

The Norton Museum of Art

Florida, USA
2011 – 2019

Client: The Norton Museum of Art

Appointment: 2011

Construction: February 2016

Completion: February 2019

Museum area (after expansion): 133,000 sqft (12,355.7m²)

Site Area: 230,000 sqft (21,367m²)

Gallery Space (total): 50,000 sqft (4,645m²)

Description: The transformation of the Norton Museum of Art restores the logic of the 1941 original, reasserting the clarity of the main axis by locating the new entrance along the main South Dixie Highway. It also seeks to enhance the experience of art by reinforcing the relationship between the building and the landscape and creating a new social focus for the community. By doubling the gallery space for the museum, it also lays the foundations for future growth to become Florida's leading cultural institution. The new West Wing is the first phase of a masterplan that will transform the Norton's 6.3-acre campus, improving the accessibility and openness of the museum.

Design Features: The main entrance of the museum will be relocated to the west to create a welcoming presence on South Dixie Highway. It will feature a new entry forecourt covered with a 43-foot-high, sharp-edged metal canopy. A scalloped-shaped cutout in the canopy will accommodate an 80-year-old, 65-foot-tall banyan tree. A serene reflecting pool will greet visitors and mask traffic sounds from the Highway. The new garden invites visitors to enjoy works of art drawing on the Floridian flora and light.

The 42,000 sqft West Wing is defined by four multi-story pavilions, clad in articulated stucco, which contain:

- The new 210-seat, state-of-the-art Stiller Family Foundation Auditorium, offering films, lectures, and concerts
- The Jane and Leonard Korman Room Event Space
- The new Leonard and Evelyn Lauder Restaurant, with garden-facing terrace seating

At the centre will be the Ruth and Carl Shapiro Great Hall, a 3,600 sqft sky-lit space with lounge seating, a coffee bar, a

piano, book shelves, temporary commissioned art installations, and a 280 sqft window admitting light filtered by the banyan tree's leaves and branches.

The Norton's gallery space will increase by 12,000 sqft, a growth of 35% in space for its permanent collection and inventive special exhibition program.

The 4,000-square-foot William Randolph Hearst Education Center will be more than one-and-a-half times the size of the Norton's existing education space, with two new classrooms and a student gallery.

The New Norton Garden:

The existing car parking was removed to create a landscaped garden that surrounds the museum

Taking advantage of the Florida climate, the landscaping of the gardens and central courtyard incorporates native trees and flowers to provide shaded walkways, and a new Great Lawn.

Glimpsed through a colonnade on the southern edge of the building, this provides an open-air venue for 'Art After Dark', the Norton's popular evening program, as well as live performances and events.

The new landscape creates a series of 'garden rooms' arranged axially along the Southern edge of the museum.

Native trees form the majority of new planting, with 82 new mature trees being introduced to the site.

Phase 1

West Wing: 42,000 sqft (3,902m²)

Garden area: 37,200 sqft (3,456m²)

Auditorium: 3,700 sqft (344m²)
210-seat capacity

**Restaurant & Private Dining
(kitchen, indoor and outdoor
seating):**

7,200 sqft (669m²)

Great Hall: 3,600 sqft (334m²)
360-people capacity

Education Centre: 4,000 sqft (371.6m²)

Event Lawn: 9,000 sqft (836m²)

Administrative offices: 12,000 sqft (1,115m²)

Number of Floors:	1-3
Structural System:	Steel frame and concrete masonry unity (CMU) shear walls. Steel trusses cantilever canopy structure. Stucco façade with aluminium profiles.
Materials:	Stucco Low iron glass Polished aluminium roof
Phase 2	Additional 24,000 square feet of exhibition space