

Community





Communities are more than places where you live and work—they are also places you serve, worship, think, and play.

Each space is unique in its service and spirit, becoming an integral part of our daily lives. Our goal at Kirksey is to understand the mission of our clients and provide a purposeful design that captures the heart of their communities.

Our Community Team operates like a small firm with the resources of a much larger company.

We cultivate relationships built on trust and shared ideals, and our team-based structure allows for a high degree of client service and design. Engaging end users from the start, Kirksey designs environments which allow communities to thrive and grow.

Kirksey's design philosophy is centered on the client's mission and a unifying vision.

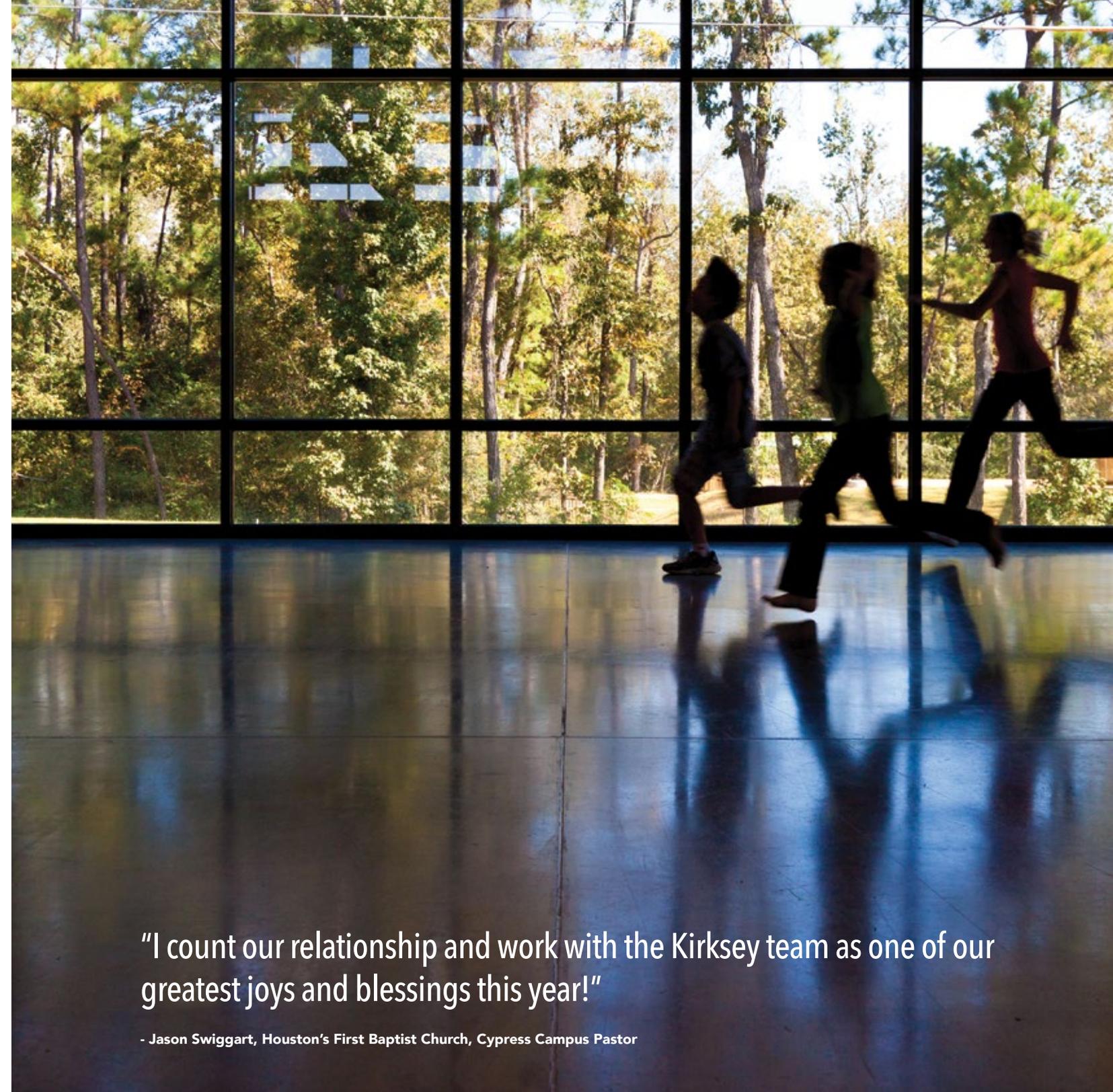
Our approach is built on principles that also act as a foundation for our firm: sustainability, collaboration, discovery, research, and innovation. Working together with the people who benefit most from the project gives the design process purpose and intent. Ultimately, the client's vision is our greatest inspiration.



ARCHITECTURE / INTERIOR DESIGN / MASTER PLANNING / ECOSERVICES / BRANDING

Commercial. **Community.** Collegiate. pK-12. Government. Healthcare. Hospitality.

Renovation. Residential. Science & Technology.



"I count our relationship and work with the Kirksey team as one of our greatest joys and blessings this year!"

- Jason Swiggart, Houston's First Baptist Church, Cypress Campus Pastor



Director of Community Projects

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Services

- Master Planning
- Site Analysis
- Feasibility Studies
- Programming
- Architecture
- Interior Design
- EcoServices
- Branding



Recreation

- Angleton ISD
- City of Eules
- Fort Bend Independent School District
- Harris County
- Houston Parks and Recreation Department
- Spring Branch - Memorial Sports Association
- Swim Club at Lodge 88
- YMCA of Greater Houston



Cultural / Civic

- Bastrop County
- Brazosport College
- City of College Station
- City of Houston
- City of Kemah
- City of Spring Valley Village
- Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion
- Galveston Convention Center
- Harris County
- Lone Star Convention & Expo Center
- Museum of Southern History
- Port of Houston Authority
- Queensbury Theatre
- Spark School Park Program
- Spring Branch Family Development Center
- The Woodlands Township



Worship & Religious

- Basilian Fathers
- Champion Forest Baptist Church
- Char Dham Hindu Temple
- Congregation Beth Israel of Houston
- Congregation Beth Yeshurun
- CyFair Christian Church
- Dominican Sisters of Mary Immaculate Province
- Hindu Temple The Woodlands
- Hope City
- Houston Northwest Baptist Church
- Houston's First Baptist Church
- Lakewood Church
- Parkway United Methodist Church
- River Pointe Community Church
- Rosehill United Methodist Church
- Second Baptist Church
- Spring Woodlands Church of Christ
- St. Anne Catholic Community
- St. Philips United Methodist
- St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
- Tallowood Baptist Church
- The Fellowship at Cinco Ranch
- The Foundry United Methodist Church
- Unity of Houston



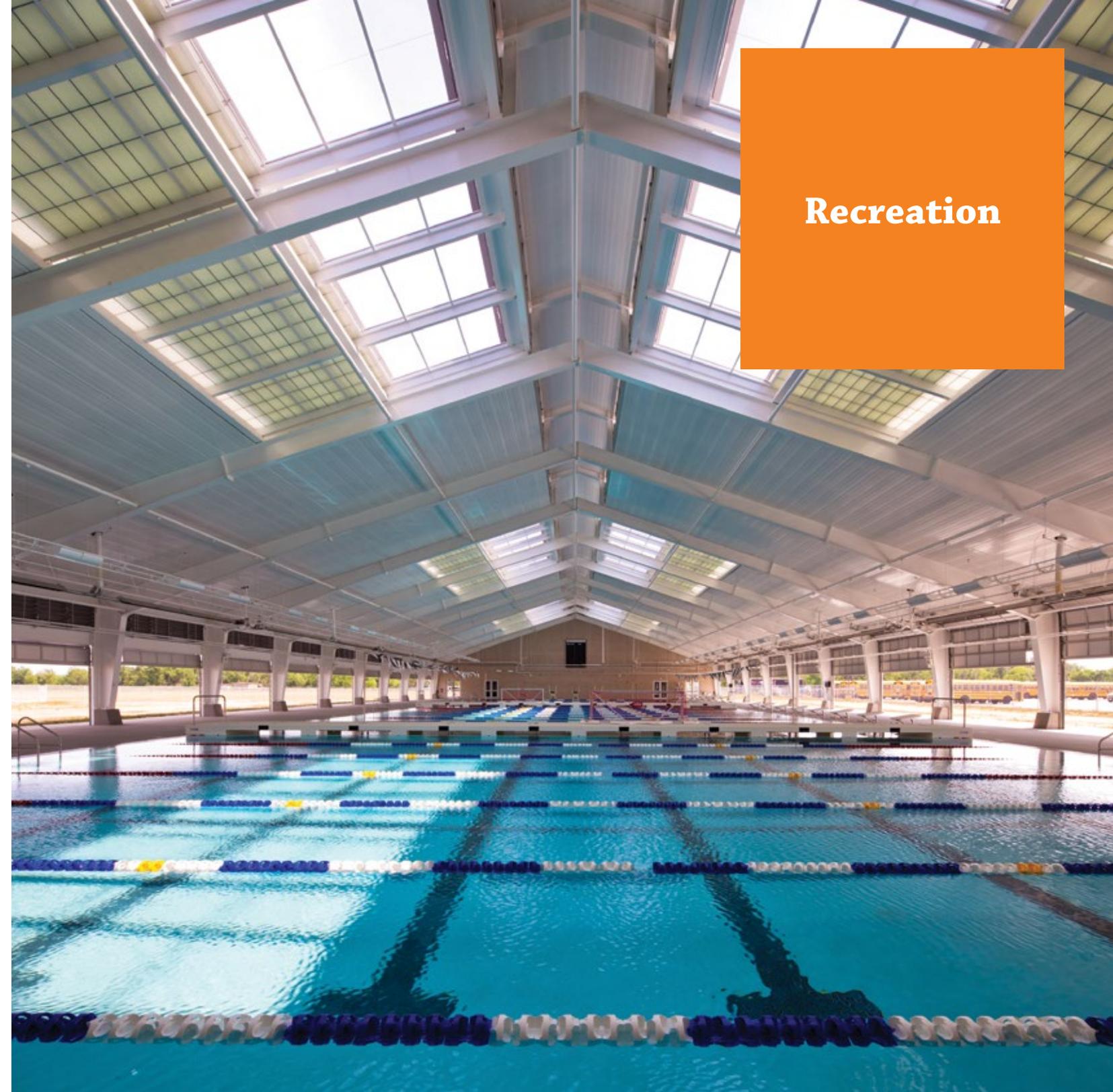
Non-Profit

- AIA Houston
- American Heart Association
- Bering Omega Community Services
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston
- Central Houston, Inc.
- Charity Guild of Catholic Women
- Children at Risk
- East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry
- Galveston Bay Foundation
- Greater Houston Partnership
- Houston Area Women's Center
- Houston Parks Board
- Legacy Community Health
- Memorial Assistance Ministries
- Memorial Park Conservancy
- New Hope Housing
- Ripley House Neighborhood Center
- Society for the Performing Arts
- Star of Hope Mission
- The Council on Recovery



