

**Student Senate** 

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## 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

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statement of the University of Florida's performing arts department and various shows that may occur on campus; and,

WHEREAS, a collaboration between Student Government Productions and students with performing art talents would not only allow for more students on campus to get directly involved with Student Government in the first place, but also increase exposure to lesser known artists and help students in the performing arts with networking and mentorship; and,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the need for the expression of performing arts at public competitions to foster individuals' sense of community and identity, and for the discovery of upcoming artists.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate urges the University of Florida, Student Government Administration, and Student Government Productions to hold competitive events for performing arts students and allow the winner to partake in opening Student Government Productions concerts.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to University of Florida President Ben Sasse, Student Body President Olivia Green, The University of Florida Student Government Productions Chair Luke Holderman, Student Government Productions Comptroller Jack Levy, College of Arts Administrative Coordinator Cheryl Rodney, Creative Campus and College Events Manager Stephanie Silberman, Professor and Dean Emerita Lucinda Lavelli, Executive Assistant Piper Call, Senior Director of Advancement Lula Dawit

- [1] https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\_briefs/RB2504.html
- [2] https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-program/reports-and-data/research-studies-publications/public-opinion-poll
- [3] https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-topic/arts-education/10-arts-education-fast-facts
- [4] https://www.ufl.edu/academics/colleges/#el-ab54ba22
- [5] https://blog.academyart.edu/art-design-competitions-reasons-why-students-should-join/
- [6] https://sg.ufl.edu/branches/executive/agencies/

[7]

https://sg.ufl.edu/about/#:~:text=Student%20Government%20at%20the%20University,integrity%20and%

20selflessly%20serving%20the

John Brinkman

Senate President