

Project:
*Higher Education Art Building
Fort Wayne, Indiana*



Seeking to create a unique and aesthetically appropriate atmosphere for artistic studio space, the University of Saint Francis selected the Irscher Team to renovate and construct the Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center.

Challenged to convert an existing industrial use building for educational purposes, Irscher was successful in utilizing existing structural elements, creating an efficient, state-of-the-art facility, including a computer graphics lab, television studio and traditional art spaces. Extensive environmental remediation was performed and many existing materials were utilized in this widespread renovation.



The newly refurbished 31,200-sq. ft. facility carries a theme of creativity and realism, containing design elements such as exposed ductwork and plumbing fixtures, stainless steel panels, large skylights and unusual wall angles. This rough, pure environment is contrasted with the immaculate, glass-walled art gallery, also contained in the facility. Completed in 2000, the Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center maintains a sense of the past, while remaining unified with the present.

Client:
*University of
Saint Francis*

Architect:
*Design
Collaborative, Inc.*

Services Provided:
*Negotiated General
Construction*