Health and wellness are essential to a thriving community and healthy communities need places to run, jump, and play. Through the use of flexible design, these spaces accommodate active lifestyles and promote health at their very core. Our recreational facilities are designed to complement their environments and provide sustainable spaces that give back to the community.

Recreation





TELLEPSEN FAMILY DOWNTOWN YMCA

YMCA of Greater Houston

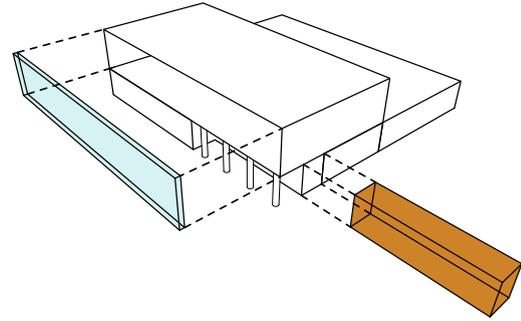
115,000 sf LEED Certified Gold

The Tellepsen Family YMCA is the largest YMCA of Greater Houston, serving over 10,000 members and encompassing approximately 115,000 sf of membership and program space. The building replaced the former 1941 facility and serves the needs of a revitalized downtown. Elements from the original structure are incorporated into the design and graphically illustrate the history of the YMCA and the Tellepsen family, for whom the building is named. To increase the YMCA's visible presence downtown, Kirksey created a window to the community.

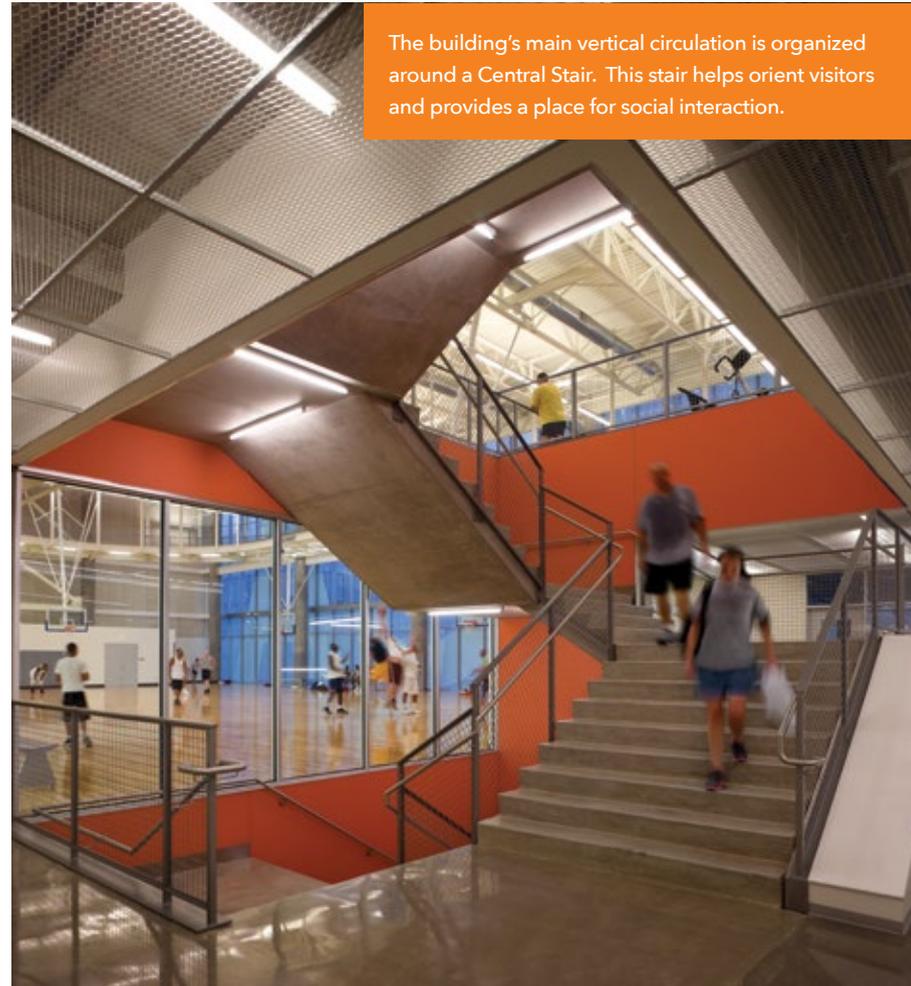
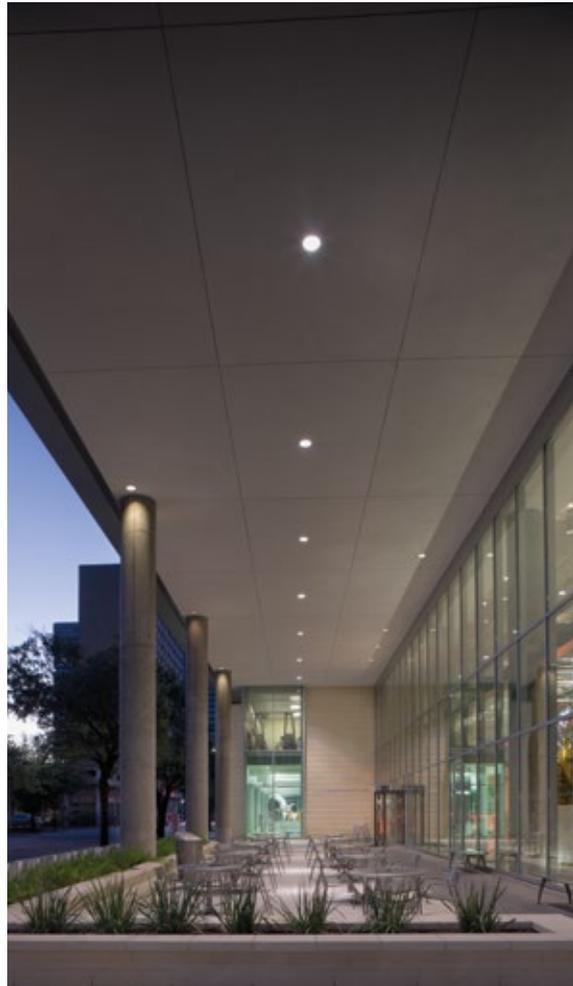
This flagship YMCA successfully supports the Y's mission to create healthy spirits, minds, and bodies for all.

DESIGN
AWARD
winner





The design is inspired by the idea of creating a “front porch” to downtown Houston, welcoming and embracing the community while fostering friendships, facilitating meetings, or simply providing a respite from the daily hustle. The front porch is an iconic element of early southern architecture — equally important for its passive cooling function as it is for gathering family and friends. To serve this purpose, outdoor seating and a café is incorporated and the two-story porch is tucked beneath the upper floors.

