Cade Museum for Creativity & Invention
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

ARCHITECT
GWWO Architects
Baltimore, Maryland

GENERAL CONTRACTOR
Oelrich Construction
Gainesville, Florida

CONTRACT GLAZIER/INSTALLER
Shea’s Glass Company
Gainesville, Florida

FEATURED PROJECTS
Trifab™ VersaGlaze™ 451T Framing System
(center set and splayed mullions)
1600 Wall System™1 Curtain Wall
(splayed mullions)
500 Wide Stile Entrances
(10° bottom rails)

GLASS
1” insulating clear glass with Viracon® VUE-30
on the #2 surface
EMBODYING THE SPIRIT OF INGENUITY AND IMAGINATION

Named for Dr. James Robert Cade, a professor of renal medicine at the University of Florida and the lead inventor of the popular sports drink Gatorade, the Cade Museum for Creativity & Innovation works to engage and inspire the minds, hearts and hands of all inventors, regardless of age. Built on what was once an industrial brownfield site, the 26,000-square-foot building features permanent and traveling exhibits, a classroom/multipurpose space, event terraces, and a gift shop. Additionally, the museum was designed to be constructed in multiple phases.

DESIGN HIGHLIGHTS

According to the GWWO Architects website, “The Cade Museum design was conceived as a metaphor for the human brain. Just as experience fosters creativity, and creativity leads to invention, neurons in the brain grow and make new connections – in new and different ways – with every new experience.” The building features a main hall, around which the rest of the museum is centered. Kawneer and Gainesville-based Shea’s Glass Company worked with the architects to deliver a range of custom and standard storefront framing and curtain wall glazed solutions that addressed the rounded building façade and varying elevations around the eye-catching oculus at the center of the main hall.

CHALLENGES

• The client had an interest in the Fibonacci sequence and the golden spiral, which drove the rounded, unwinding spiral shape of the building.
• Much of the building design was created around a combination of nature and science. Providing museum staff and visitors with abundant natural light and views to the outdoors was essential.
• The design called for the storefront framing to have a 1” shim space at the head to allow for building movement and vertical deflection.
• Upon completion of initial construction, the build team realized there was no readily available rooftop access from inside, which needed to be addressed immediately. The owners also wanted to have a way to bring displays in via the second floor.
• The project had to meet Florida Product Approval (FPA) requirements.

SOLUTIONS

• Kawneer’s Trifab™ VersaGlaze™ 451T Framing featuring adjustable mullions and 1600 Wall System™1 Curtain Wall System were used to form the radii on the façades.
• In addition, the company’s 1600 Wall System™1 Curtain Wall was used across the back wall to allow visitors unobstructed views of Depot Park.
• The team at Shea’s Glass installed cleat anchors inside the top of the horizontal members to allow for the larger perimeter caulking areas.
• To provide rooftop access, the team from Shea’s Glass modified the existing storefront framing and removed an intermediate horizontal and added a custom door with a false mullion on the stiles to blend it into the building. Shea’s also fabricated two bays of the second-floor framing in a manner that could be disassembled for bringing displays inside.
• Care was taken to ensure that all frame anchoring met stringent FPA requirements.

Since opening its doors to the public in May 2018, Cade Museum continues to reflect the same motivational spirit, curiosity and exuberant commitment to innovation and people as its namesake. It now sits as the crown jewel in a 32-acre urban renewal project, encouraging more development for the future.