

TUFTE PERFORMANCE  
AND PRODUCTION CENTER

*Boston, Massachusetts*

*Client: Emerson College of Communications  
and the Performing Arts*



AWARDS

HONOR AWARD FOR HIGHER  
EDUCATION FACILITIES DESIGN  
BOSTON SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS,  
2005

HONOR AWARD  
BOSTON SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS,  
2004

PROJECT TEAM OF THE YEAR  
BUILDING DESIGN AND  
CONSTRUCTION MAGAZINE, 2004

BUILD MASSACHUSETTS MERIT AWARD  
ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS  
OF MASSACHUSETTS, 2003

Emerson's state-of-the-art Tufts Performance and Production Center houses live performance, broadcast, and video production facilities, faculty offices, and academic spaces. The Tufts site — a small footprint of hidden, unused property with no address, street frontage, visibility, or direct pedestrian access — presented the ultimate urban infill design challenge.

Elkus Manfredi Architects provided feasibility, architecture, and interior design services for the Tufts, leveraging the 7,000-square-foot footprint into 80,000 square feet of program on 11 floors. Pedestrian access was established through an adjacent building. Double-height live performance and studio spaces were located in the windowless building interior, and single-height academic spaces and faculty offices set along the only window walls. Some areas cantilever over adjacent College-owned property. The building's public face — a colored LED light show shown through the glass curtainwall — reveals itself in a service alley as a 21st century marquee announcing the new Emerson. Available for both College and public use, the award-winning facility offers students exciting academic adjacencies between live performance, video production, and broadcast, and provides valuable interaction with Boston's broader theater culture.