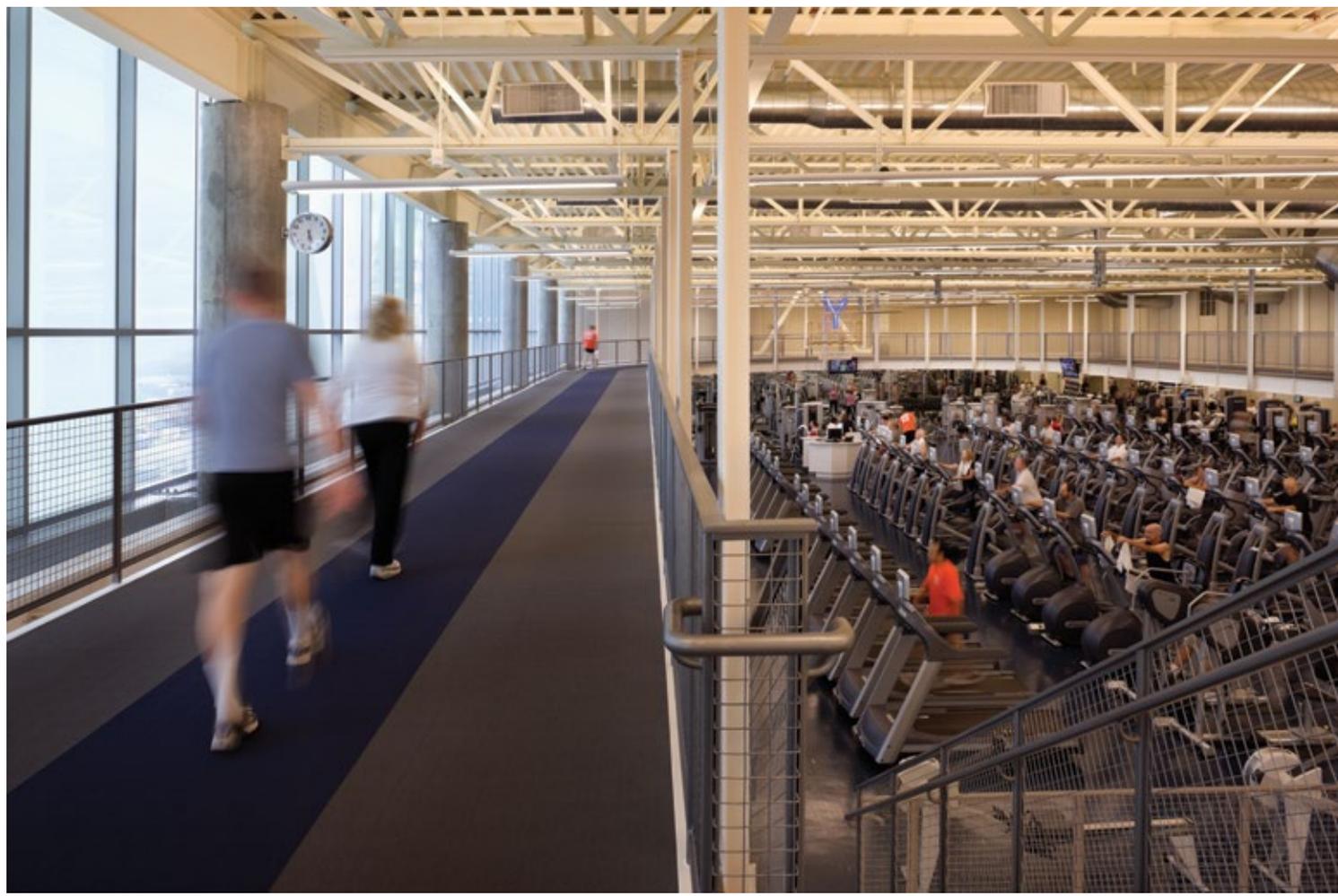


The building's main vertical circulation is organized around a Central Stair. This stair helps orient visitors and provides a place for social interaction.



"Kirksey's new downtown Y delivers a design and execution that proves doing something smart for each sector – the spirit, mind, and body, or in the case of the client, the user, and the community context – is the same as doing it for ALL."

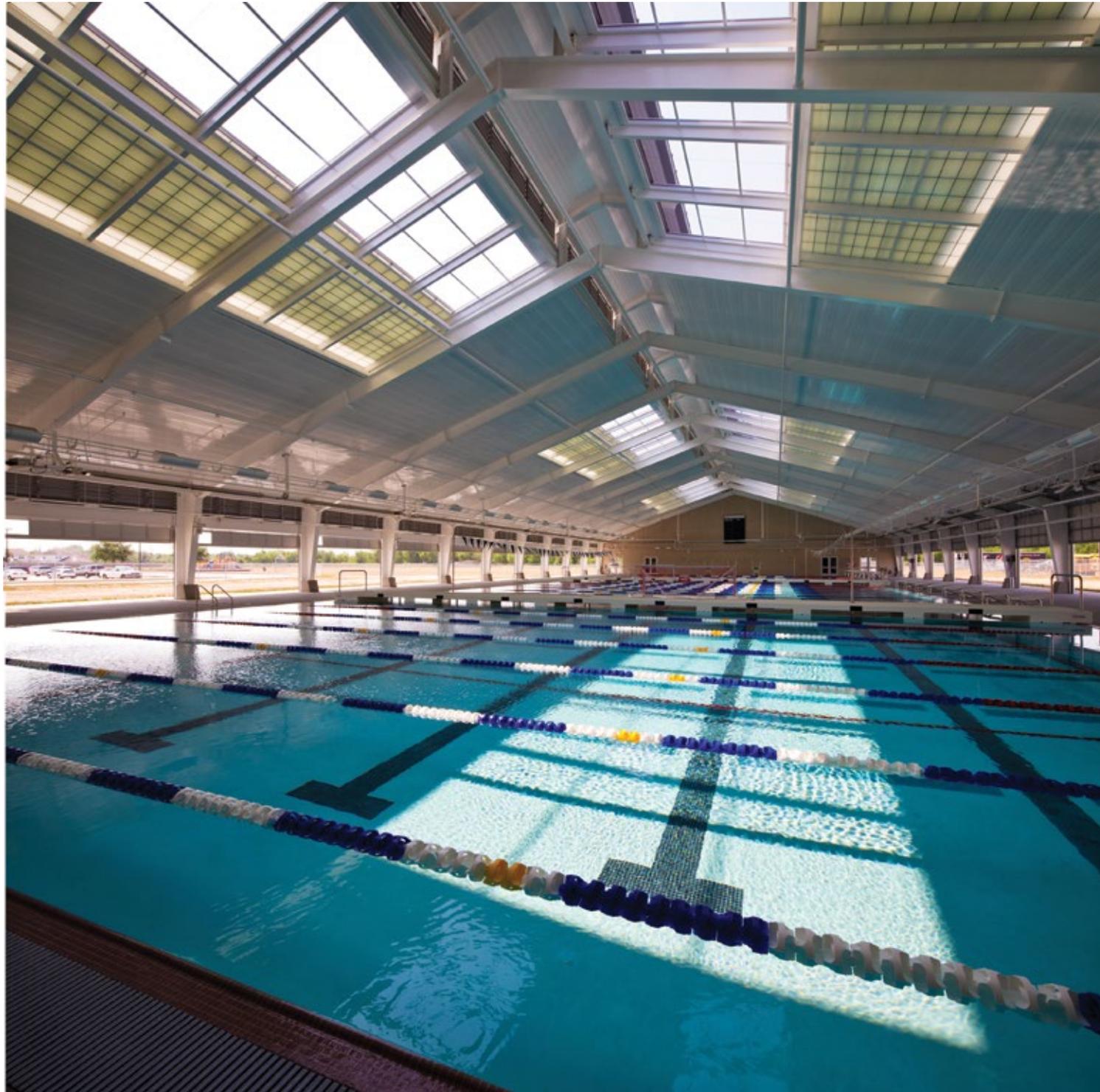
- Texas Architect Magazine



The new building provides a visual connection between its interior activities and Houston's downtown. This transparency blurs the transition between inside and out, connecting the community to the activity within.

To reinforce the concept of community engagement, a super graphic was created to span the upper three floors of the north facade, facing downtown. The full height letters act as a marquee, advertising the YMCA and the activities happening within the building.



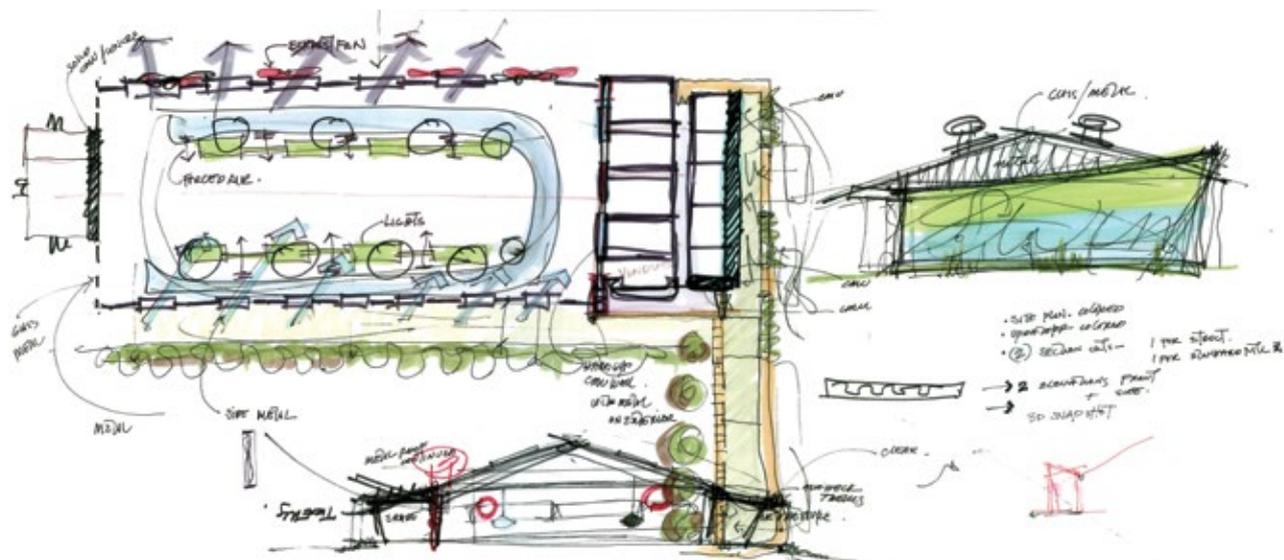


FORT BEND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AQUATIC PRACTICE FACILITY

