

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1209

TITLE: AUTHORIZATION ORDERING SG PROJECT LINE FUNDS TOWARDS ESTABLISHING THE CREATIVE ARTS NEEDS AND VALUES ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES (CANVAS) PROJECT

AUTHOR(S): Senator Cec Wood-Barron

SPONSOR(S): Minority Party Leader Simone Liang, Judiciary Chair Jonathan C. Stephens, Senator Anghelo Gangano, Senator Navya Nair, Senator Chalisa Budhai, Senator Anamika Naidu, Senator Asif Islam

WHEREAS, With reference to SSB 2022-1067- Resolution Addressing Professional Resources and Critical Needs for Arts Students at the University of Florida, written by Cassie Urbanz and Evan E. Rafanan, the University of Florida’s Student Senate unanimously passed this 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 another 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 can check out certain supplies with their Gator One ID, similar to other Library Resources on campus (2); and,

WHEREAS, The supplies would either be bought from the budget or donated by companies or students, allowing for a variety of materials for students to work with; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article IV, Section 4(a) of the University of Florida Student Government Constitution, the Student Body President shall serve as the chief executive officer of the Student Body; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article VI, Section 4(h) of the University of Florida Student Government Constitution, a power of the Student Body President is to “exercise all other powers and duties provided by Student Body law.”; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article IV, Section 4(e) of the University of Florida Student Government Constitution, a power of the Student Body President is to “create and appoint committees or commissions not provided in this Constitution, if deemed necessary, provided that these bodies do not contravene Student Body law”; and,

WHEREAS, Student Senate Bill 2022-1026 allocated \$138,000.00 USD into the line item entitled “SG Projects Line” under “Administrative Account-602” under the Student Body President’s control; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ORDERED THAT the Student Body President disburses \$5,000.00 USD from the FY23-24 Budget line entitled “SG Projects Line” under “Administrative Account-602” to create the *CANVAS* project, used for the following purposes: Housing the art supplies, Buying the art supplies, and the allocation of said art supplies; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ORDERED THAT the Student Body President shall convene a special commission overseeing the *CANVAS* project and the operation of the \$5,000.00 allocated funds (named at the discretion of the Student Body President), with Cec Wood-Barron as the Chair of the commission.

Proviso: A copy of this authorization 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 Fakhoury (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),

All excess funds not utilized by the project shall return to the FY23-24 Budget Line item entitled “SG Projects Line” under “Administrative Account-602”.

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/>