The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts is fully accredited by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and The Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

- Opened in August 2015
- 600 students
- Grades 9 – 12
- 7 major curriculum (Dance, Literary Arts, Visual Art, Figure Skating, Theatre, Instrumental Music, Vocal Music)
- 360 seat theater
- Roof top lounge/rehearsal/performance area
- Street Side Art gallery
- Digital laboratory

**AT-A-GLANCE**

Location: Bethlehem, PA
Owner: Charter Arts Foundation
Precaster: Nitterhouse Concrete Products, Inc. (Chambersburg, PA)
Architect: Christine Ussler, Artefact, Inc (Bethlehem, PA)
Engineer of Record: Bryan Ritter, JENA Engineering Corp (Allentown, PA)
Contractor: Bucks Development & Contracting (Bethlehem, PA)

Square Footage: 83,000 SF, 3 stories
- 49 beams (997 LF)
- 18 columns (365 LF)
- 12 slabs (1454 SF)
- 426 Panels (61278 SF)
- 26 Double T’s (11825 SF)
- 40 8” hollowcore slabs (2,977 SF)
- 546 10” hollowcore slabs (56,745 SF)
- 60 16” hollowcore slabs (9,840 SF)
Sandblast finish
The Lehigh Valley Charter Arts high school opened its doors for the 2015 school year. The 83,000 square feet, three story building is in downtown Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. The Lehigh Valley Charter Arts School enables students from a broad geographic area to maximize their special talents while also gaining a high quality high school education. With courses ranging from traditional core classes to college-level options in the arts, the Lehigh Valley Charter Arts school ensures these talented students will thrive.

The new school building offers traditional classrooms as well as spaces specifically designed for the school’s strong art programs. These spaces include a 370 seat theatre and green rooms, rehearsal studios for dance and music and art gallery. This unique total precast project allows the students’ artwork to be at the forefront and more prominent in the galleries.

The building also offers an outdoor learning space that offers a safe urban environment for students to have class or study. The second floor precast outdoor area includes 225 square feet of planted raised beds that qualifies as green space for LEED. The exterior study

**KEY DESIGN CHALLENGES:**

- Tight site in downtown area
- Erected during January 2015 – during inclement weather
- Scheduled school opening that construction had to be finished
- Total precast construction allowed for increased space versatility
space allows a great opportunity for all forms of core classes and artistic classes to meet and experience the outdoors in a safe secure area.

Precast proved to be the right solution due to the great challenge of the tight downtown project site of the school and the beautiful finish on architectural panels provides an aesthetic that fits in well with the surrounding city buildings.

Erection of the precast on the school began in January of 2015. These harsh winter months provided another challenge because the project was under a tight deadline with school scheduled to open in August.

LEHIGH VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT:
The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts provides a unique environment that fosters a creative, rigorous academic approach to learning and a development of talents in the arts. Built on passion, discipline and a commitment to excellence, this integrative educational experience inspires all students to believe in who they are and in what they can accomplish.