



## **Hoff-Barthelson Music School – New York**

**Architect:** Joshua Brandfonbrener

**Client:** Hoff-Barthelson

**Completion:** 2014

The premier Hoff-Barthelson Music School, a former inn situated on a residential block in Westchester, New York, has expanded and upgraded its piano studios.

As part of the upgrades to the piano studios, the existing broadloom carpet and pad were replaced. With sound-reflecting hard finishes at the walls and ceiling, the floor was the only surface that provided sound absorption. Even a subtle change to room finishes might provide a different listening experience for the musicians, and there was a desire to maintain their acoustical environment to the greatest extent possible. We conducted a site survey to measure the reverberation time and room response inside typical piano studios. We then performed calculations based on the type, surface area, and location of absorptive finishes and room geometry to help Hoff-Barthelson evaluate flooring options. We also coordinated the placement of additional absorptive treatments as appropriate.

Based on our evaluation, we helped provide a specification for new floor finishes, so that the upgraded piano studios would remain consistent with the original acoustical environment.