

# VM+SD

2002 ISP/VM+SD COMPETITION FIRST PLACE



► SPECIALTY FOOD COURT OR COUNTER-SERVICE RESTAURANT

**Pandini's**

Lehigh University Student Center, Bethlehem, Pa.  
*Connor Architecture, Arlington, Mass.*

The challenge: to create a new retail branded pizza concept with an architectural image embodying quality, variety, freshness and taste. Seeking to avoid the typical college pizza joint syndrome, the Pandini's concept was to inspire customers to have a memorable, enthusiastic dining experience.

Circles, ovals and rectangles are collaged together to create a necklace of menu-driven stations. Each station is assigned a distinct shape, palette of finishes and unique iconography. The resulting "zoning" of stations allows each menu component to have its own territory and display format, featuring its products in the most appealing light.

Red, yellow and orange-toned linoleum radiates from the circular copper and aluminum pizza counter. A crown of brushed aluminum rays pierce the round soffit above, serving to reinforce the oven's sun-like image. An abstract trellis of steel and mahogany helps capture the garden quality of

the salad station. And a check pattern of glazed ceramic tile in Tuscan red and mustard yellow animates the pasta kitchen's back wall.

The dining room is an extension of the kitchen. A mix of multi-colored banquettes with metallic finials and free-standing maple tables provides a variety of seating options. A metal and maple canopy is suspended above. Maple and cherry finishes, highlighted by suspended glass pendants and warm Renaissance portraits, create intimacy.

**Client Team:** Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa. – Patricia Chase; Sodexho, Gaithersburg, Md. – Husein Ktabwalla, Denis Karbach, Holly Smith, brand design group

**Design Team:** Connor Architecture, Arlington, Mass. – Mark Connor, principal; Robert Weir, associate; Jason Herzog, designer

**General Contractor:** Atlantic Equipment Specialist, Danville, Pa.

**Suppliers:** Atlas Carpets, Los Angeles, Forbo, Hazelton, Pa. (flooring); Juno Lighting, Des Plaines, Ill., Lightolier, Fall River, Mass. (lighting); Lamin-Art, Elk Grove Village, Ill., Nevamar, Odenton, Md., Panolam, Shelton, Conn. (laminates); Benjamin Moore, Montvale, N.J., Dal-Tile Corp. Dallas, (wallcoverings)



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