

# Goodbye traditional classroom, hello learning studio

Christie® Brio collaborative technology enhances learning  
at Saint Xavier University



▲ Saint Xavier University students attend a class in one of three new learning studios

Looking to innovate in the classroom, the Chicago campus of [Saint Xavier University](#) selected the [Christie Brio](#) content sharing platform to enhance its classrooms and transform the way students learn.

## Goodbye, traditional classroom

Concerned that its classrooms were no longer meeting the needs of students and faculty, the university researched collaborative technology that would enable students to connect their mobile devices to the display technology present in the classrooms.

“As we were looking to create progressively innovative learning spaces, you had to embrace wireless and the ability to connect mobile devices to whatever projection device is in the room. We started off looking at other products but they were all limited in their ability to connect with Mac, iOS, Android and PC,” explains Dr. Chris Zakrzewski, Assistant Provost for Technology and Instructional Innovation, Saint Xavier University.

Saint Xavier turned to David Injeski of [Pentegra Systems](#) to help determine which technology would best fit their needs. “I quickly saw that Christie Brio would be an excellent fit based on their objectives, so I arranged an onsite demonstration,” says Injeski.

“At our demo, we connected everything from iPhones and a live camera to a Windows laptop and an Android device,” Injeski explains. “It was clear Brio was doing far more than what Saint Xavier had been trying to do with previous technologies, and it more closely fit what they had envisioned for their innovative learning studios.”

Christie Brio Enterprise integrates smoothly into local area networks for Internet access and network services. Users share any content from connected devices—as many as five devices can connect to each Brio unit—across all displays in the same collaborative session, regardless of geographical location.

**Customer:**  
[Saint Xavier University](#)

**Location:**  
Chicago, Illinois campus

**Industry/Market:**  
Education

**Partners:**  
[Pentegra Systems](#)

**Requirements:**

- Wireless collaboration technology for their new learning studios

**Summary:**  
Saint Xavier University chose [Christie Brio collaborative technology](#) to enhance its new learning studios so that both students and faculty can connect wirelessly

**Products:**

- 10 Christie Brio units

**Results:**  
Positive feedback all around: Instructors prefer the flexibility the learning studios offer, and students feel more comfortable and engaged in the collaborative, creative spaces.

## Hello, learning studio

In an effort to re-imagine the traditional classroom, Saint Xavier created three 'learning studios' at its Chicago campus.

"When you think of a studio, you think of very creative spaces like art and photography studios. We call our new spaces café-style learning studios; they kind of look like a Starbucks," explains Zakrzewski. "They have different levels, high-top bar-level seats, soft cushions... Our students feel more comfortable in the learning spaces, and we know that the more comfortable they feel, the more engaged they'll be."

The new learning studios encourage collaboration via three Brio units installed in each of the smaller studios, and four installed in the large studio. Each Christie Brio connects to either a 65- or 75-inch LCD panel display. Injeski worked closely with Saint Xavier to integrate the technology into each room, and even designed a touch screen for each lectern instructors can use to share content with their students on the monitors.

"Instructors now have the ability to say, 'I like what's happening on monitor one, I'm now going to send it out to all of the monitors,' so everyone at all of the stations can see what's happening. It gives instructors a lot of flexibility in sharing information among their students," says Zakrzewski.

"Our students have responded very positively to the learning studios. They told us that the rooms paint a picture that this institution is engaged in creating the best learning environment for them that we can," Zakrzewski shares. "So we're getting lots of positive feedback from our students about Brio in the learning studios."

Instructors have responded just as positively, saying they prefer teaching in the learning studios over traditional classrooms, and that the flexibility of the space can accommodate a 'flipped' classroom, where learning is more collaborative and students are more engaged.

Saint Xavier's Chicago campus learning studios are pilots for a larger project at Saint Xavier's new campus in Gilbert, Arizona, which opened in the fall of 2015. Saint Xavier installed 70 Christie Brios throughout the Gilbert Campus, in both learning studios and their new 'learning commons' for collaborative group work.

Concludes Zakrzewski, "You can't create a twenty-first century learning environment and have everybody plugging into walls. The Christie Brio units are really the backbone of our AV teaching philosophy, because they allow anyone—any student, any faculty—to connect wirelessly. Christie Brio is working well for us."

### Contact Christie

Contact us today to find out how your organization can benefit from Christie solutions.



▲ Saint Xavier University's Chicago campus



▲ BYOD: Bring your own device  
Christie Brio units in the new learning studios allow students to connect their devices

Photo credits: Christie®

### Corporate offices

Christie Digital Systems USA, Inc.  
Cypress  
ph: 714 236 8610

Christie Digital Systems Canada Inc.  
Kitchener  
ph: 519 744 8005

### Worldwide offices

Australia  
ph: +61 (0) 7 3624 4888

Brazil  
ph: +55 (11) 2548 4753

China (Beijing)  
ph: +86 10 6561 0240

China (Shanghai)  
ph: +86 21 6278 7708

France  
ph: +33 (0) 1 41 21 44 04

Germany  
ph: +49 2161 664540

India  
ph: +91 (080) 6708 9999

Japan (Tokyo)  
ph: 81 3 3599 7481

Korea (Seoul)  
ph: +82 2 702 1601

Mexico  
ph: +52 55-4744-1790

Republic of South Africa  
ph: +27 (0) 11 510 0094

Russian Federation  
and Eastern Europe  
ph: +36 (0) 1 47 48 100

Singapore  
ph: +65 6877 8737

Spain  
ph: +34 91 633 9990

United Arab Emirates  
ph: +971 4 3206688

United Kingdom  
ph: +44 (0) 118 977 8000

United States (Arizona)  
ph: 602 943 5700

United States (New York)  
ph: 646 779 2014

### Independent sales consultant offices

Italy  
ph: +39 (0) 2 9902 1161



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