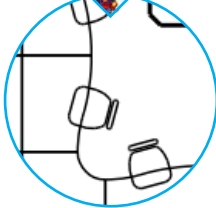
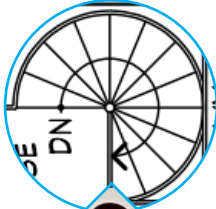
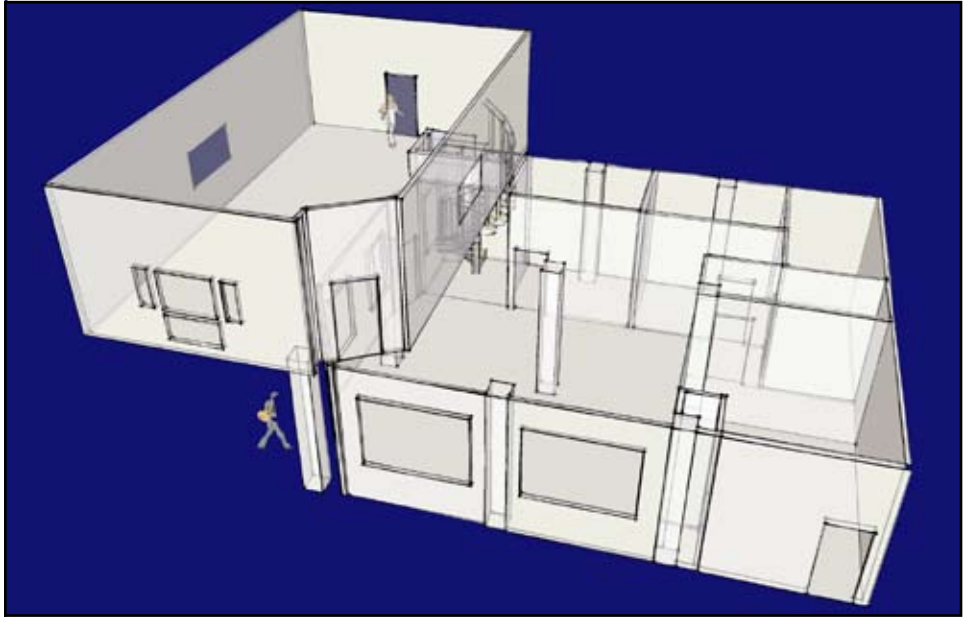


# the newell center for arts technology

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## It's all coming together: construction of the new NCAT facility proceeds — on schedule for January opening



Photos from construction in progress: *Above:* 3D model of NCAT spaces. *Right:* studs go up on the lower level. *Below:* view along lower level corridor.

Suffice it to say that the Noble Center was a real mess this summer. A new elevator shaft was built, several holes were cut into the concrete floor, walls were demolished, and many of the heating ducts were ripped out and replaced. Now that most of the messy, noisy work is complete, construction will continue during the fall semester.

Careful planning has been done in an attempt to keep the disruption to a minimum, but students, faculty and staff will have to be a little patient as the work continues.

Work that still remains to be done includes finishing of walls, floors, and ceilings, installation of new lights and audiovisual equipment, and attending to small details of all kinds. The elevator cab is being installed this month.

Visit the NCAT Construction Blog at [arts.stlawu.edu/ncat/blog](http://arts.stlawu.edu/ncat/blog) for updates and photos as the project progresses. ♦



