



LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC OF BARD COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS



Wolf Architects, Inc.

Design team

Gary Wolf, AIA (Principal-in-Charge); Margaret Wray, Marrikka Trotter (Project Managers); Robert Arthur, Asksel Solberg, Maressa Perreault (Design Team); Acentech, Inc. (Acoustics); Roome and Guarracino, Lemessurier Consultants (Structural); Carol R. Johnson Associates, Inc. (Landscape)

Client

Longy School of Music of Bard College

Area	Total cost	Cost/square foot
8,900 sq. ft.	\$1,335,750	\$150

Completion	Photographer
September 2012	Bruce Martin and Peter Vanderwarker

The architects' challenge was to revitalize two historic buildings and improve their functionality while gaining The Cambridge Historical Commission approval. Program requirements included upgrading the concert hall and adding a vestibule at the main facility, and two doors away, the recently acquired building needed accessibility, practice rooms, and lounge space. Acoustical concerns were paramount and involved aurally isolating spaces and enhancing the sound in the performance hall.

The mahogany and glass entrance at 29 Garden mediates between the 1889 granite landmark and its 1968 wing. Acoustical panels, audio-video equipment, light-filtering and blackout shades, new lighting, and a double-glazed back wall were installed. At 33 Garden, the architects introduced universal accessibility by regrading the site, and restored the exterior and key interior spaces. The basement layout juxtaposes colorful, modular practice rooms and the historic stone wall, with lockers and ceiling panels of bamboo plywood.

The Historical Commission recognized Longy with a Preservation Award. 🌿

