-saving LED lighting system provides dramatic night-time illumination.

