

J. Major capital projects

Arts and Community Center

In September 2007, OCC broke ground on the Fine Arts Center and one year later, the newly-named Arts and Community Center was dedicated. This new 16,000 square foot academic wing houses computer labs, a classroom, instructional studios, and offices. It is connected to the original Fine Arts Center through a stairwell and a new elevator. The east wing of this Center includes a music wing, piano laboratory, offices, and theater lobbies. When the existing academic wing is completely renovated, it will accommodate the relocation of the Continuing and Professional Education and Academy for Lifelong Learning departments from rented space in Brick Township. The renovated west wing will house classrooms, a computer lab, a nursing lab, and offices. The move into the west wing is scheduled for April 2009. Renovations to the inside of the theater and the construction of a cultural center addition will begin early in 2009.

New Academic Building

In July 2008, ground was broken for construction on a new Academic Building, which will stand between the Administration Building and Library. Construction is scheduled for completion by early fall 2009. This 32,000 square foot addition will house computer labs, classrooms, offices, and lounges equipped with wireless communication. In addition, the Academic Building construction includes walkways, patios, and landscaping that complement the natural beauty of the campus.

O.C.E.A.N., Inc. Child Develop Center

The O.C.E.A.N., Inc. Kids Child Development Center, for children ages two months to six years, opened on OCC's Main Campus in December 2007. This state-of-the-art 10,340 square foot building houses pre-school classrooms, a family welcoming area, and free play area. The Center also includes administrative offices, parent and staff rooms, and a child observation and assessment room where OCC students and professional educators may observe activities. The Center offers 150 day care slots with a maximum of 50 slots dedicated for use by employees and students.

Sambol-Citta Garden

The project was funded by Richard Sambol and Joseph Citta as a replacement for the arboretum, which they established and funded for many years. The garden includes plants, flowers, and trees indigenous to the Ocean County area, in addition to an arbor, a raised rock garden, seating areas, lighting, irrigation, and paved walkways.

Renewal and Renovation

The College has also evaluated all 19 campus buildings to identify areas that require improvement. Campus buildings were surveyed to evaluate the existing conditions of major components, such as foundations, roofing, plumbing, HVAC, electrical systems, fire protection, and stairways, as well as ADA and building code compliance.