



GYMNASIUM/AUDITORIUM NORTH TONAWANDA H.S.

North Tonawanda, New York

Owner / Client: North Tonawanda CSD

Area: 29,000 square feet

Cost: \$ 3,500,000

This dual use, modern performing arts center and physical education center built in 1997 offers a unique and significantly cost-effective design solution. By enabling the auditorium's first 800 seats to retract, the remaining floor space has the functional availability for elementary physical education classes. In addition, the remaining 400 seats at the mezzanine level can also be separated with a retractable wall to provide a more intimate lecture space. These subsequent teaching spaces allowed for additional state funding that would have otherwise not been realized.

The space as a whole combines the latest in acoustical, lighting, and stage equipment to provide one of the largest stages in Western New York for year round use. The open stage design provides the most flexible arrangement for diverse types of performance. Other issues considered for this auditorium included:

- Backstage requirements
- Electrical capacity
- Loading and receiving areas
- Lighting equipment
- Front and rear projection equipment
- Public address and sound systems
- Projected uses of space
- Audience seating alternatives

In addition to the elementary gymnasium, a 20,102 square foot modern athletic center containing a collegiate size basketball court with seating for over 1,000, contemporary locker-shower facility, and coaches' offices with a direct link to exterior playing fields. Both high school and elementary school activity centers feature a new application of a tested building technology; insulated precast concrete panels providing the solid nature and durability of masonry at a fraction of the cost.



“The structures feature superb attention to detail; excellent use of materials that enhance visual appeal; and a feeling of spaciousness.”

John H. George, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools, North Tonawanda City School District



INSTITUTIONAL