

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1167

TITLE: RESOLUTION FOR THE URGENT NEED TO ESTABLISH THE CREATIVE ARTS NEEDS AND VALUES ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES (CANVAS) PROJECT

AUTHOR(S): Senator Cec Wood-Barron

SPONSOR(S): Majority Party Leader Simone Liang, Senator Zoe Richter, Senator Raj Mia, Senator Asif Islam, Senator Anghelo Gangano, Senator Anthony Hockman, Senator Julia Seifer, Budget Chairman Blake Cox, Senator Chalisa Budhai

WHEREAS, With reference to SSB 2022-1067- Resolution Addressing Professional Resources and Critical Needs for Arts Students at the University of Florida, written by former Senator Cassie Urbenz and Senator Evan E. Rafanan, the University of Florida’s Student Senate unanimously passed the bill stating “(Student Senate) advocates for further expansion and innovative programs to support the professional development of students pursuing careers in the Arts” (1); and,

WHEREAS, Most visual arts students have to pay out of pocket for supplies needed to create projects required for their classes, which often can cause economic strain on students. With the cost of living in the state of Florida rising, adding further financial responsibility to an Arts student can be strenuous to their livelihood; and,

WHEREAS, In the past few years in Gainesville, the community has seen a surplus of artistic endeavors, including (but not limited to): art markets, art walks, How Bazar events, Spatially Fed Events, etc, giving to the rise of visible art in the community; and,

WHEREAS, the CANVAS pilot project would help alleviate the costs of art supplies to art students (whether in the College of the Arts or not) so they can express their talents and projects without the fear of financial burden. Students could check out certain supplies with their Gator One ID and distributed through the library system, similar to other Library Resources on campus (2); and,

WHEREAS, The supplies would either be bought from the allocated budget or donated by companies/students, allowing for a variety of materials for students to work with, as well as, giving purpose to unused products bought from previous semesters/projects;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate advocates for the Student Body President Olivia Green, Student Body Vice President Clara Calavia, and Student Body Treasurer Nyla Pierre to establish the Creative Arts Needs and Values Accessibility Service as soon as possible to prepare for the upcoming semesters; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate advocates for the Executive Branch will allocate a minimum of \$5,000 to the CANVAS Project to appropriately fund a starting amount of supplies for this pilot project; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate advocates for those who are instituting the CANVAS project to consult professors and students within the College of the Arts to determine the most essential supplies every semester through forums and open discussions;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOVLED that the University of Florida Student Senate advocates for the project will be available to the entire student body, with a priority for ; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate advocates for students to be promptly alerted of this resource on campus through communication by email or social media advertisement, to help further its availability to the student body.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate advocates that students will return feedback on the CANVAS Project through forums to determine its success and continuation into the following years.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution will be sent to the following people:

Onye P Ozuzu, Montana Wilson, Elizabeth Ross, Oaklinna M. Caraballo, David A Pelino, Anika Nathan, Jennifer Setlow, Sophia Krzys Acord, Laila Fakhhoury (Owner of How Bazar), Khary Khalfani (Owner of How Bazar), Harley O'Neill (owner of Spatially Fed), Eric Segal, Alyssa B. Peyton, Lee Anne Chesterfield (Director of the Harn Museum), Jody Green, Gerard Bensen (Director of the SL8 Gallery),

1. <https://sg.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/SSB2022-1067-Resolution-Addressing-Professional-Resources-Sources-and-Critical-Needs-for-Arts-Students-at-the-University-of-Fl.pdf>
2. <https://marston.uflib.ufl.edu/services/tech-and-tools/>