Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth Nolan Catholic High School IDEA Center and Natatorium





AGILITY IN DESIGN - 2022



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Expanding the learning experience.

Nolan Catholic High School underwent a two-year, campus-wide renovation including transforming two existing courtyards into beautiful outdoor learning environments that provide new, experiential learning opportunities in arts and sciences. Corgan designed a new IDEA Center (Integrated Design, Engineering, and Arts) and natatorium to advance existing programs and provide new opportunities for students.

The site design and form of the building masses were informed primarily by the existing chapel at the heart of the campus, considered as a physical representation of goodness. A celebration of natural materials, views through north glazing towards the lake, as well as an upward interior procession to the art gallery and primary gathering spaces were efforts towards achieving Nolan's vision. Additionally, the new on-campus natatorium features a 25-meter swimming pool with ten lanes, a competition diving platform, and a spectator area. The new highway-facing natatorium integrates similar natural elements and forms but prioritizes an elevated stature desired by the diocese to Dallas-Fort Worth.

The new Integrated Design, Engineering and Arts (IDEA) building was an opportunity for Nolan and the Fort Worth Catholic Diocese to reinforce their values, strengthen their brand, and elevate the student experience. The client's vision was that all aspects of the design would embody the transcendentals of truth (science), beauty (the arts), and goodness (religion).

The IDEA building engages students in the arts and sciences. The two-story building includes cutting-edge equipment for engineering, technology, and the arts. The art gallery and performance space for dance, music, and theater serves as a key feature of the building, promoting and sharing student artwork to the public.















