Memorandum

DATE: April 18, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Arts, Culture & Libraries Committee: Philip T. Kingston (Chair), Monica R. Alonzo (Vice Chair), Vonciel Jones Hill, Jerry R. Allen, Carolyn R. Davis, Jennifer Staubach Gates

SUBJECT: Overview of the Sammons Center for the Arts

On Monday, April 21, 2014, Joanna St. Angelo, Executive Director of the Sammons Center for the Arts, will provide the Arts, Culture & Libraries Committee an overview of the Sammons Center for the Arts.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Joey Zapata
Assistant City Manager

Attachment

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
   A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
   Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney
   Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
   Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
   Daniel F. Solls, Administrative Judge
   Ryan S. Evans, Interim First Assistant City Manager

   Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
   Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
   Charles M. Cabo, Interim Assistant City Manager
   Theresa O'Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
   Jeannie Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
   Shawn Williams, Interim Public Information Officer
   Flera Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council

"Dallas, the City that Works. Diverse, Vibrant and Progressive"
Since 1988, the Sammons Center has provided a nurturing home for the Performing Arts. Fourteen resident organizations plus over 100 non-resident groups create a vibrant and thriving arts community in this restored historic building.
Often described as an “Arts Incubator,” the Center is really more like a “Greenhouse” providing a hospitable environment for artists and arts organizations to grow and flourish.
The Turtle Creek Pump Station was built on the shores of the Trinity River in 1909 as the first modern water facility providing water to the growing City of Dallas.
• Before renovations started in 1985, the Turtle Creek Pump Station sat empty for nearly thirty years.
• Before renovations started in 1985, the Turtle Creek Pump Station sat empty for nearly thirty years.

• Sammons Center for the Arts, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, raised $3 Million to rehabilitate the historic facility and transform it into a thriving performing arts center.
• Before renovations started in 1985, the Turtle Creek Pump Station sat empty for nearly thirty years.

• Sammons Center for the Arts, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, raised $3 Million to rehabilitate the historic facility and transform it into a thriving performing arts center.

• This facility is an excellent example of private-public partnership. The City of Dallas leases the Center to the nonprofit Sammons Center, which manages it on behalf of 14 tenant organizations.
Before renovation, the Turtle Creek Pump Station sat abandoned for many years.
Now, the Center is both functional and beautiful.
Recent upgrades include landscape, artworks, and improved accessibility.
Meadows Hall, our largest space, is home to a wide variety of activities.
Greater Dallas Youth Orchestras rehearsals take place nearly every Sunday.
Large choral rehearsals make the building ring with sound.
Our Sammons Jazz Youth Program introduces children ages 6-12 to live jazz music.
Bandan Koro brings the vibrant music and dance of Western Africa.
Jazz students from Booker T. Washington High School perform to a packed house.
USA Dance turns Meadows Hall into a ballroom.
The Turtle Creek Chorale rehearses weekly.
Performing Arts nonprofits use the Center for fundraisers and special events.
The Sammons Jazz program features local and national artists in a variety of styles.

David “Fathead” Newman
Audiences experience jazz music in many forms, from traditional to modern.
Jazz music can incorporate unusual instruments from around the world, such as this silk-stringed Korean Haegeum.
Members of D’Drum coax a jazzy tune out of ethnic percussion instruments from across the globe, such as this Indonesian Gamelan set.
The Arts Magnet Jazz Ensemble entertained guests at the kickoff of D’JAM – Dallas Jazz Appreciation Month, April 2012. D’JAM is a consortium of jazz presenters, founded by the Sammons Center.
Our Conference Room provides a professional, creative meeting space.
The Cree Mezzanine is perfect for sectionals, rehearsal breaks, meetings, and classes.
Children from Boys and Girls Clubs of Dallas enjoy a mid-concert snack break.
Kurth Hall is used for recitals, intimate concerts, and rehearsals.
GDYO joins forces with the Children’s Chorus of Greater Dallas for a holiday concert.
Kurth Hall is also home to our new Cabaret Concert Series. Sheran Goodspeed Keyton performs in the Spring 2014 series.
Artworks by Eliseo Garcia were installed in January 2012, through the Dallas Public Art Program, adding even more artistic flair to the Center.
Sammons Center for the Arts is the Gateway to the Arts District.
Sammons Center for the Arts is the Gateway to the Arts District.

- Overlooking a major artery into downtown Dallas, the Center welcomes visitors to the cultural heart of the City.
Sammons Center for the Arts is the Gateway to the Arts District.

- Overlooking a major artery into downtown Dallas, the Center welcomes visitors to the cultural heart of the City.
- Hosting rehearsals, auditions, workshops, and classes, the Center is a critical arts ecosystem and backbone of the local arts community.
Sammons Center for the Arts is the Gateway to the Arts District.
• Overlooking a major artery into downtown Dallas, the Center welcomes visitors to the cultural heart of the City.
• Hosting rehearsals, auditions, workshops, and classes, the Center is a critical arts ecosystem and backbone of the local arts community.
• Students and performers in many of the Center’s tenant and user groups such as Greater Dallas Youth Orchestras, Junior Players, and Fine Arts Chamber Players go on to entertain on stages in the Arts District and around the nation.
Sammons Center for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Most of the photographs in this presentation were contributed by members of various performing groups, and are used with permission. Night-time photo of the building by Justin Terveen

Music:

“Rio” - composed by Cindy Horstman & Mike Medina
Cindy Horstman, harp
Mike Medina, bass
Andy Timmons, guitar
Gary Freeman, keyboards
Greg Bissonette, drum machine
From the CD “Out of the Blue”