*It's all coming together*

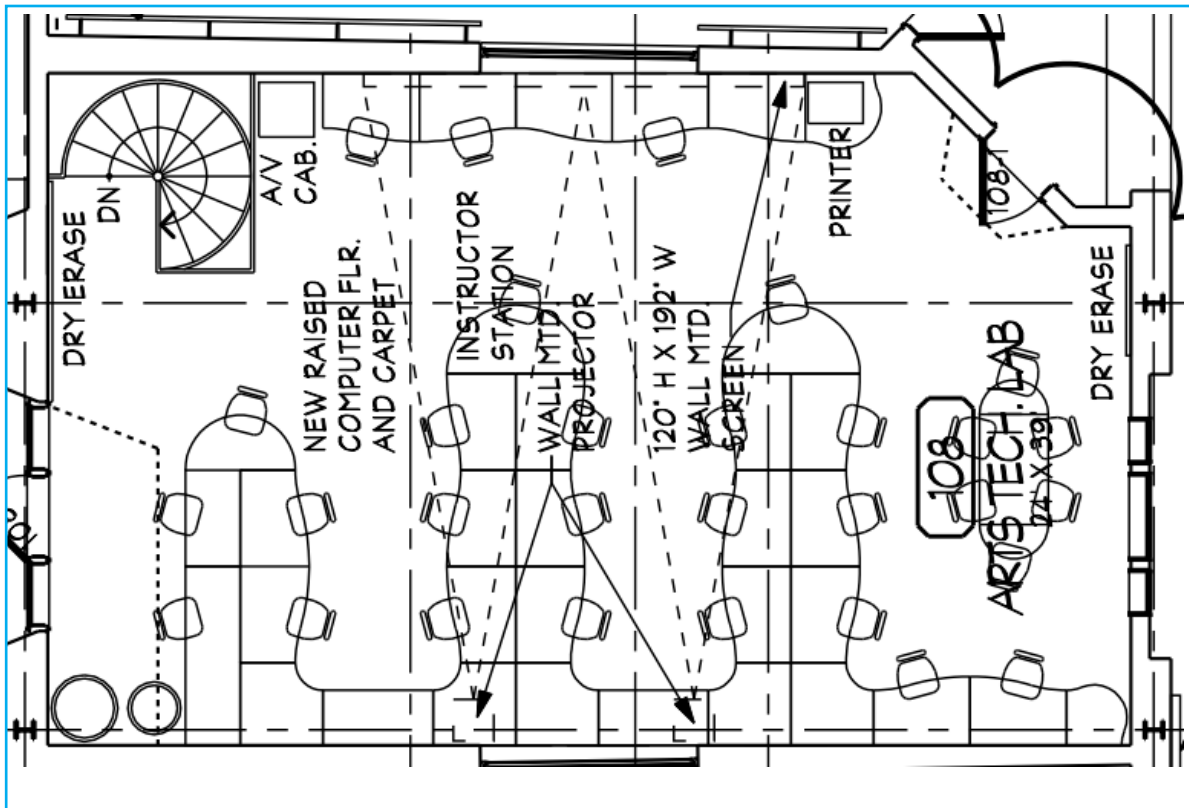
*The new NCAT will open for business on January 22, 2007.*

[arts.stlawu.edu/ncat](http://arts.stlawu.edu/ncat)

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Construction is on-schedule
- Floor plans for NCAT spaces
- Wean family gift
- Fine Arts and Gallery team up to bring "character design" to SLU

## Floor plans: NCAT spaces on the main level of Noble Center



The NCAT's main e-classroom is the first thing visitors to Noble Center will see upon entering the building through the main doors.

When visitors walk into the Noble Center through the main entrance, the first thing they are likely to notice is Room 108. With a large glass partition that faces the building's entrance, 108 is designed to make an impression.

These days, an electronic classroom is not usually something to get excited about. What will make this one different?

First, it will be both highly functional and very beautiful. A high ceiling, cool colors, and gently curving lines will make the space pleasant and comfortable. The space will not be dominated by computer equipment; rather, the equipment will blend into the space.

Second, Room 108 will boast state-of-the-art computer equipment, and audiovisual equipment that makes up one of the university's most sophis-

ticated systems – while also being one of the easiest to use. From a touch-screen on the instructor's desk, the room's two projectors and high-end audio system can present information from a wide variety of sources.

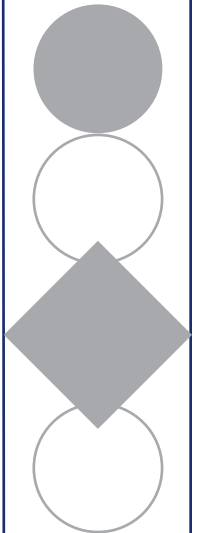
In front of the glass partition that faces the lobby is an open space where work by students, faculty, and guest artists can be prominently displayed. Three large LCD displays located throughout the building will extend the reach of this showcase space.

