Barnard's Student Government Association (SGA) has put forth a resolution to address the various concerns that have been raised by students surrounding this year's spring Bacchanal concert.

The release of this year's Bacchanal tickets and the notice of the cost of tickets were only received by a section of the student body. In addition, charging $7 per ticket and an additional Eventbrite fee further limited ticket sales to only those who could afford to buy a ticket. Students who either could not afford to purchase a ticket or who were not alerted to the opening of ticket sales were automatically excluded from attending Bacchanal. While we understand that Bacchanal is a limited entry event, this resolution provides an alternative in the spirit of community and fairness to every student who wishes to attend. Therefore, SGA urges the refund and staggered redistribution of all purchased tickets to this year's Bacchanal so as to ensure that students across the four undergraduate colleges have equal opportunity to obtain the redistributed tickets at no cost to this undergraduate wide campus event.

It is our hope that the Bacchanal Committee as well as other undergraduate student councils will move forward and act on this resolution. All questions should be emailed to the SGA Executive Board at sga@barnard.edu

SGA

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RESOLUTION REGARDING SPRING BACCHANAL 2015

WHEREAS Bacchanal is a well-attended event that has become a crucial part of the undergraduate community at Columbia, with thousands of students attending each Spring;

WHEREAS Bacchanal has never before sold tickets to the student body, nor restricted access for undergraduate students;

WHEREAS the decision to sell tickets to the student body was not known to the student body until a very short time before the ticket sales began;

WHEREAS all 4,000 tickets available for sale were sold within the first day of ticket sales, and that there is a desire on campus for more tickets;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Bacchanal Committee has had new constraints and requirements placed upon them, including (but not limited to)

- The requirement to ticket the event,
- The event venue capacity limit of 4,000 students,
- The requirement to ensure that the event does not coincide with Days on Campus,
- The requirement to have “Lion Tamers” as active bystanders within the crowd,
- Increased booking difficulties due to the cancellation of Fall Bacchanal, and resultant loss of music industry trust,
- Increased security- and safety-focused measures at the event,
and that such constraints and requirements are likely to result in increased costs for the event, potentially exceeding the $106,000 that is allocated to Bacchanal by the Activities Board at Columbia;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that, the General Studies Student Council and Barnard SGA agree to cover their share, in ratio, of up to $10,000 in additional security and safety-related costs for the Bacchanal event, under the following conditions:

• The 4,000 students who have purchased tickets to the event are refunded the money that they have paid for their tickets
• The 4,000 tickets will be re-released at a price of $0 to the student body in staggered blocks after March 22, 2015, with the times and quantities of each release advertised three days before the first release to the undergraduate student body
• Those who purchased a Bacchanal crew-neck sweater may receive a refund if they return their sweater
• If the final costs of the event exceed the Bacchanal allocation and revenues with the grant described above, the costs will be paid for by a five-year lien against the Bacchanal allocation in future years equal to the difference

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the two councils, in conjunction with ABC, will pursue further discussions with the Bacchanal Committee and relevant administrators to determine a sustainable plan for the success of future concerts, especially with respect to the scheduled date, the venue capacity limit, the costs of the event, and other logistical details

Signatories:
Activities Board at Columbia
Barnard Student Government Association
General Studies Student Council

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