

Officials Aim to Boost Enrollment With New Center

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OXNARD, Calif. — Officials are hoping that the design of the new \$16 million Oxnard College Performing Arts Classroom and Auditorium will increase enrollment and provide inspiration for students.

A large glass lobby featured in the 26,500-square-foot multi-use complex will provide an inviting entrance to the campus and will serve as a major school icon, according to school officials. The building will also include a 400-seat auditorium and a 100-seat black box theater, making it the school's largest-capacity lecture hall and auditorium space.

The building's design incorporates green technology, featuring Kalwall transparent wall systems and glazing with louvered sunscreens that will transmit natural light into interior spaces. Concrete block with a high amount of recycled content will make up the building's exterior and will provide thermal and noise insulation, and angled roofs will feature photovoltaic panels and a rainwater collection system.

The site will include an outdoor plaza and be the central focal point of the campus. Its location will be adjacent to current and future buildings, and will be visible to both students and the general public.

Construction has not yet started, but the project is slated for completion in fall 2007. MVE Institutional, a planning, architecture and interiors firm with locations in both Irvine and Oakland, Calif., designed the project.