The Keene State College Living & Learning Commons is a first-year resident hall and the school’s first Living-Learning community. The project is a Gateway connecting the east campus entry on Wyman Way to the east/west axis of the Appian Way and the future development zone which includes the Redfern Arts Center and the Visual and Media Arts Center.

The project arranges the building blocks of the Residential Learning Community to form a unifying landscape for this precinct of campus by organizing them into 3 wings plugged into a vertical social hub. The wings define 3 distinct landscape experiences—arrival, contemplation, and gathering. The vertical Hub becomes a landmark for visitors arriving from the east and puts the living & learning activity on display. Study lounges at the end of each wing help anchor the building to prominent paths, and ground floor lounges and classrooms invite in the larger campus community.

Photo: Anton Grassl