

The image shows the interior of the McCusker Recital Hall. The ceiling is a complex, geometric structure with a grid of perforated metal panels in shades of orange and yellow, illuminated from within. The walls are covered in vertical wood panels. The name 'McCusker' is illuminated in blue, and 'RECITAL HALL' is illuminated in white dot-matrix font. A red wall is visible in the lower left, and a door with a 'C' sign is on the far left.

ILLUMINATION IS THE STAR OF THE SHOW
ECU CITY CAMPUS

2024 – 2025

McCusker

RECITAL

HALL

ILLUMINATION IS THE STAR OF THE SHOW

When the new ECU City Campus opened its doors to students in February 2026, it marked a major milestone in the transformation of Perth's CBD into a vibrant education and cultural precinct. Among the many standout design elements across the campus was a diverse and sophisticated illuminated signage program delivered entirely by Western Australian company Signs & Lines.

Working in collaboration with project builder Multiplex and design agency Buro North, Signs & Lines produced and installed more than a dozen striking internal illuminated signs across the North and South buildings. The project showcased more than six different illumination techniques, each tailored to complement the architectural and interior design vision of the campus.

The result is a cohesive yet highly varied illuminated signage suite that enhances wayfinding while contributing to the building's distinctive aesthetic.

The project represented a massive undertaking in both production and installation. Each sign was meticulously crafted to meet the exacting standards required for a landmark public building and integrated seamlessly into the architectural finishes.

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

Project:	ECU City Campus
Builder:	Multiplex
Design Agency:	Buro North
Location:	CBD Perth
Scope:	Fabrication & installation of internal and external illuminated signage
Timeframe:	Early 2024 – December 2025



SIGNS&LINES

CASE STUDY

A SHOWCASE OF ILLUMINATION TECHNIQUES

One of the defining characteristics of the project was the diversity of lighting solutions used. Rather than relying on a single style, the signage program explored a range of fabrication and illumination methods to achieve unique visual outcomes.

ILLUMINATED FABRICATED ACRYLIC BOXES

Several tenancy signs were created using fabricated acrylic boxes with internal LED illumination. This technique provides crisp, even lighting and a contemporary aesthetic suitable for performance and public spaces. Examples include:

- Box Office
- Sound House
- Flex Theatre

Each sign was fabricated with precision acrylic construction and integrated LED lighting to deliver strong visual presence within the interior environment.

LED “ROPE NEON” EFFECT

The WAPAA [Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts] sign demonstrates a clever reinterpretation of traditional neon signage. While the final appearance resembles rope neon, the sign was actually constructed using modern LED technology.

This approach allowed the design team to achieve the nostalgic glow and fluid line quality of neon while benefiting from the efficiency, longevity and safety of LEDs.

HALO ILLUMINATED ALUMINIUM FABRICATED BOXES

Another striking style involved aluminium fabricated letter boxes with halo illumination created by internally mounted LEDs. The letters were pinned off the substrate so that light spills onto the surface behind them, producing a soft glow around the edges.

This halo effect creates depth and visual interest while maintaining a clean architectural look. A key example of this technique can be seen in the Wellbeing Precinct and Lounge Room signage.





TIMBER VENEER LETTERS WITH HALO ILLUMINATION

For the Student Hub signage, the team employed routed timber veneer letters combined with halo lighting. In this instance, the LEDs were installed inside the fabricated letters themselves. These are a solid veneer board rebated out the back with LEDs inserted into the groove and then pinned off to create a glow behind the timber – timber matches the bulkhead to create a seamless transition.

This approach allowed the natural warmth of the timber veneer to contrast beautifully with the soft illuminated outline, blending natural materials with modern lighting technology.

ROUTERED TIMBER GROOVES WITH ILLUMINATED LIGHTBOX

The Kaarlak sign required a completely different approach. The routing team created precisely machined grooves directly into the veneer substrate, forming the letterforms within the panel itself.

Behind the routed face sits a large internally illuminated LED lightbox, allowing light to glow through the routed sections and highlight the typography with subtle elegance.

THE RECITAL HALL – A SIGNATURE FEATURE

The true pièce de résistance of the project is the Recital Hall signage.

To achieve its distinctive visual texture, the Signs & Lines team routed thousands of tiny holes across the letter surfaces. Each hole was then filled with small acrylic pegs, creating a unique illuminated pattern.

Behind the surface, a dedicated LED lightbox was fabricated for each individual letter, allowing light to pass through the acrylic pins and create a sparkling, dimensional effect.

The result is a breathtaking illuminated feature that perfectly complements the prestige of the recital space.

EXTERNAL ILLUMINATED SIGNAGE

Beyond the interior program, Signs & Lines also delivered major external signage elements for the campus, including illuminated building signage and large-scale sky signs that contribute to the precinct's nighttime identity.

These external installations ensure the campus is visible and recognisable within the Perth skyline while maintaining consistency with the architectural lighting strategy. Aluminium fabricated letter forms with group 1 fire rated material to the faces of the letters, creating a clean crisp “black and white” look against the stone façade during the day, and a beautiful soft glow at night.

Refer to our ECU City Sky Sign Case Study for more details.

SIGNS&LINES

CASE STUDY

The logo for ECU WAAPA, featuring the letters 'ECU' in a large, bold, sans-serif font above the letters 'WAAPA' in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font. A vertical line is positioned to the right of the 'ECU' text.

ECU
WAAPA

A large, illuminated sign for the Minderoo Centre for Performance Excellence. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font and is brightly lit against a dark, textured stone wall.

Minderoo Centre
for Performance Excellence

A LANDMARK SIGNAGE PROJECT FOR WA

From precision router work and bespoke fabrication to complex lighting integration, the ECU City Campus signage program represents a significant achievement for Signs & Lines.

Every illuminated sign across the North and South buildings was manufactured and installed by the company's Western Australian team, demonstrating both technical capability and craftsmanship at scale.

The project stands as a showcase of how thoughtful lighting design and innovative fabrication techniques can elevate signage beyond wayfinding—transforming it into an integral part of the architectural experience.

NEED MORE THAN JUST SIGNAGE

Our team offers a number of additional services that will help with your signage.

- Design Concepts:** Maybe a wayfinding strategy or conceptual drawings for a new building or precinct. Let us create your next project.
- Audits:** Full or partial audits of indoor or outdoor facilities. Is your signage working well? Let us give you the full story.
- Aftercare & Maintenance:** Servicing or maintenance requirements with photos. Our technology solution will provide a detailed status.
- Repairs:** Fix or repair existing signage. Plus a detailed report outlining signage issues & recommended fixes.

THE FINAL WRAP

Illuminations are always the star of the show. The completed illuminated signage transforms the ECU City campus into a bright, engaging facility. Key locations are lit up to supporting the wayfinding and vibrant infrastructure.

Innovation guided our response. Signs & Lines showed industry leading design and craftsmanship to bring these stunning signs to life.

To find out more about our full range of services – and the Signs & Lines difference – contact us today +8 9274 5151 or admin@signsandlines.com.

SIGNS&LINES

CASE STUDY



Talk to the team at Signs & Lines today.

t: +618 9274 5151

m: +614 0719 9576

e: admin@signsandlines.com

Signs & Lines, 5 Meliador Way, Midvale, Perth WA 6056

www.signsandlines.com

SIGNS&LINES

CASE STUDY