



COMBINED-LEVEL SCHOOL

The Abraham Joshua Heschel School

New York, NY

New Construction/Addition Entire School/Campus Building

**IBI Group ■ Gruzen Samton
Architects, Engineers &
Landscape Architects**
320 W. 13th Street, 19th Fl.
New York, NY 10014
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Brittany Unis
212/477-0900

DESIGN TEAM

**Altieri Sebor Wieber, LLC, MEP
Engineers**
**Robert Silman Associates, Structural
Engineers**
**Scape Landscape Design Consultant,
Landscape Architects**
**Atelier Ten, Environmental Design
Consultant**
**Cerami & Associates, Inc., Acoustics
and Audio Visual Consultant**

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

**F.J. Sciamè Construction Co., Inc.,
General Contractor**

OWNER/CLIENT

**The Abraham Joshua Heschel School
New York, NY**
Roanna Shorofsky, Head of School
212/595-7087

KEY STATS

Grades Served: Pre-K-8
Capacity: 775 students
Size of Site: .39 acres
Space per Student: 188 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$99,354
Square Foot Cost: \$531
Construction Cost: \$74 million
Total Project Cost: \$77 million
Completed: Sept. 2012
**Sustainability Rating System/Applied/
Status/Level: LEED Gold Certification**

PHOTOGRAPHY: PAUL WARCHOL PHOTOGRAPHY

A unique high-rise school building houses 775 students in three school levels for the Heschel School; an Early Childhood Center, Lower School and Middle School. Located on a tight urban site on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, the new nine storey 145,000 square foot building establishes an iconic campus for the Heschel Community and provides a continuum of learning from Early Childhood through High School as it's schools, previously located on separate sites, are united with Heschel's existing High School, each school maintaining its own age appropriate identity.

The heart of the new building is a sky lit Campus Commons that is flooded with natural light and encompassed with programs shared by all of the schools, ensuring that children of all ages engage with other members of the community during their daily activities.

Sustainable design principles and age appropriate circulation approaches were key to the organization of the building: ECC children and their parents use elevators and go directly to their home base and outdoor play area on the third floor; Lower School children gather in the first floor theatre/gym and teachers take class



groups in oversized elevators to the Lower School on the upper floors of the building, near their outdoor roof deck; Middle Schoolers have more energy and independence, so they enter at a higher street elevation and climb the Middle School stair to their own floors, reducing elevator loads.

Numerous sustainable design strategies are incorporated throughout the building including water conservation, a green roof, energy conservation and emphasis on indoor environmental quality to support an optimal learning environment. The project has achieved LEED Gold certification.