When not hosting classes, 108 will function as spillover lab space; a spiral staircase will connect it with the main lab on the level below. ♦

This drawing shows a top-down view of NC108, the NCAT's primary electronic classroom. The instructor station features a dual-display dual-projector system; all of the audiovisual equipment in the room is controlled by a simple touchscreen on the instructor's desk.

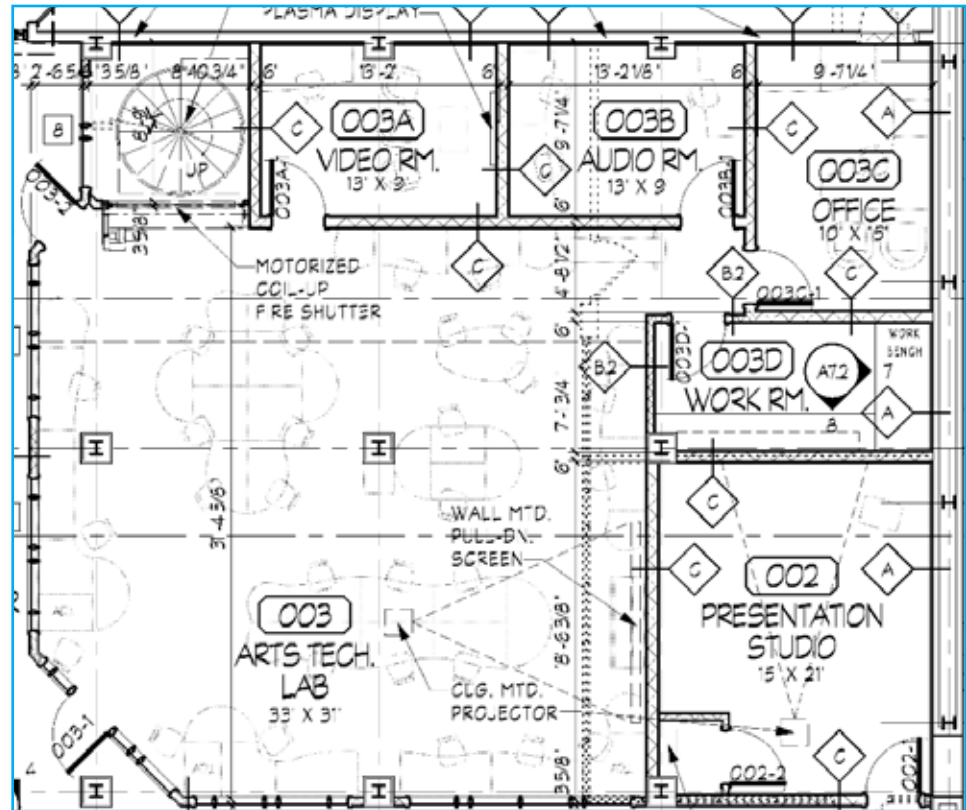
*It's all coming  
together*

*Fine Arts • Music • Performance & Communication  
Arts • Richard F. Brush Art Gallery • Film Studies*

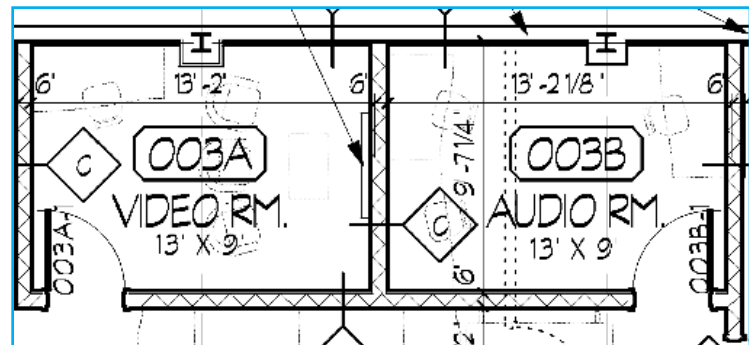


## Floor plans: NCAT spaces on the lower level of Noble Center

This drawing shows a top-down view of the NCAT spaces on the basement level of Noble Center.



At Right: detail showing the two project studios.



The electronic classroom, with its prominent location and large windows, is simply the tip of the NCAT iceberg. The heart of the new NCAT facility will be found on the basement level of the Noble Center.

