

Rivera Architects Inc.

Rivera Architects Inc. was established in early 2003 and located in Saint Paul. We provide a full range of architectural design services to public charters, public and private schools. Deborah Rathman and Ken Rivera are Principals of the firm bringing energy and creativity to each project, based on over 25 years of experience in the design of educational facilities. They are involved throughout the entire project process, not just up front but from beginning to end.

Rivera Architects Inc. has successfully assisted over **45 diverse** charter schools. Our goal is to build long term relationships by providing excellent service. We have maintained relationships, some for 20 years.

Our experience has taught us that the needs and vision of the school administration, staff, student population changes with time. Charter schools offer a unique Pedagogy which influences the design of the facility as well as affects their facility needs.

We have a great commitment to educate students of all abilities to achieve to their full potential. Providing a strong, inclusive and community oriented classroom that supports strong academic, social, and emotional growth. Personal success and confidence supports cognitive growth and emotional development which translates into productive community members.

The design process is a collaboration of our vast design experience and the input of teachers, staff and administration that bring the day to day experience. The result is a facility that reflects the uniqueness of the charter school as well as great functionality. As educational planners and designers of charter schools with various approaches to education, we modify the design process to reflect the best practices of each. School representatives guide the design of the facility.

We listen to our client's needs and respect and incorporate facility standards desired. We are dedicated to providing quality service and projects to our clients. We follow a comprehensive quality control process in order to minimize construction issues. The initial investment in durable materials and high performing mechanical and electrical systems pays for itself over the life of the building.

We know the financial and planning issues that challenge charter schools. **We connect planning, programming, design, and budget to educational objectives, curriculum requirements, and grade configuration decisions.** We do our part to maintain the budget through a continuous exchange of ideas, concepts and solutions between the project team.

Project Relevant Experience

We have extensive experience working with Charter Schools in Saint Paul, as well as throughout the metro and suburban areas. We have worked on many new, remodeling and addition projects all over the state.

Recent Charter School projects:

The following are a list of recent Charter School Projects

Da Vinci Academy	Ham Lake	2016
Eagle Ridge Academy	Minnetonka	2016
Beacon Academy	Crystal	2016
Pete Seeger Renaissance (Montessori)	Sandstone	2016
Highland Park Montessori School	Saint Paul MN	2016
Noble Academy	Brooklyn Park	2015
Great River School	Saint Paul	2013
Twin Cities German Immersion School	Saint Paul	2013-2014
Academia Cesar Chavez	Saint Paul	2014
Math and Science Academy	Saint Paul	2014
Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists	Saint Paul	2013
Nova Classical Academy	Saint Paul	2012
Spectrum High School	Elk River	2011, 2012, 2013
Odyssey Academy -	2013	
Prairie Seeds Academy	Brooklyn Park	2008

Deborah Rathman, AIA LEED AP Principal

Deborah is Rivera Architects Inc.'s K-12 education specialist and brings over 25 years' experience working on educational facility projects. Deb specializes in creating learning environments that support the unique missions of educational institutions. She is experienced in all phases of project development from city approval processes, facility assessments and project planning through design development, construction and project close-out. Deborah creates innovative, high-performance facilities designed to respond to the diversity and challenges of an ever-changing student population.

Relevant Experience:

- Eagle Ridge Academy, Minnetonka, MN K-12
- DaVinci Academy of Arts and Science, Ham Lake, K-8
- Nova Classical Academy; St. Paul, MN - New K-12 Facility 2012
- Higher Ground Academy - K-8 Bloomington Site
- Northeast College Prep, Minneapolis
- Academia Cesar Chavez, St. Paul MN
- Twin Cities German Immersion - Facility planning for 2013 expansion
- Great River School - Facility planning for 2012-2013 expansion
- Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists - 4 story renovation
- Beacon Academy - Phase I K-12 2013 - current
- Odyssey Academy - Facility Assessment and upgrades 2013 - current
- World Learners School and Jonathan Montessori; Chaska, MN - Planning & Design
- Nova Classical Academy; Middle school expansion; Science Labs
- Spectrum High School, Elk River, MN Middle and High School
- Dugsi Academy. St. Paul, MN - Elementary and Middle school expansion
- Community of Peace Academy; Saint Paul, MN - High School Addition; Elementary School Addition ,Gymnasium Addition with Green Roof
- Urban Academy, St. Paul, MN
- Minnesota Internship Center; Mpls, MN - Review Facility Design; Facility Assessment/Planning
- Prairie Seeds Academy; Brooklyn Park, MN - New K-12 Facility; Kaleidoscope Charter School; Rogers, MN - New K-8 facility; Facility Assessment/Planning
- Five Oaks Church; Gymnasium and classroom addition, Woodbury, MN
- St. Michael's Catholic Parish; St. Michael, MN - Facility Assessment/Planning; New K-8 Education Facility Design;
- **John A. Johnson Achievement Plus Elementary School and East YMCA; St. Paul, MN - New K-6 Elementary School and Joint-Use Gymnasium/Aquatic Facility**

Kenneth Rivera, RA, Principal

Ken has 30 years of architectural experience, including 27 years as a registered architect. He established Rivera Architects, Inc. (RAI) in April of 2003 after working at another firm for 9 years as a designer of various building types including education and senior housing facilities.

Ken brings an innovative and exciting approach to the design and master planning of complex project developments and their integration into urban redevelopments and suburban areas. He identifies long-term needs based on industry trends and wellness of the mind, body and spirit.

His experience includes many years of master planning, code review, facility assessment, schematic and design development, through construction documentation and construction administration.

Relevant Experience:

- Laura Baker Facility, Northfield MN
- DaVinci Academy of Arts and Science, Ham Lake, K-8
- Beacon Academy, Maple Grove, MN
- Eagle Ridge Academy, Minnetonka, MN K-12
- Academia Cesar Chavez, St. Paul MN
- Minnesota Math and Science Academy, St. Paul, MN
- Northeast College Prep, Minneapolis MN
- Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists, Saint Paul, MN
- Great River School, Saint Paul, MN
- Twin Cities German Immersion School, St Paul MN
- Nova Classical Academy, Victoria Park Saint Paul, MN
- Spectrum High School, Elk River, MN Middle and High School
- Dugsi Academy. St. Paul, MN - Elementary and Middle school expansion
- Soul Academy, Minneapolis, MN - programming and
- Harriet Bishop Academy, Saint Paul, MN- facility assessment
- Light House Academy, Minneapolis, MN - facility expansion
- Christ Household of Faith - Master Planning; Saint Paul, MN