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Sammons Center for the Arts Celebrates 35 Years of Growing the Arts

Since 1988, the Sammons Center for the Arts has stood on Harry Hines as a beacon of light for small to mid-sized arts organizations.

DALLAS, TX – 35 years ago, the Sammons Center for the Arts opened its doors as an arts facility. Today, the Sammons Center is home to 16 resident groups and serves over 100 local performing arts groups annually by providing space for rehearsals, performances, and meetings year-round. The Center also provides administrative resources and training for arts professionals, and presents the Sammons Jazz and Sammons Cabaret Concert series.

“35 years ago, I joined the Sammons Center for the Arts on opening day as its one of two staff members,” said Joanna St. Angelo, Executive Director of the Sammons Center for the Arts. “Now, in a time after the pandemic, when so many other cultural institutions have closed their doors, I’m proud to say that the Sammons Center is still a reliable source of stability for small and midsize performing arts groups.”

Built in 1909, the Historic Turtle Creek Pump Station was the first modern City of Dallas water works. It stood on the shores of the Trinity River and is the oldest public building owned by the City of Dallas who leased the dilapidated building to the Sammons Center in 1981. The nonprofit Center raised the funds privately to renovate the building and convert it into a performing arts center and arts incubator. The Sammons Center for the Arts continues its tradition of supplying nourishment to the citizens of Dallas by providing another vital resource to the community – arts and culture.

“Arts organizations are the cornerstone to any city’s cultural landscape. In the fiscal year of 2022, the arts made over \$853.6 million dollars in direct economic impact for the city of Dallas,” said St. Angelo. “We are excited to continue celebrating everything we have built over the past 35 years and look forward to what we will accomplish in the next 35 years.”

[About the Sammons Center for the Arts](#)

The Sammons Center for the Arts was founded in 1981 to renovate the historic Turtle Creek Pump Station, built in 1909 at 3630 Harry Hines Boulevard, and operates it as a multipurpose arts center. After several years of renovation, the Sammons Center opened March 1, 1988. A 501(c)(3) organization, the Sammons Center is home to 16 performing arts groups representing dance, theater, orchestral music, and choral music. It provides low-cost office, rehearsal, audition, meeting, workshop, and performance space and administrative, operational, and educational resources to its resident groups and over 90 other nonprofit cultural organizations. For more information, call (214) 520-7788 or visit www.sammonsartcenter.org