

**THE PROJECT**

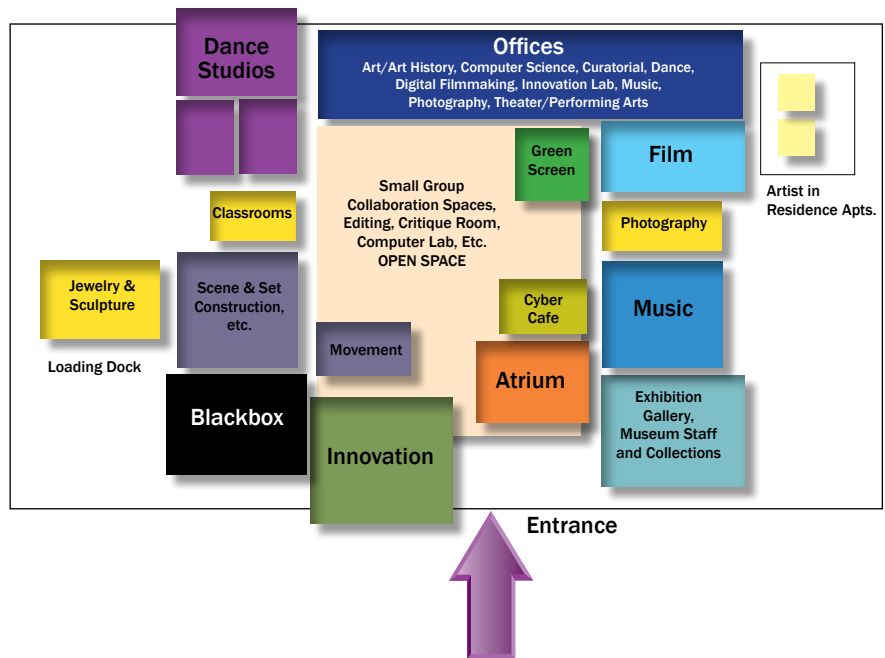
Today, the arts related departments and programs at Spelman College are dispersed among four campus buildings (Giles Hall, Rockefeller Fine Arts, Science Center, and Milligan) and an off-campus location for Dance. None of the four buildings are appropriate facilities for contemporary Arts education and the separation of departments and programs prevents the collaboration that the faculty wish to strengthen and encourage.

Spelman College intends to create the Center for Innovation & the Arts. This 61,210 net assignable square foot (NASF) building is envisioned as new construction. For the first time at Spelman, all the arts will be in one collaborative and supportive environment. The facility will bring together Art, Curatorial Studies, Dance, Filmmaking, Innovation Lab, Music, Photography, Theatre and Performing Arts, and the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art staff. In addition, the College wishes to strengthen the Center by relocating the Computer Science department to the building.

The Center will be the culmination of a planning process that the College has engaged in over the past several years. Essentially, the College envisioned what an undergraduate arts curriculum should be in the 21st century. Well before the facility program was developed, faculty, staff, students, and administrators discussed what they wanted a Spelman student in the arts to know and be able to do, and how they wanted them to learn.

The facility programming process involved a series of interviews and meetings with faculty and staff who were guided by Dober Lidsky Mathey to develop the facility program for the new Center.

Through the fall of 2016, numerous meetings were held to define the facility needs of the departments and programs. Through multiple meetings with faculty and administrators, the College defined a vision for the new Center and articulated the programmatic needs and aspirations for appropriate



space. Several versions were developed and refined as the departments fine-tuned their vision for the future. The program that has been created is not a wish list of spaces but a carefully vetted and justified description of need.

Through an iterative and participatory process, the College and the departments defined a need for 63,515 net assignable square feet for the Arts and 12,620 NASF for Computer Science. The list of spaces evolved from an extensive envisioning of each department and program and how each related to the other and to the College. The discussions were led by a group of forward thinking, creative department heads and program directors.

**RESULTS**

An architect has been selected and the project is currently in early stages of design.

**REFERENCE**

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