



## ANDRE AGASSI COLLEGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

### ARCHITECT:

**Carpenter Sellers Architects**  
1919 S Jones, Suite C  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

W. Rick Sellers, AIA  
*Principal*

Michael Del Gatto, AIA, LEED AP  
*Principal*

Robert Gurdison  
*Director of Design*

### STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

John A. Martin and Associates

### GENERAL CONTRACTOR:

Sletten Construction of Nevada

### MASONRY CONTRACTOR:

Ramco Masonry, Inc.

### BLOCK PRODUCER:

Trenwyth Industries, Inc.

### OWNER:

Andre Agassi Charitable Foundation

**Architect's Commentary:** The Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy (AACPA) was founded in 2001 to provide academic programs designed to enhance a child's character, respect, motivation and self discipline in one of the most at-risk neighborhoods in Las Vegas. Child centered education in a small classroom setting of 25-1 nurtures a sense of responsibility within a safe and trusting environment.

Our goal was to develop an overall vision for the school that reflects and enhances the educational experience,

while creating a school that the students are aware is unique and special. The 138,840 square-foot school is located on a 7.89 acre site.

CMU block was used as a primary building agent because of durability, low maintenance and longevity. The different styles of CMU allowed Carpenter Sellers Architects (CSA) to achieve the design we wanted. By using multiple, decorative finishes such as smooth finish, sandblasted finish, mesastone, seashell, etc., we were able to use concrete masonry block as a featured element of the school.

Different territories are designed to inspire lower grades to become a part of the upper levels. This creates a campus that symbolically celebrates the matriculation process and accomplishes 2 distinct missions: 1st create a sense of "what's next" and 2nd allowing age appropriate areas. The High School is the final culmination and reveals itself slowly as you journey down the spine of the campus. This sculptural shape is the terminus for the mall. This special design piece is also part of the graduation ceremony and fundraising. AACF requested a space for fund raising with views of Las Vegas. CSA conceptualized a third floor deck that met AACPA's needs, but proposed an idea that was accepted with enthusiasm to create tradition through architecture at the school. CSA proposed a bridge from the roof deck to a smaller roof deck that spanned over the High School Quad below that will serve 300 as the commencement bridge. A student does not cross the bridge until graduation. It is here that CSA wished to express that the students' journey does not end at Agassi Prep; the journey continues.....



Photography: Carpenter Sellers Architects