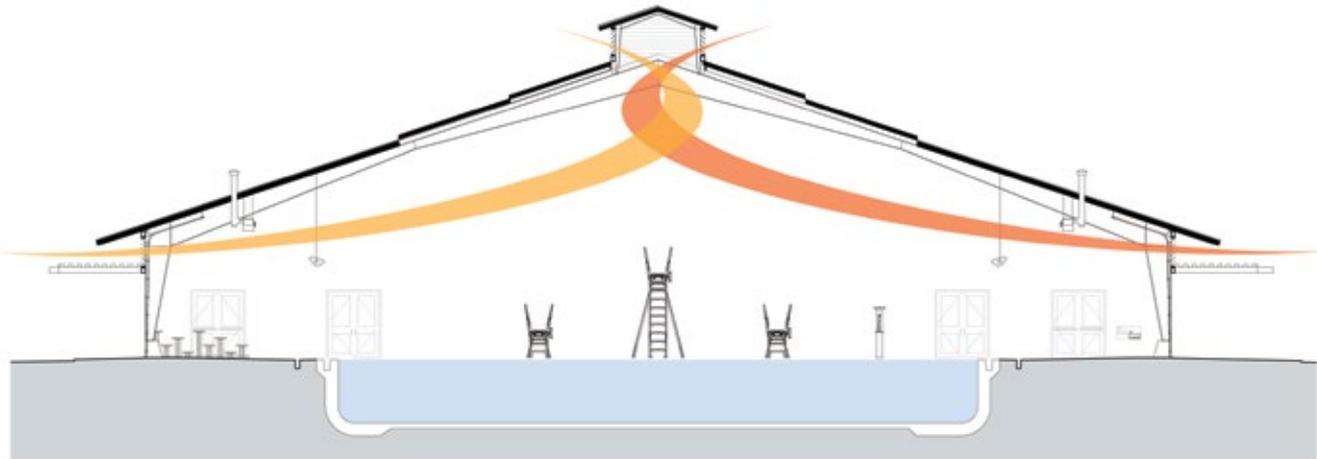
42,000 sf

Kirksey designed an innovative, naturally-ventilated pool pavilion for Fort Bend Independent School District, which cut annual costs to about \$100,000 a year—roughly half that of similar facilities. Research and exploration throughout the initial phases of design revealed ways to overcome the challenging environment and effectively use passive cooling and central stack ventilation. The 30,000-sf swimming space uses gill-shaped louvers to adapt to seasonal temperature extremes and still be comfortable to spectators and swimmers.

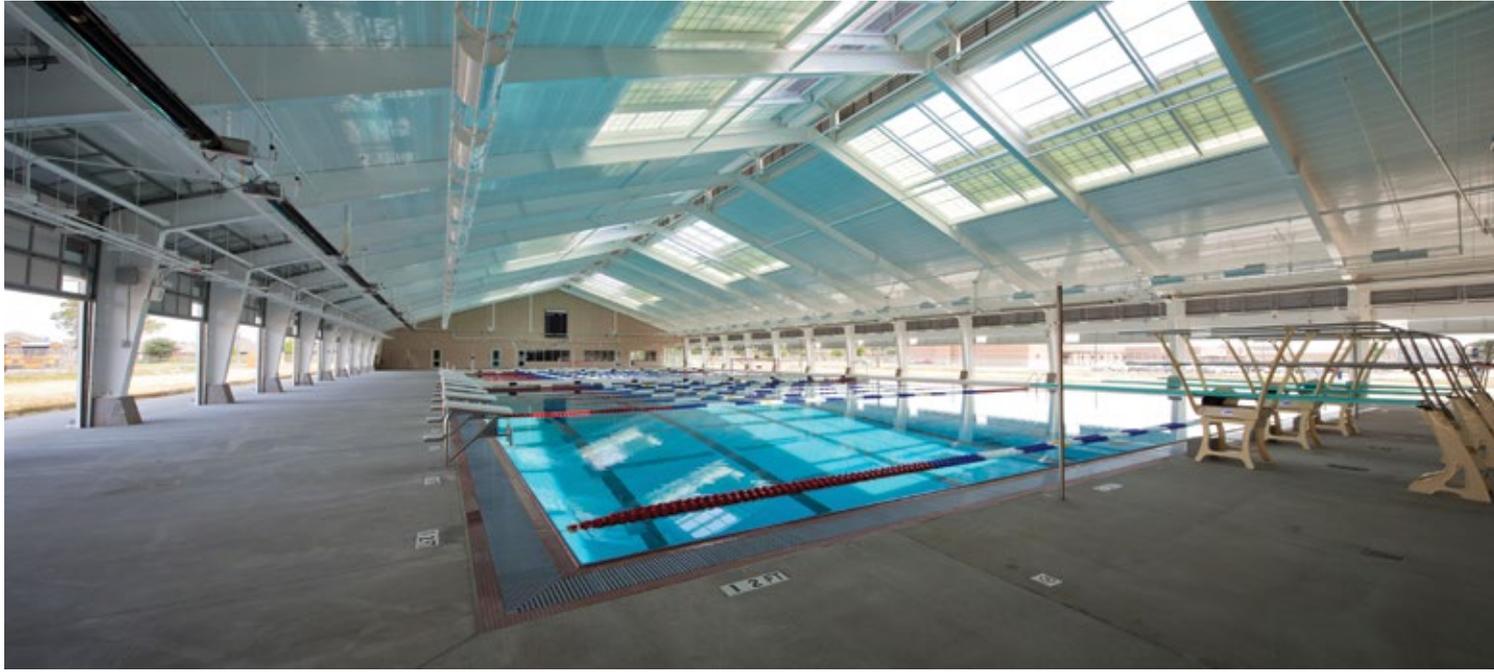
The facility includes a weight room, locker rooms, public restrooms, offices, and areas for reception and snacks. Though it was designed to function as a practice facility, the pool pavilion's overwhelming success has allowed it to become the popular choice for district competitions.



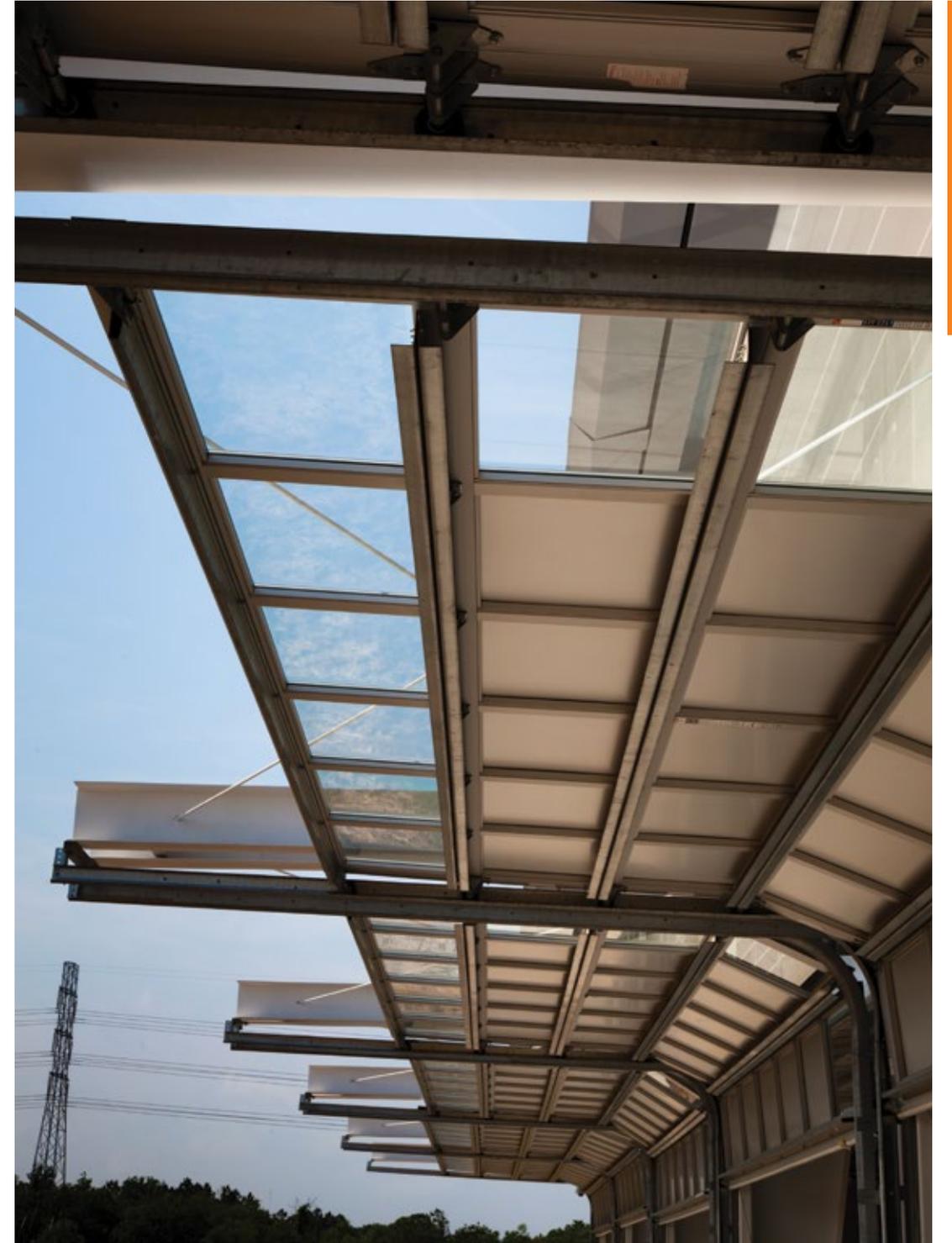
The pool enclosure functions as an open-air pavilion. The final design takes advantage of the Venturi effect, which explains the increase in air speed as it moves through a smaller opening. Operable doors on the east and west side achieve this effect by moving fresh air across the open area.

