



Palm Beach Day Academy - Matthews Center for Performing Arts

Palm Beach, FL

**Remodel/Adaptive Reuse/
Restoration**
Media/Arts/Performing Arts Center

Harvard Jolly
2047 Vista Parkway, Suite 100
West Palm Beach, FL 33411
René Tercilla
561/478-4457

DESIGN TEAM
IBIS Building Corporation, Contractor

OWNER/CLIENT
Palm Beach Day Academy
Palm Beach, FL
Dr. Rebecca van der Bogert, Head of School
561/655-1188

KEY STATS
Grades Served: Pre-K-9
Capacity: Seating for 262 students
Building Area: 5,435 sq. ft. (remodel)
Square Foot Cost: \$464
Construction Cost: \$2,519,739
Completion Date: August 2013
Percentage Complete: 100%
Sustainability Rating System/Applied/
Status/Level: The Owner chose to
design the space using the USGBC
LEED® standards without seeking
certification

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANDY FRAME PHOTOGRAPHY

This building was originally constructed in the 1950s as an addition to a building which had grown many times. It was designed to serve a multitude of purposes, including a small stage, storage areas, and a basketball playing area which would double as a seating area.

With its small dimensions, bad acoustical proportions, flat floors and limited height, converting it into a true performing arts space posed a series of challenges. In addition to the performing arts need, the school also requested that portions of the space maintain its “multipurpose” abilities.

The new Matthews Performing Arts Center has created a dynamic space for the



school's arts programs. The stage was further thrust into the seating area and uses extensive technology to make up for the low stage ceiling elevations. Small storage spaces behind the stage are now dressing areas which connect to the remainder of the school and provide for performers to enter and exit the stage from the rear.

The existing floor slab was removed and replaced with new sloped and flat floors. The rear half of the seating area features an additional 642 square feet with a flat floor and pull out upholstered bleacher type seating. This space can be separated from the main area by a moveable partition that once the seating is closed, provides a perfect dance studio area.