Whether you choose to take the main staircase, the spiral stair, or the elevator, when you arrive on the basement level you will see the main lab, Room 003. Designed to accommodate individuals and small groups, the lab space will provide the environment in which students, faculty, and staff can explore the intersections among digital technologies and the arts. With 20 workstations and two HelpDesk stations, the lab will also house a wide variety of printing and scanning equipment. The lab can be used as a classroom when the e-classroom upstairs is unavailable.

Adjoining the lab will be two project studios, where advanced individuals or small groups can work privately. These studios, which will contain the very best of the NCAT's video and audio equipment, will be available to students through special arrangement on a semester basis. The video studio will consist of one professional video editing station and a small screening area with seating for 3 or 4, a 42"

plasma display, and a surround sound audio system. The audio studio will contain two professional audio editing workstations and a surround sound audio system.

In addition to these spaces, the lower level of the NCAT will include a workshop for computer repair and an office for the Arts Technical Support Specialist. Adjoining the NCAT is the Performance and Communication Arts department's Presentation Studio, where students can practice oral presentations and videotape themselves. ♦

## Wean family makes generous gift ... again!

St Lawrence would like to thank **John and Susie Wean** (parents of Britton '06) and the **Double Eagle Foundation** for another generous gift to the Univer-

sity in support of the NCAT. The Wean's second gift, like the first, will go toward the purchase of equipment for the new facility. We are very grateful for their generosity. ♦

## Department of Fine Arts and Brush Art Gallery team up to build character (design)

In service of the NCAT's mission to foster collaborative and interdisciplinary opportunities in the arts, the **Collaborative Projects Fund** offers funding to get such projects off the ground. Beginning in the Fall 2006 semester, four faculty and staff from the Fine Arts department and the Brush Gallery will undertake such a project.

Entitled **Contemporary Character Design: studio collaboration, exhibition, and course development**, the proposal was submitted by Amy Hauber, Melissa Schulenberg, Cathy Tedford, and Carole Mathey. The four will travel to the second annual Pictoplasma Conference in Berlin, October 11-14. Information they take away from the conference and connections they make there will inform four Fine Arts courses and a Gallery exhibition over the next two years.

But what is character design? In their proposal, Hauber, et al describe "a highly successful and visible intersection of visual works that combine digital aesthetics and culture, animation,



Four St. Lawrence faculty and staff will attend the second annual Pictoplasma Conference in Berlin, October 11-14.

"Characters at War: 100+ violated copyrights and the very best in character design." See the pictoplasma website for more: [pictoplasma.com](http://pictoplasma.com)

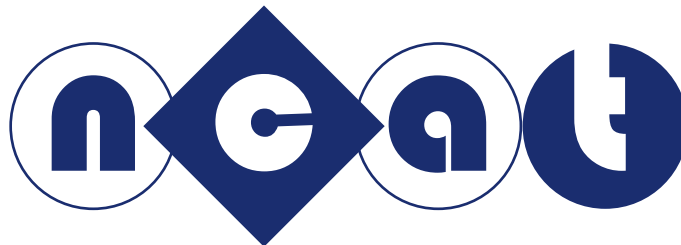
street art, commerce and popular culture.

"Art students often feel very stifled when attempting to create an expressive self-portrait or working within narrative constraints. They get stuck thinking about 'important' art-historical (western) precedents and often cannot come up with visual answers that are original and authentic to their experiences and culture, but instead come up with answers that feel art-historically relevant within the figurative tradition (and often in a very anachronistic way). Character design is a new way for artists to create expressions outside of the limitations of 'fine art' and in this way is a very relevant way of creative activity that crosses boundaries between high/low art, consumer and 'original' works." Watch for more about character design on campus later this year!

For more information about the Collaborative Projects Fund, contact Chris Watts at [cwatts@stlawu.edu](mailto:cwatts@stlawu.edu). ♦

### NCATnews

NCATnews is the newsletter of the Newell Center for Arts Technology at St. Lawrence University, and is published three times a year. For more information about the NCAT, visit our website at [arts.stlawu.edu/ncat](http://arts.stlawu.edu/ncat).



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