

# Wentz Concert Hall and Fine Arts Center

*Naperville, Illinois*

*“The perfect acoustics of the Wentz Concert Hall already have received critical acclaim from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, jazz legend Wynton Marsalis and other great artists who have performed there as well as professionals who know and evaluate such facilities. A key to the success of the Fine Arts Center was using structural precast concrete instead of a stone masonry exterior. This creative solution helped reduce cost significantly and created an attractive, economical facade.”*

*~ Paul Loscheider, North Central College*

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The Wentz Concert Hall and Fine Arts Center, situated in the center of campus of North Central College, gives students and the surrounding community access to a state-of-the-art facility that truly has world-class acoustics. Opening in the fall of 2008, the theater has received rave reviews, already hosting nationally prominent musicians, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, jazz musician Wynton Marsalis and Russian pianist Yakov Kasman. The quality and clarity of sound throughout every square foot of the concert hall has been universally lauded by performers and audiences alike.

The goal of constructing a 57,000 sf building that would accommodate the stringent acoustical specifications necessary to consistently guarantee beautiful music on the inside, while delivering the architect's desired aesthetic vision on the outside were accomplished with a hybrid of structural and architectural precast concrete systems. Precast elements assisted in meeting the demands of a tight building site, short completion schedule and fixed budget, resulting in an award winning fine arts showcase.

Architect: Loeb Schlossman & Hackl  
Contractor: Gilbane Building Company