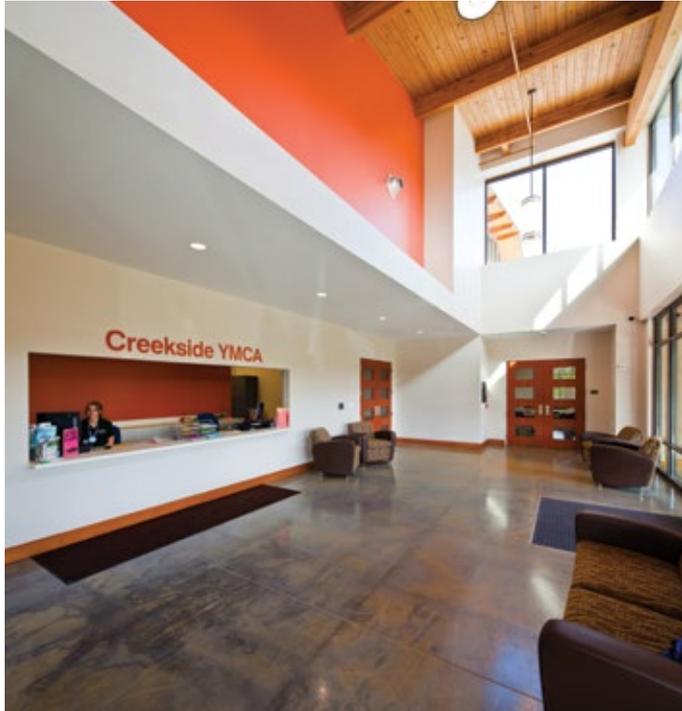


The pre-engineered steel structure is clad with semi-translucent roof panels that control the movement of the air and the way light is transmitted. The design also incorporates central stack ventilation, which allows warm air to escape through louvers above the doors and at the roof stack, acting as "gills."

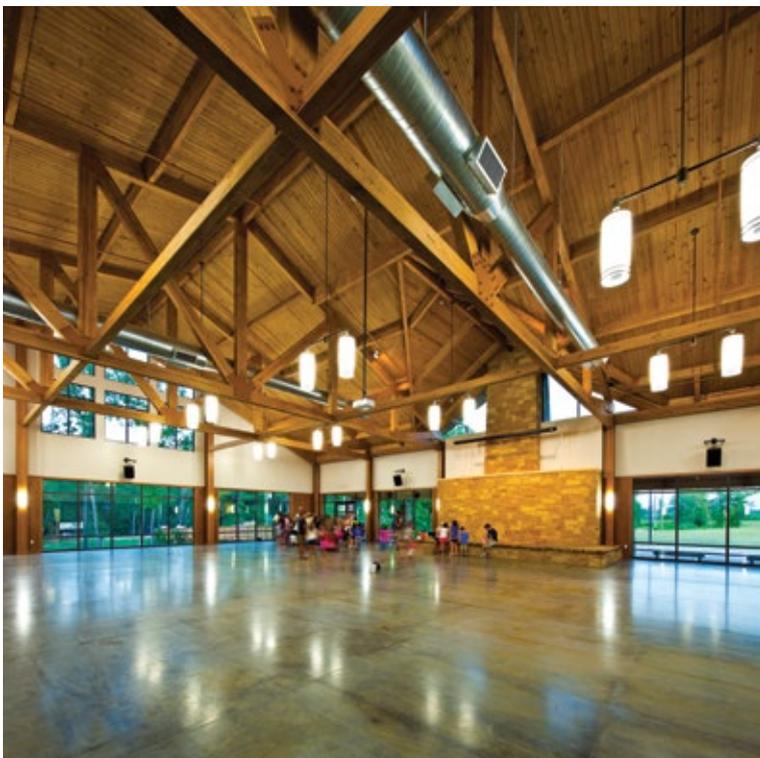


In the spirit of innovation, 23 overhead doors double as shading devices when open on the east and west sides to direct the prevailing seasonal winds.





SOUTH MONTGOMERY COUNTY YMCA AT CREEKSIDE



"The South Montgomery County YMCA strives to touch and change lives each day. Kirksey Architecture has helped us do that and more."

- Mark Cochran, Former Regional Development Director, YMCA of Greater Houston



▲ CITY OF EULESS FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER ▼



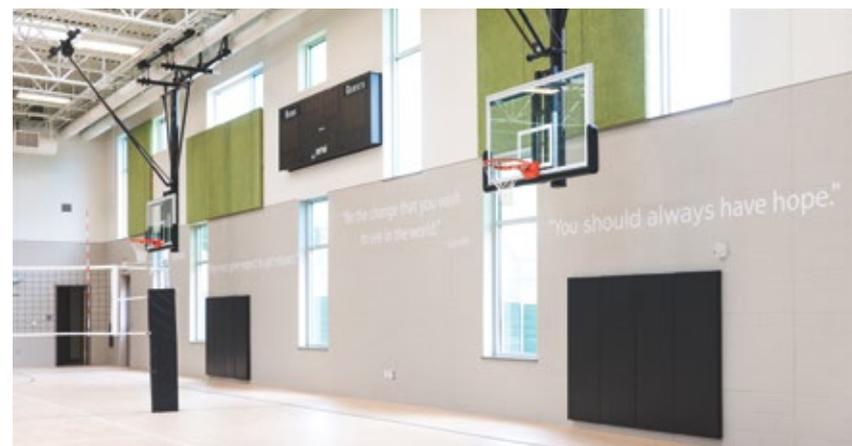
Recreation



▲ SOUTH MONTGOMERY COUNTY YMCA AT BRANCH CROSSING ▼



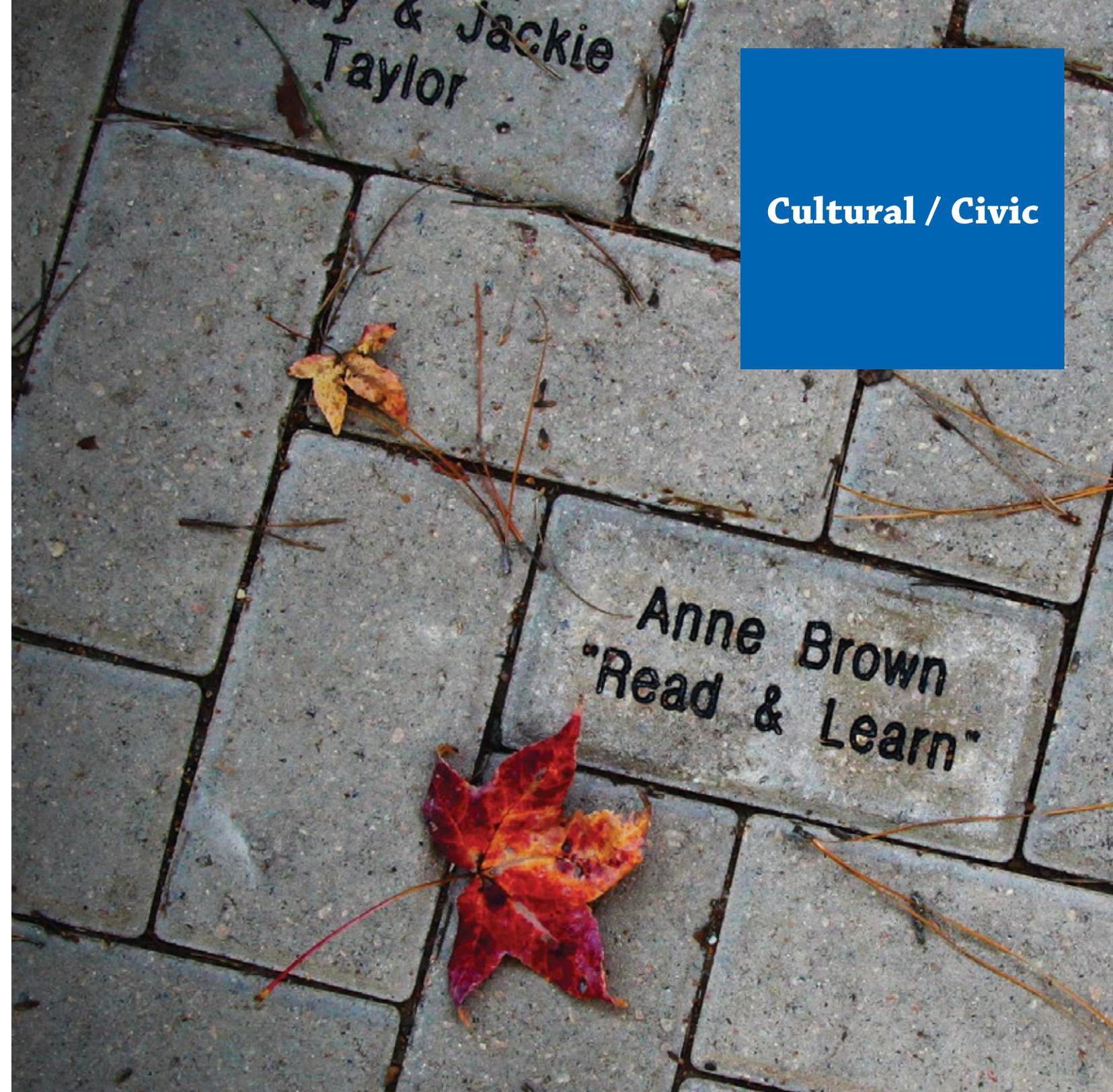
HARRIS COUNTY
BURNETT-BAYLAND GYM





From an exhibition hall to a quiet place to read, civic and arts environments encourage thought and expression. These spaces inspire and empower communities while providing flexibility for a range of activities. Our cultural and civic projects are designed to be pillars of the community that manifest care and passion, and provide a place for positive change and progress.

