GA 107

This Resolution Shall Henceforth Be Known As the “Act to support a Performing Arts Center and adjacent Music Building for the UTSA Music Department”

PURPOSE
To recommend the University of Texas at San Antonio begin the process of constructing a new Performing Arts Center and adjacent Music building. Including but not limited to legislative prioritization, securing funding, surveying, and design.

WHEREAS: Article III, Section 2 of the Constitution of The University of Texas at San Antonio’s Student Government Association reads: “[The duties and responsibilities of the SGA General Assembly shall be:] To review discuss, consider, and take any necessary action through legislation on all issues which concern the campus or students”; and

WHEREAS: The existing Arts building was opened in 1972. It is in its 45th year of service. In the decades following its opening the UTSA Music Department has far outgrown its capacity.

WHEREAS: There are prominent music faculty without a physical office. There are only 4 classrooms in the music corridor of the Arts building with limited capacity, thus limiting scheduling for music majors and minors alike.

WHEREAS: John S. DeLaHunt, Risk and Life Safety Manager and Fire Marshall of UTSA has relayed that the rehearsal halls are cause for concern due to unsafe sound levels and capacity concerns.

WHEREAS: Although ADA compliance is in code, it is markedly much harder to navigate the Arts building than an able-bodied person. The hardship for an individual who utilizes a requires mobility assistance or a person with limited walking ability to attend a concert is egregious.

WHEREAS: Instrument storage is spread out among the first three floors of the Arts building which are largely unsecured, and SOSA equipment storage is spread out throughout campus. Adequate storage in a unified setting can deter theft and damage to expensive instruments.
WHEREAS: There are 20 practice rooms to be used among 300+ music majors and minors. Nearly all practice rooms have ventilation systems that are not working.

WHEREAS: Antiquated facilities and venues are a deterrent to recruitment efforts and may be a factor in students transferring to other schools.

WHEREAS: A Performing Arts Center and Music Building would be an additional revenue generator for the Department and UTSA. A new Music Building would make bringing top regional and national talent to UTSA a much easier process.

WHEREAS: A change.com petition started by Aaron Collins has tallied 681 signatures as of 3/22/17. An overwhelming majority of the signatures are from past and present students, faculty, and friends of UTSA Music.

WHEREAS: Registered Student Organizations (RSO’s) and other organization would greatly utilize such a space for practice and holding events that would benefit the UTSA Community, spreading the appreciation of the arts.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The University of Texas at San Antonio Student Government Association moves to support the construction of a Performing Arts Center and adjacent Music Building.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The University of Texas at San Antonio Student Government Association moves to support that the subsequent building to be built after the new Science Building would be the Performing Arts Center and adjacent Music Building.

Andrew Hubbard
President of Student Government Association
The University of Texas at San Antonio