



Dunbar Senior High School

Washington, DC

New Construction/Addition
Entire School/Campus Building

EE&K A&E a JV of Perkins Eastman, SK&A and Setty & Associates in association with Moody•Nolan

2121 Ward Court, NW
Washington, DC 20037
www.perkinseastman.com
Sean O'Donnell, AIA, LEED AP
202/460-7866

DESIGN TEAM

Sean O'Donnell, AIA, Principal-in-Charge
Matt Bell, FAIA, Design Principal
John Guldenzopf, AIA, Project Designer
David Shirey, RA, Project Manager
Abbie Cronin, RA, Project Architect
William Griffin, AIA, Senior Project Architect

OWNER/CLIENT

Department of General Services
Washington, DC
Brian J. Hanlon, Director
202/727-2800

KEY STATS

Grades Served: 9-12
Capacity: 1,100 students
Size of Site: 8.5 acres
Building Area: 280,000 sq. ft.
Building Volume: 4.5 million cu. Ft.
Space per Student: 236 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$92,727
Square Foot Cost: \$364
Construction Cost: \$102 million
Total Project Cost: \$122 million
Contract Date: Jan. 2011
Completed: Aug. 2013 (Phase 1)
Sustainability Rating System/Applied/
Status/Level: LEED for Schools Platinum

PHOTOGRAPHY: JOSEPH ROMEO



Located just a few blocks from the US Capitol, the new Dunbar Senior High School provides a high performance learning environment designed to catalyze the renewal of one of our most historic schools. Founded in 1870, Dunbar was the country's first high school for African-Americans and its alumni include people of extraordinary accomplishment. The challenge was to create a facility that honors the past and the present while looking to the future.





The competition-winning design is inspired by the cherished 1917 building that served the school before its demolition in the 1970s. Like its historic predecessor, the new building reengages the community by establishing an inviting civic presence and by reopening a closed street as a sustainable model. The design reimagines the 1917 building's centrally located armory, as the heart of the school. Throughout, Dunbar's heritage is celebrated through plaques and super graphics fea-

turing the most accomplished alumni.

While metaphorically building on history, the new building is decidedly 21st Century, fostering four academies including an innovative 9th grade academy and encouraging active community use. Striving for LEED Platinum, it features a "geothermal" system, a 482 kW photovoltaic array, 20,000-gallon cisterns, enhanced acoustics, low VOC materials, and plentiful daylight and views.