Cultural / Civic



DESIGN
AWARD
winner



QUEENSBURY THEATRE

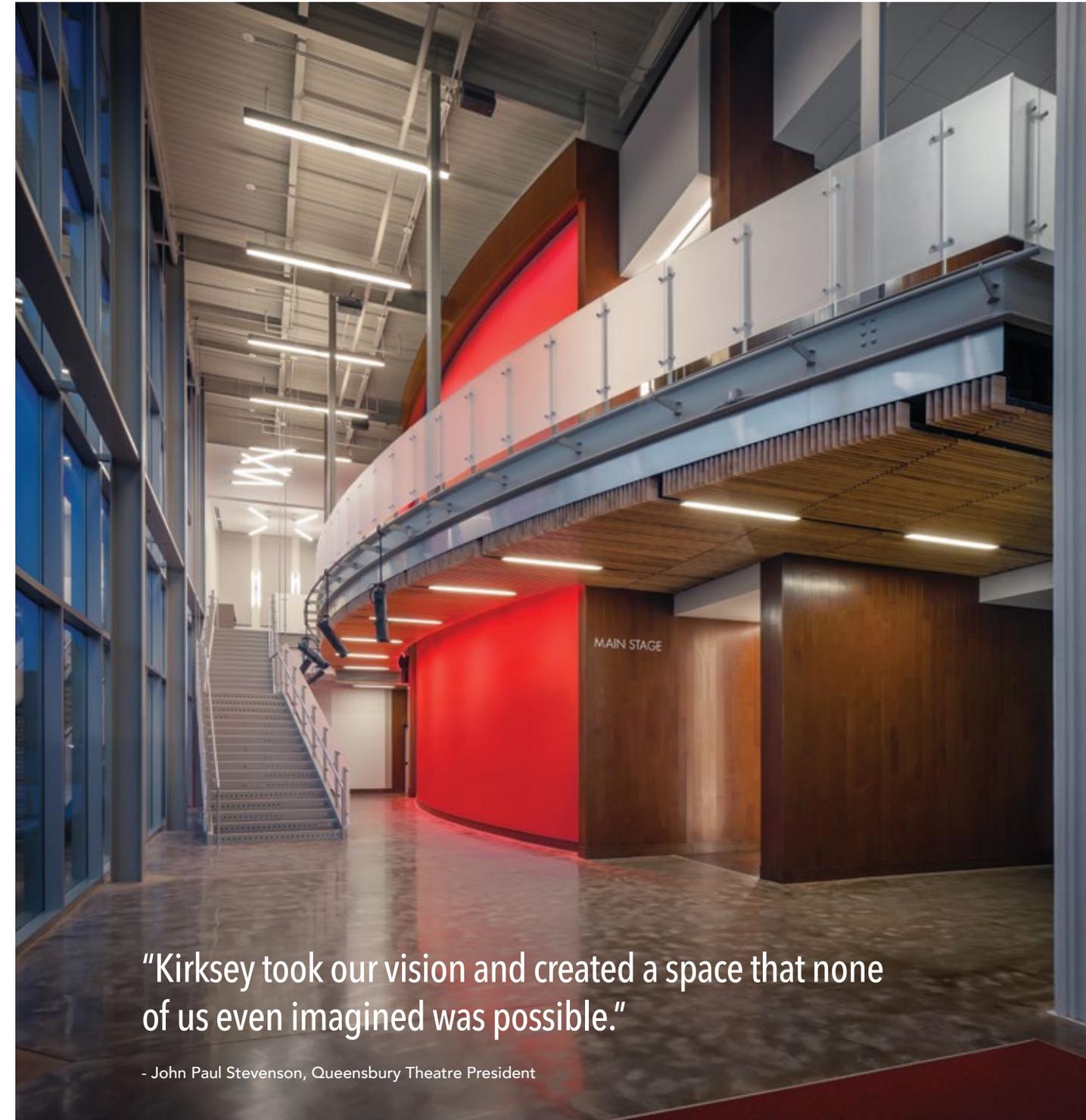
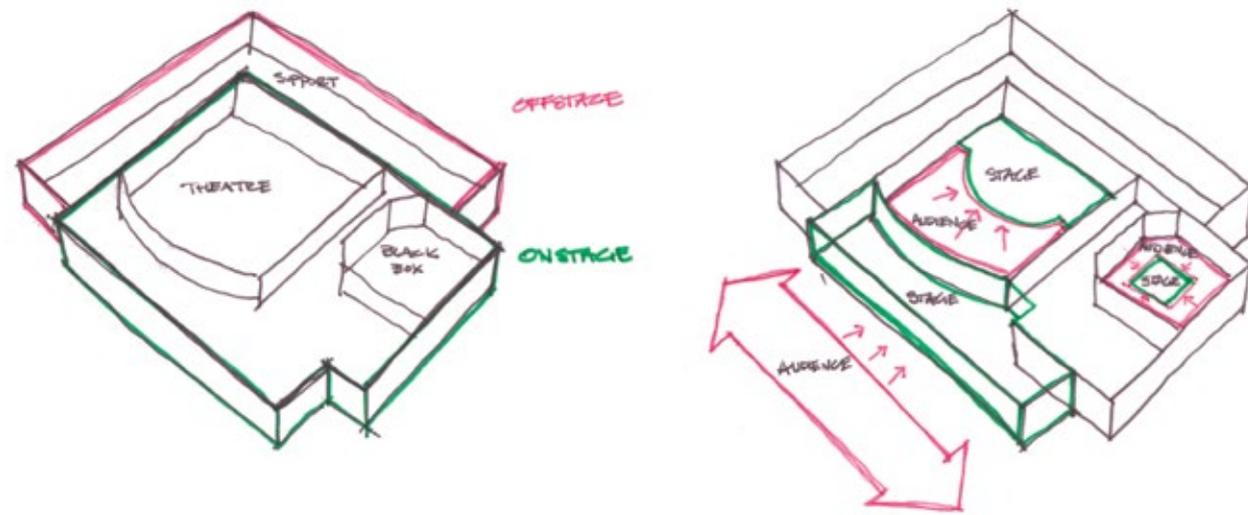
20,000 sf

Houston boasts a thriving, robust theater scene that is second only to New York City in theater density, with more than 12,000 seats downtown. While the downtown theater scene has a significant footprint, the new Queensbury Theatre in west Houston extends the reach of the arts and provides theatergoers with an easily accessible, 20,000-sf community theater, including a 250-seat main stage and a black box theater. As with all Kirksey projects, efforts were made to create a sustainable environment by utilizing low-flow fixtures, energy-efficient lighting, low VOC paints, and recycled content throughout the building.

Located in the pedestrian-friendly CityCentre development, Queensbury Theatre allows patrons to enjoy a completely walkable experience of dining, shopping, and attending a show. In fact, the design concept evokes the feeling of a “theater-within-a-theater” wherein passersby can look in from the sidewalk, as if part of the audience, and view the “show” happening behind the exterior glass wall within the expansive lobby.



The pre-function space is illuminated by the building's finest feature, a glowing cyclorama wall that changes colors to suit the mood, event, or show. This wall serves as the backdrop for the lobby, much like it would for the theater stage, and allows the building to adapt to the users within and enhance the overall experience.



"Kirksey took our vision and created a space that none of us even imagined was possible."

- John Paul Stevenson, Queensbury Theatre President



Photo by Patrick Feller

HARRIS COUNTY SYLVAN BEACH PAVILION

Harris County Precinct 2

15,000 sf

Sylvan Beach Pavilion, originally designed by Houston architectural firm Greacen & Brogniez, first opened its doors in 1956. The building became an instant classic in the La Porte community and hosted weddings, graduations, and numerous musical guests. Unfortunately, due to its coastal location, the pavilion was damaged by seven hurricanes over the years. In 2008, Hurricane Ike finally caused its closure. In 2011, Commissioner Jack Morman, aided by local non-profit Friends of Sylvan Beach Park & Pavilion, secured three separate historic designations for the space and made the renovation a priority. The pavilion is now listed in the National Historic Register by the Texas Historical Commission, is a Recorded Texas Historical Landmark, and is recognized as a State Archaeological Landmark.





The design team restored this gem to its mid-century modern glory while updating it to meet current coastal windstorm requirements. After studying historic photos and original plans, the team replicated the original circular bar, restored existing hardwood floors, repaired the deck, and added a new egress ramp. New sump pumps were added to remove accumulated water and the concrete structure received an acrylic coating.

The team worked with a manufacturer to custom-fabricate a window assembly that was tested for hurricane standard air and water infiltration, and then reviewed by the Texas Historical Commission to ensure it met visual requirements. The result is a renovation that allows original mid-century modern design elements to shine while protecting the structure from future damage. The site, which originally housed an 1893 dance pavilion, is again home to new generations of community celebrations including weddings, quinceañeras, and civic events.

