



For Immediate Release

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Commodore Builders Embarks on Three Phase Renovation to Transform Boston Architectural College into 21st Century Space

Final Phase Set to Begin in March 2009

(Newton, MA)--Dec. 17, 2008 – Commodore Builders today announced the completion of its second phase of major renovations at the Boston Architectural College (BAC), formerly the Institute of Contemporary Art (951 Boylston St., Boston, MA). Commodore began a three phase overhaul of the 25, 423 SF facility last spring, which includes major structural, accessibility, and systems upgrades.

The building hasn't been updated since the 1970's and the build-out is aimed to transform BAC into a truly 21st century facility. Working with BAC administration, Commodore incorporated several sustainable elements into the new structure, including recycled rubber flooring, low-flow plumbing fixtures, waterless urinals, efficient lighting systems, and a state-of-the-art Building Management System.

“We are thrilled with the progress we've made. These renovations will give the students, faculty, and staff at BAC a more accessible, and sustainable space,” said Joe Albanese, President and CEO, Commodore Builders.

Following a successful first phase, the team moved at an aggressive pace to prepare the entire facility for festivities being hosted by the BAC in conjunction with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Convention, being held in Boston. Initial renovations focused on wheelchair accessibility and the construction of new ADA-compliant restrooms and entrance ramps.

During the second phase of construction, floors two and of the building (formerly gallery space) were converted into functional studios, classrooms, and faculty offices. The team removed and in-filled a major connecting stair in the center of the building, providing more usable floor space for students and faculty. Attic space was demolished to expose the original heavy timber construction above the third floor. New fire protection, HVAC, and electrical systems were installed throughout the building, including a Convia modular lighting system on the second and third floors. A lecture hall was constructed in the basement of the adjacent building, located at

955 Boylston Street. Phase three of the BAC renovation is currently in the design and development process, and is scheduled to begin in March of 2009. This final phase will include the renovation of the Boylston Street entrance and first floor.

About Commodore Builders:

Commodore's mission is to set a new standard of excellence for the delivery of construction management services to our clients. Commodore believes that the quality of the construction *process* is as important as the quality of the construction. From project conception to preconstruction, execution, closeout and warranty service, Commodore's role is to anticipate and manage the risks inherent in construction. Commodore takes charge, so the process for clients is easy and the outcome is excellence in execution.

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