

# Lighting Design for Boston Architectural College

As subcontractor to the Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD), LRC DesignWorks provided the universal lighting design scheme for a 5000 sq. ft area to be added to Boston Architectural College (BAC), as well as the design for the front façade.

The space had been the former home to the Boston Police Department Division 16, a local landmark, and will be transformed into a design center and public event space.



Rendering of exterior lighting (left) and the existing landmark building.

## Design challenges

LRC DesignWorks coordinated closely with the IHCD to integrate the lighting plan with proposed structural renovations, as well as considerations for energy and operating costs, technical feasibility, and the impact of light on human health and well-being. The team was asked to:

- Accent prominent exterior features with minimal intrusion to the structure
- Provide a strong visual statement when guests enter lobby
- Uniformly backlight translucent solid surface features in lobby
- Create a dynamic environment for students, faculty, visual and musical artists, and spectators
- Use minimal energy and modest budget

## Proposed design highlights

The proposed lighting design supports a “universal” spatial design and creates an inviting, dramatic, working space for the college as well as a public event space. The lighting techniques employed contrast sustainable, energy-efficient technologies with the historic nature of Boston’s Back Bay. Features include:

- Layered lighting for the zero-threshold entry providing flexible illuminance levels and color as visitors transition from exterior to interior
- Interior gathering and exhibit space lighting that:
  - » Facilitates passage from one level to another
  - » Clearly defines stairs and transitions
  - » Allows people of all ages and abilities to navigate easily and enjoy exhibits
  - » Includes luminous vertical panels, desk and columns with color-changing ability



Interior rendering showing locations of luminous, color-changing elements.

## Sponsor

Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD)



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