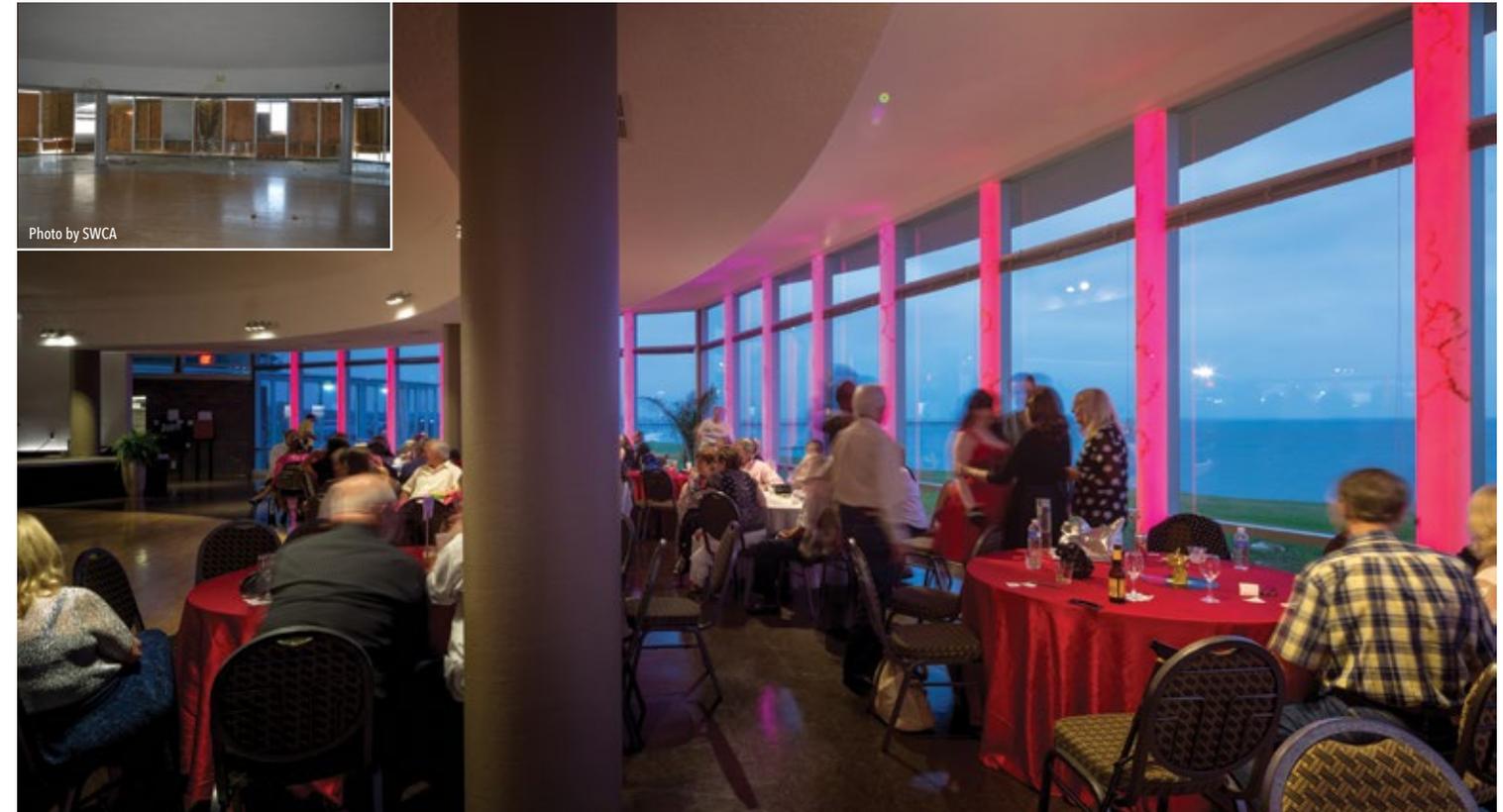


Photo by SWCA



COLLEGE STATION CITY HALL



DOW ACADEMIC CENTER



THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP



GALVESTON ISLAND CONVENTION CENTER



HOUSTON PARKS BOARD WEISS PARK PAVILION



CITY OF SPRING VALLEY VILLAGE CITY HALL & POLICE STATION



CITY OF HOUSTON MAGNOLIA MULTI-SERVICE CENTER & CLINIC



PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY



MUSEUM OF SOUTHERN HISTORY



ROOT MEMORIAL SQUARE



MEMORIAL PARK RUNNING TRAILS CENTER



ASTRODOME REPURPOSING STUDY



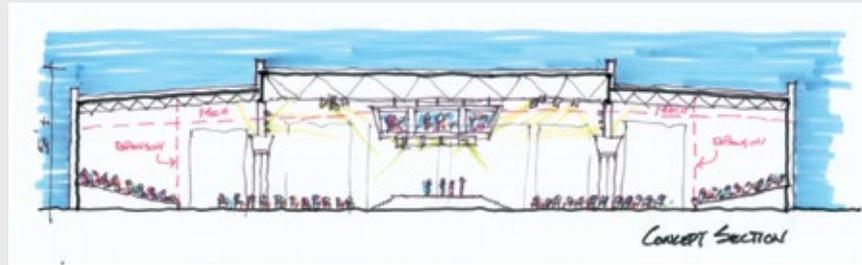
◀ CITY OF HOUSTON TRAFFIC OPERATIONS FACILITY ▶



Places of worship are often the foundation of a community, providing people with a cornerstone for spiritual growth and fellowship. Our worship spaces elevate the collective experience while integrating the congregation's values and mission. We design compelling spaces that inspire learning and engagement while remaining flexible and inviting to future generations.

Worship & Religious Education





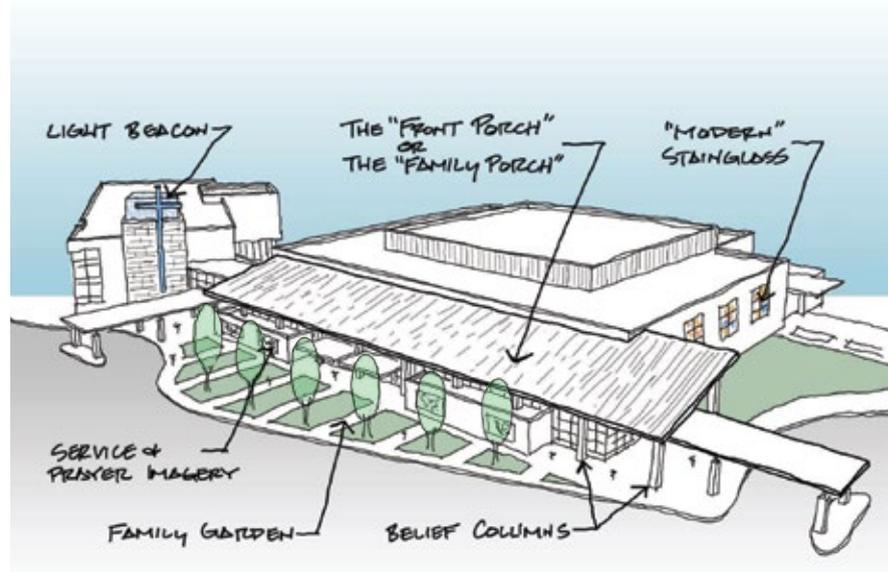
SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

Multiple projects totaling more than 425,000 sf

Second Baptist Church opened its doors in 1925 and has since grown to encompass six campuses and more than 60,000 members. Kirksey has been part of Second Baptist's growth for ten years, starting with an expansion and addition of the Woodway campus. Second Baptist's goal to accommodate their growing congregation and expand their reach led to the design of the new Cinco Ranch campus, called 1463, and the new Cypress campus.

The design of the 168,000-sf 1463 campus is inspired by Second Baptist's commitment to families and children. It was imperative that the overall design be welcoming and friendly, creating the feeling of a front porch to the church community. To encourage engagement and a sense of belonging, the team programmed much of the space to attract children and families. Additionally, the design concept is very youth oriented in an effort to be an anchor in the lives of the children and teens who attend Second Baptist.





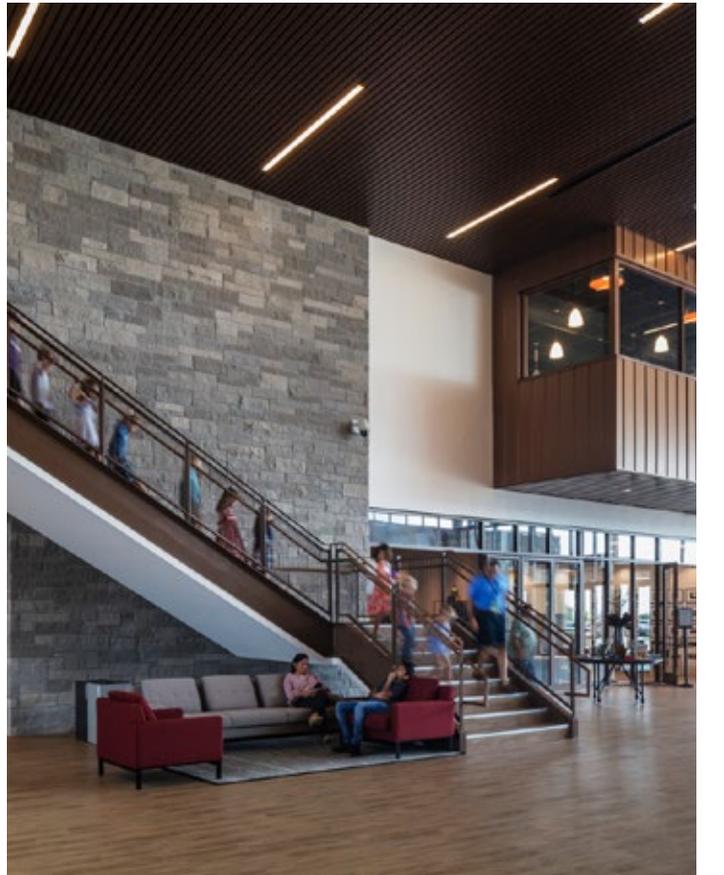
HOUSTON'S FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Multiple projects totaling 140,000 sf

Houston's First Baptist Church purchased a 40,000 square foot building as the new home for their downtown campus. The building, which occupies an entire block of downtown, is visible from nearby Highways 45 and 59. The church's primary goal was to create a place of light in the city that resonates with the Millennials and students living downtown. The design achieves this through creative illumination on the facade, anchored by the addition of a 70 ft. LED cross. The interior renovation transformed the assembly hall into a flexible worship space seating up to 600 people. Existing office space became a new welcome center and café, classrooms to accommodate preschoolers through adults, and church administrative offices alongside rentable office space available to non-profit and ministry partners.

