



NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

Memo

To: Board of Trustees

From: Dr. Devin Stephenson, President

Date: March 28, 2023

Re: Program Closures—A.S. in Music Production Technology and A.S. in Theatre and Entertainment Technology

In accordance with Board Policy GP 3.00 Service Area and Interagency Relationships, The District Board of Trustees of Northwest Florida State College has primary responsibility for determining which programs and services will meet the educational needs of the service area and for determining the effectiveness and efficiency of the programs and services in meeting those needs. In support of this responsibility, College leadership regularly reviews program offerings and services to determine effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, and financial sustainability. These reviews include extensive internal program analysis, continuous improvement, and strategic planning processes and are conducted by College faculty, staff, and administration in consultation with NWFSC students, program advisory boards, and partners within local businesses and industry. These reviews produce recommendations for program closures as appropriate and are a means by which the College remains steadfast in its mission.

Following an internal approval process, the College recommends closing the following degree programs in Fine and Performing Arts: the Associate in Science (A.S.) in Music Production Technology and the A.S. in Theatre and Entertainment Technology. The College determined the continued viability of programs based on program-specific data, notably enrollment, retention, and workforce demand. Enrollment and retention rates remain low, and the degrees do not align with high-wage or high-demand jobs in the College's service area. Students planning to enter these fields are best positioned for employment after completing a baccalaureate program. Students who complete the A.A. degree with fine and performing arts electives have greater flexibility with credit transfer and are recommended to take this pathway if they plan to complete a bachelor's degree in the arts. Current enrollment data are presented below for your review.

Program Title	Number Students Enrolled
A.S. Music Production Technology	11
A.S. Theatre and Entertainment Technology, Acting Specialization	6
A.S. Theatre and Entertainment Technology, Costuming Specialization	1
A.S. Theatre and Entertainment Technology, Dance Specialization	1
A.S. Theatre and Entertainment Technology, Music Theatre Specialization	1
A.S. Theatre and Entertainment Technology, Technical Theatre Specialization	1

The current cohort of students will complete the program at the end of Spring 2024 and will not be impacted by this recommendation, as courses necessary for graduation will continue to be taught as electives. Closure of the programs facilitates enhanced service to our students intending to pursue these academic and career paths by encouraging completion of an Associate in Arts (A.A.) program where electives will be focused in these program areas. No program faculty positions will be eliminated as a result of these degree program closures. Additionally, coursework across these disciplines maintains strong enrollment, and program faculty are vital to the success of Mattie Kelly Fine and Performing Arts programming, operations, and student advisement and engagement.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Trustees approves the closure of the A.S. in Music Production Technology and the A.S. in Theatre and Entertainment Technology at Northwest Florida State College.