

Kean University Courtyards

Union, New Jersey



The landscape architects, working closely with Nadaskay Kopelson Architects, developed a site design for three courtyards adjacent to the new Admissions Building and the President's Offices at Kean University. The project combines the richness of original architectural detail and the clean lines of contemporary construction. This synthesis reflects the school's theme, "Where Tradition Meets Technology". The site design also expresses the idea, symbolically, through the use of bands of bluestone pavement, which overlay scored concrete walkways and a traditional bluestone courtyard at the President's reception area. A band of red granite accents the point where this building aligns with the central walkway axis of the campus. New evergreen hedges and bosques of flowering trees reinforce the paving concept and create a series of "outdoor rooms". Bluestone benches located beneath the flowering trees are also integrated within the design of the bands. The courtyards, while functioning symbolically, also function practically by providing breakout spaces for the building and by tying directly into the campus master plan's pathway system.



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