This long-esteemed high-design institution expanded in 2004 from its hillside campus into a former WWII supersonic aircraft wind tunnel testing facility in downtown Pasadena. The 92,700sf renovated and repurposed building now houses the graduate Fine Art and the Media Design programs and studios, exhibition space for both of those programs, a print shop, a letterpress studio, a full range of public programs (Art Center at Night, Art Center for Kids, Design-Based Learning Lab), as well as a unique 16,000sf exhibition space, currently the home of the Media Design program and serves as a venue for various community meetings.

Because the building’s facade was within 11ft of a future Metro Light Rail train passing every 10 minutes, MCH was first tasked with ensuring sufficiently low ambient noise levels as well as prediction and control of ground-borne vibration. With the appropriate recommendations in place to ensure suitable acoustical environments at the envelope, we were subsequently retained to provide recommendations for select room-acoustical and HVAC noise and vibration control requirements. The award-winning renovation (approx. $45M) received the first LEED rating in the city of Pasadena and its sustainable features include a “green” roof and sculptural skylights.

Reference: Kevin Daly, AIA  310.656.3180
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