

# Grand Rapids Art Museum

case study  
By Emily Rosa

Grand Rapids, MI



**Architect:** wHY Architecture

**Owner:** Grand Rapids Art Museum

**Year of completion:** 2008

**Climate:** Warm Summer Continental Climate

**Material of interest:** Concrete

**Application:** Exterior

**Properties of material:** The museum's 12-inch-thick, cast-in-place concrete walls optimize energy use through thermal mass. The concrete used came from local sources, requiring less energy in transportation. The museum's 20,000 yards of 4000 to 6000 psi concrete contained 3% recycled content and 100% regional materials.

**Sources:**

<http://www.archdaily.com/284/grand-rapids-art-museum-leed-gold-certified-why-architecture/>

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<http://www.panoramio.com/photo/44881379>

<http://www.ccaa.com.au/sub/cplusa/articles/issue/15/grand-rapids-art-museum/>

<http://ascribehq.com/pioneer-construction/portfolio/109>