

Changing Shapes

As one of the first facilities to incorporate dynamic glazing technology that supports geometric shapes, the unique façade at Miami University's Frost School of Music is decked out with triangular windows framed in white concrete walls.

According to Alex Rodriguez, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, project architect, HOK, Tampa, Fla., the goal was to create a highly sustainable, state-of-the-art facility for teaching, learning, performing and recording music, as well as provide a beautiful gateway at the campus' edge. To that end, the facil-

ity employs a light-harvesting, energy-efficient design that requires less than half the energy of comparable buildings.

The dynamic glazing is SageGlass' latest geometrically-shaped offering, which according to Derek Malmquist, vice president, marketing of the Faribault, Minn. manufacturer, is in response to architects requesting a greater variety of shapes and tinting patterns to create custom building envelopes that are both elegant and functional.

For this particular project, the triangular façade complements HOK's acoustic design

where each room is a "floating box" within a box, with no two rooms sharing walls, floors or ceilings.

Thanks to its South Florida location, the university's Coral Gables campus sees the sun during 70% of available daylight hours, so electrochromic glazing was a great fit to help the facility pursue LEED Platinum certification while providing natural daylight and outdoor views to the lakefront campus throughout the day.

As a whole, Malmquist says dynamic glass continues to gain momentum in higher education because



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universities are increasingly committed to sustainable design in new building projects.

"But they also understand the benefits of natural lighting for creating better learning environments," says Malmquist.

CUSTOM ENVELOPES

FUNCTIONAL DESIGN

Triangular-shaped dynamic windows create a beautiful, high-performance façade at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music.

Frost School of Music, University of Miami | Architect: HOK | Glazing: SageGlass



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