

Overall renovations of the Educational Alliance's flagship building at 197 East Broadway is a good idea.

But the plan of how the Educational Alliance's historic art school will look after renovations is not.

Here is why:

**Now:** Educational Alliance Art School is housed in spacious and gracious surroundings with five studios, a library, and offices on the light-filled fifth floor space of the building.

**After "renovations":** The Art School will be housed on the "ground floor" (one flight below the main entrance to the building at 197 Broadway and one flight up from the current basement) in smaller quarters with three rooms for art classes instead of five studios. It seems likely the library will be gone.

**Now:** Art School has very high ceilings, enormous windows, and an abundance of natural light.

**After "renovations":** "Ground floor" space has (at best) 9.5 foot ceilings (not clear if all painting easels will fit), sparse and much smaller windows, and close to 100% dependence on fluorescent lighting.

**Now:** Thriving photography darkroom (home to many adult photo students as well as hundreds of young photo students, many of whom are dependent on scholarships) as well as thriving welding studio (one of few affordable places to pursue this art form in the metropolitan area).

**After "renovations":** No more photography darkroom. No more welding studio.

Bad idea? We think so.

If you agree and wish to help us persuade EA's Board of Trustees to renovate its "renovation" plans for the art school please sign our petition and find out what else you can do at: [www.oc2sas.wordpress.com](http://www.oc2sas.wordpress.com). You can also contact us (Organizing Committee to Save the Art School) at [oc2sas@juno.com](mailto:oc2sas@juno.com) for more information.