The surrounding HFBC congregations have experienced significant growth and development as well. Prior to the Downtown campus, Kirksey designed a master plan and new worship, education, and administration building for HFBC Cypress. The award-winning building is a 100,000 sf facility on 33 acres of land in the master-planned community of Bridgeland. The design evokes the spirit of the surrounding Katy Prairie, rising organically from the ground and using materials familiar to its surrounding. Incorporating southern hospitality, front and back "porches" convey a sense of openness and flow throughout the space, which is all centered around a community hearth – the fireplace which faces both inside and out. As a multi-site church, designs for each campus reflect their unique personalities while maintaining the traditions and values of the larger church family.







TALLOWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

135,000 sf

Tallowood Baptist Church welcomed the challenge to accommodate a growing and vibrant community. To assist with the expanding congregation, Kirksey developed a master plan that would best utilize their constrained site. This was the first major building campaign in over 30 years, so the significant changes nearly doubled their program spaces. The new worship facility needed to meet two driving goals: create an acoustically dynamic space for choral music and a new pipe organ, and maintain the sense of proximity the congregation had in their previous 1,100-seat worship center. Versatility was the key to design a large entry hall for fellowship, which also serves as a gathering space during the week. New rehearsal spaces and robing rooms gave the music program the space necessary to serve Tallowood's ministry.

A new education and administration building welcomes members and visitors to the Tallowood campus. The building connects directly to the existing education facility and includes 26 new preschool classrooms, an indoor activity room, a large nursery, 10 large children's classrooms and support spaces, third floor meeting rooms for adults, as well as administrative offices. The building is designed to be secure, yet welcoming and inclusive, and acts as a gateway to the campus.





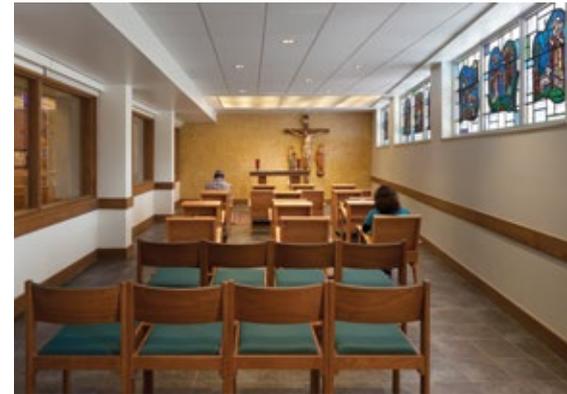
To preserve the church's traditional profile, the design team employed a Greek cross plan with balconies on three sides. The layout enabled Tallowood to maintain traditions while transitioning the sanctuary into a modern environment with contemporary worship components.

The new worship center seats 1,750 in pews, allowing a comfortable 22" width per person. The platform was designed to accommodate 176 choir members for a typical service, plus a grand piano and organ console.

◀ Clerestory windows provide natural daylight to the primary gathering space.

The main floor slopes gradually to improve sightlines. ▶





Champion Forest Baptist Church leaders identify their community as a “church on the move.” It became clear that the design intent must match the inviting and open nature of the people who make up the congregation, so enhanced indoor/outdoor connections between spaces and buildings were designed to encourage people to stay as long as they would like.



Communities thrive on reciprocity and the spirit of generosity. Service is an essential component of a healthy community, extending beyond the boundaries of one neighborhood. Non-profit organizations must be visible in the community to provide care and assistance to our neighbors in need. Our designs for non-profit agencies embody their causes, increase efficiency, and broaden service to their clients.

Non-Profit





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER HOUSTON

Multiple projects totaling more than 85,000 sf

Kirksey and Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston have a proven 20-year relationship, collaborating on many new and renovation projects together. The organization has provided a safe space for children to learn, play, and grow for over 60 years. Through engagement and education, they fulfill their mission to encourage adolescents to become productive and well-adjusted members of their communities.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston enrolls more than 17,000 children from low-income families around the area and recently chose the Richmond-Rosenberg area to expand their services. The new club (pictured) was inspired by the energetic children who would occupy the building and designed to be durable with an adventurous spirit. Another recent project involved the interior renovation of the B&GC administrative offices to create the Houston Texans Teen Club, the organization's first teen-specific facility. Additionally, Kirksey was part of the renovation to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston's flagship club, the John & Cissy Havard Club, to create a new STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) center.



Bright colors and large windows fill the space with energy and reflect the youthful exuberance that inhabits the building when overflowing with kids.

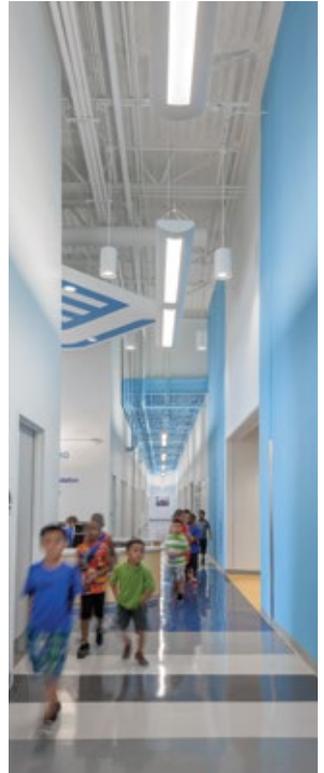
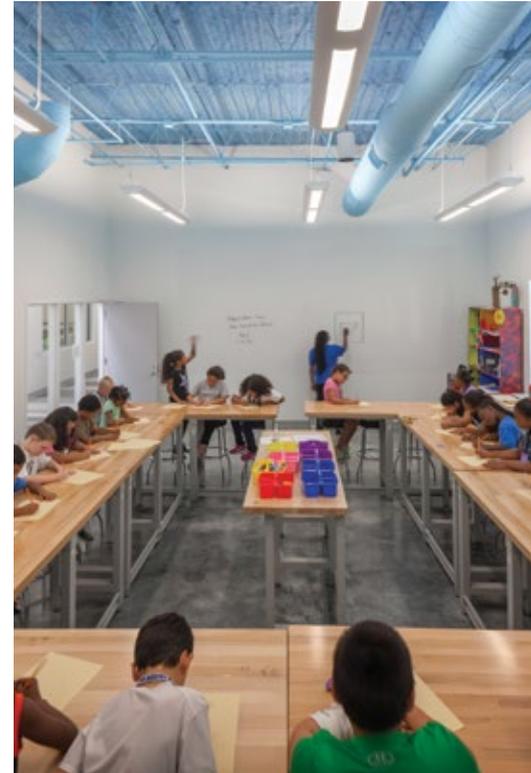
The building houses classrooms, a break room, art room, snack area, laundry room, conference room, and a full-size regulation basketball and volleyball court with six retractable goals.



Non-Profit



The facility was designed to endure decades of activity and weather the wear and tear of thousands of children.





MEMORIAL ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES



"MAM's new building gave us the space to add a range of programs to help families in the community. Staff have grown from 4 to 48, volunteer force from 300 to 1300, sales have tripled, and our budget has grown sixfold! Best of all, MAM families are earning higher wages, have increased income and know how to handle their money."

- Martha Macris, Memorial Assistance Ministries President & CEO



EAST FORT BEND HUMAN NEEDS MINISTRY



THE COUNCIL ON RECOVERY - HOUSTON



CHARITY GUILD OF CATHOLIC WOMEN



LEGACY COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC



HOUSTON PARKS BOARD



AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION



GALVESTON BAY FOUNDATION

Spring Branch ISD Good Neighbor: **10 years**

★

11,000 trees planted over 33 years

★

980 children served through 14 years of
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston
Adopt an Angel participation

★



Kirksey in the community.

We recognize the importance of giving back to the community which has blessed us. Our participation in the community adds spirit and purpose to our architectural projects.



Houston + Austin

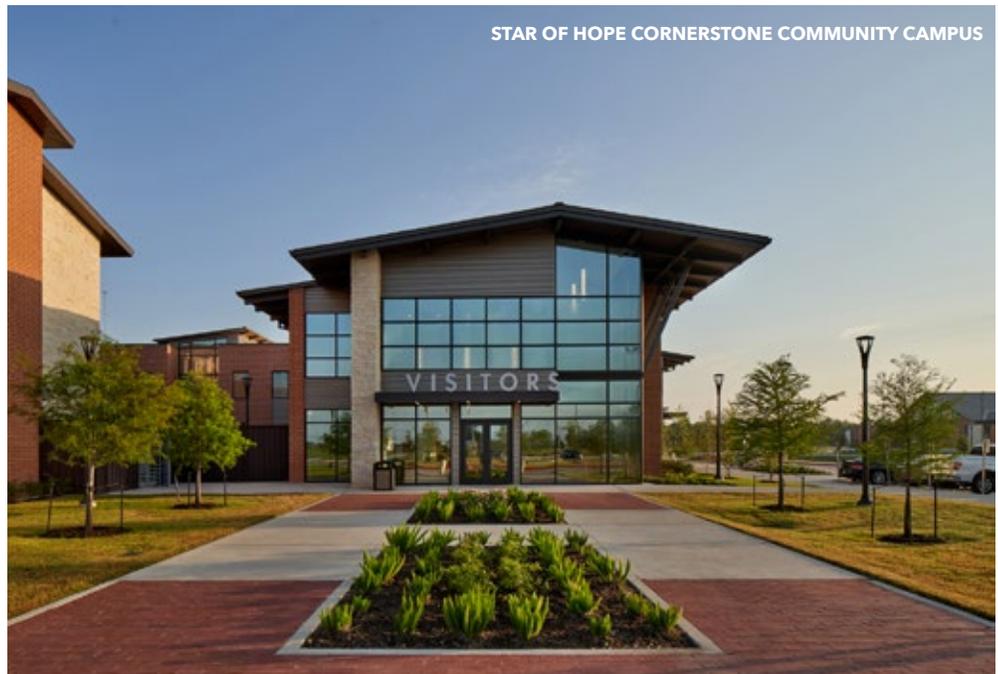
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