

**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1195**

**TITLE: Resolution Advocating for Organizing Student Government Production (SGP) Concert Opener Competitions**

**AUTHOR(S): Senator Gabriela Prieto**

**SPONSOR(S): Majority Party Leader Julia Seifer, Senator Angelina Fentress**

**WHEREAS**, the number of professional performing artists and organizations in the United States has rapidly increased since the 1970s, and the number of nonprofit performing arts organizations has grown by over 80 percent after the 1980s [1]; and,

**WHEREAS**, a poll by Americans for Hearts found that over 80 percent of Americans have a positive outlook on the arts, and think the arts have a beneficial impact on the world [2]; and,

**WHEREAS**, over 90 percent of Americans believe that the arts should be taught in educational institutions for a well-rounded education, and almost 90 percent believe that it should be taught outside the classroom [2][3]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the College of the Arts at the University of Florida is one of the 16 colleges the university offers [4], and as a result many students graduate with a Bachelor of Fine Arts each year. The College of the Arts puts on a number of plays and musics throughout the year, alongside dance shows, art shows, and orchestra concerts; and,

**WHEREAS**, holding events for students in the performing arts is imperative to building community, not just between the performers and the audience, but amongst the audience themselves. Performing arts events put on by students on this campus may furthermore help inspire other individuals with similar interests to pursue their passions; and,

**WHEREAS**, benefits of participating in arts competitions include but are not limited to creative challenge, discovering other interests within the arts, and helping kickstart a career through networking with other participants and judges [5]; and,

**WHEREAS**, Student Government Productions is an executive agency at the University of Florida that holds concerts and other events providing students with affordable or free entertainment, with past guests including artists Don Toliver, Brett Young, and Roddy Ricch [6]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida Student Government is committed to fostering community and enhancing the student experience [7], which is also in line with the mission

