

Shiprock/Kirtland Performing Arts Center

Cultures throughout the world have a central center in which to promote and educate their communities. The community of Kirtland, New Mexico has a Performing Arts Center with which to entertain their local patrons.

As one approaches the massive building from the nearly 140 car parking lot, an excitement, only achieved through large-scale design, builds into high anticipation of what lies within the walls. The covered entry has a glass storefront nearly 20-feet high that invites one into the lobby where a ticket booth, coat check and public restrooms are available. After passing through the lobby, a seat may be found by taking one of two different routes: either walk into the auditorium on the same level as the lobby, or walk up the stairs to gain auditorium access at the top of the seating area. An elevator is provided for proper handicap accessibility.

The auditorium has a seating capacity of 799 people. Gypsum board "clouds" are suspended above the seating to accommodate the acoustic requirements of the theater. Theatrical lighting, sound, screens and curtains are provided at the stage, to support the various programs and events that may be held. A control booth located at the top of the seating is the central point from which all these systems are managed. The stage towers up to nearly 70-feet above grade, making the building one of the tallest in the community.

Behind the stage are dressing rooms, costume storage and make-up room. Having nearly 17-feet of clearance, another space provides storage for scenery and props. A large overhead coiling door into the scenery/prop area and then another at the stage allows for large items to be brought onto the stage with relative ease.

The building is constructed of concrete masonry units that when stained provide a self-defining appearance on the school campus. The interiors are either painted cmu or gypsum board walls with tile and carpet floors.

The Performing Arts Center at Kirtland was constructed concurrently with the Performing Arts Center in Shiprock, New Mexico. The buildings are identical except for the exterior and interior colors, which specifically match the respective colors of each school. Work began in April 2004 and completed August 2005.



Location.....Kirtland, NM
 OwnerCentral Consolidated Schools
 Architect.....DLR Group
 Cost.....\$5.3M
 Size20,045 sf
 Completed..... August 2005

Contact

Roy Waters
Central Consolidated
Schools
(505) 368-4984

George Trosky
DLR Group Architects
(505) 327-6068

