

Project: SkyRoom - RIO RANCHO CAMPUS PARK

Team: McClain + YU Architecture and Design

Size: 400 m²

Location: Rio Rancho, UNITED STATES



Feature:

Project - Rising from the windswept desert landscape of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, the ethereal SkyRoom - RIO RANCHO CAMPUS PARK designed by McClain + Yu Architecture & Design is a gathering space that embraces the spirit of the region. Conceived through extensive consultation with local stakeholders, the design honors the four cardinal directions and three-dimensional form of the Zia sun symbol. Two cylindrical volumes subtracted from a large shed roof create surprising interior geometry. As both performance venue and community asset, the pavilion features unique acoustic qualities. Materials reference the earthy hues of the surroundings, with perforated steel walls that allow desert winds to pass through. The porous cladding transforms from lantern to stage as integrated lighting shifts from emanating illumination to dramatic spotlights on performers. Drawing inspired the technical achievement of wrapping the steel around the curved structural framework. Situated as the entry to a new campus park, the timeless structure will weather into the landscape over time. Subtle references to New Mexico's Zia symbol are traced across the ground through light and shadow. An exceptional sculptural form, the pavilion encapsulates shared values of community, spirit, and the environment.

Design Team - Led by principals Raimund McClain and Kristina Yu, McClain + Yu Architecture & Design creates inspiring environments that improve quality of life. The Albuquerque-based firm focuses on educational and institutional projects, bringing expertise in complex programs and stakeholder collaboration. Their award-winning designs showcase creative solutions with technical excellence. Guided by the triad of durability, feasibility and beauty, McClain + Yu is committed to sustainability and community impact. They provide full services from planning to construction, with extensive experience in LEED and BIM coordination. The firm's core values fuse high-level design thinking with

professionalism on every project. McClain + Yu's portfolio of cultural, civic, commercial and residential work exhibits thoughtful owner-oriented design with elegant material optimization. From master planning to adaptive reuse, their transformative vision brings added value through the architecture.