

A Resolution Demanding Better Practice Conditions for the UCLA Dance Community

Sponsored by:

Zahra Hajee, Facilities Commissioner

Nicole Corona Diaz, General Representative 1

Aaron Boudaie, Financial Supports Commissioner

Arielle Yael Mokhtarzadeh, President

WHEREAS, the Dance Community at UCLA is currently comprised of over 20 competitive and exhibition dance teams, with each group composed of at least 40-60 members¹; and

WHEREAS, many of UCLA's current dance teams have had a prominent presence on campus for over 30 years, with strong ties to UCLA's cultural organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Dance Community at UCLA has made substantial, meaningful contributions to our campus culture, performing at UCLA programs and traditions including but not limited to culture shows, Spring Sing, 'SC Bonfire, athletic games, This is Bruin Life, and Bruin Day; and

WHEREAS, the parking structures on UCLA's campus, which many UCLA dancers rely on to practice for at least 10 hours a week², are filled with hundreds of cars either parked or in motion, creating a hazardous environment for dance teams to practice³; and,

WHEREAS, despite the 2016 Social Justice Referendum mandating that the John Wooden Center remain open 24 hours a day, four days a week⁴, to provide safer venues for practices, dance teams are still unable to access the three studio spaces until after 10 PM on most nights due to programming reservations⁵; and

WHEREAS, the Dance Community at UCLA has made their strong feelings regarding this issue evident by organizing a town hall event for the campus community on Tuesday, November 7th, 2017 at which students will describe current practice experiences of dance teams, outline a list of concrete solutions for UCLA Administration to act on, and emphasize the need for an increase in studio space on campus.

¹ <http://dailybruin.com/2017/09/21/uclas-numerous-dance-groups-allow-students-to-find-their-rhythm/>

² <http://dailybruin.com/2017/06/08/dance-community-looks-to-ucla-to-improve-studio-availability/>

³ www.tinyurl.com/ucladancespacesurvey

⁴ <http://dailybruin.com/2016/05/13/wooden-center-plans-to-use-referendum-funds-to-extend-gym-hours/>

⁵ <http://dailybruin.com/2017/06/08/dance-community-looks-to-ucla-to-improve-studio-availability/>

LET IT BE RESOLVED, the School of Arts and Architecture extend current hours of dance studios, including but not limited to Kaufman Hall, and open studio reservations to dance teams during times that the studios are not utilized by student affiliates of the School; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Office of Residential Life increase accessibility of reservation options for dance practice spaces such as the Hedrick Hall Movement studio, and expand the number of spaces on the Hill devoted to self-expression through movement; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that UCLA Recreation reassess the number of spaces within its facilities that could be designated as multipurpose, and increase the accessibility of reservation options for UCLA dance teams; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that UCLA Recreation consider the renovation of single-purpose spaces, such as the racquetball courts within the John Wooden Center, into multi-purpose spaces to increase the amount of indoor space available for dance teams to practice; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that UCLA Recreation invest in portable mirrors as well as storage and transportation options for these items in order for dance teams to have the adequate accommodations necessary for rehearsal; and

LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council will continue to support the Dance Community at UCLA as they advocate for concrete solutions to address the lack of available space necessary for groups to practice in a healthy, functional environment.