**MSU INVESTMENT PROPOSAL FOR INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES**

**PROPOSAL OVERVIEW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Interdisciplinary Center for the Visual &amp; Performing Arts</th>
<th>Request Date</th>
<th>December 21, 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>College of Arts &amp; Architecture</td>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rfarnd@montana.edu">rfarnd@montana.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requestor</td>
<td>Robert Arnold, School of Film &amp; Photography</td>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>994-7588</td>
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**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

**Educate Students**
- Our graduates will have achieved mastery in their major disciplines
- Our graduates will become active citizens and leaders
- Our graduates will have a multicultural and global perspective
- Our graduates will understand the ways that knowledge & art are created and applied in a variety of disciplines
- Our graduates are prepared for careers in their field
- We will provide increased access to our educational programs
- Communities and external stakeholders benefit from broadly defined education partnerships with MSU

**Create Knowledge and Art**
- Students, faculty, and staff will create knowledge and art that is communicated widely

**Serve Communities**
- We help meet a fundamental need of the citizens of Montana by providing degree programs for our students
- We help meet the educational needs of the citizens of Montana by providing a wide range of educational opportunities to a variety of students
- Our students, faculty, staff, and administrators reach out to engage and serve communities
- Our students, faculty, staff, and administrator reach in to build the university community

**Integrate Learning, Discovery, and Engagement**
- Each graduate will have had experiences that integrate learning, discovery and engagement
- Outreach activities will educate students and address the needs of the communities we serve
- Students, faculty, and staff will create knowledge and art that addresses societal needs
- MSU is a community that will be characterized by synergy within and across disciplines, roles and functions.

**Stewardship**
- The public trusts the institution to operate openly and use resources wisely
- The faculty and staff are well-qualified and supported
- MSU will support Native American students, programs, and communities
- MSU will be an inclusive community, supporting and encouraging diversity
- Our publicly provided resources are used efficiently and effectively
- Natural resources are used efficiently and sustainably
- MSU nurtures a culture of resource conservation and ecological literacy among students, faculty and staff
- Our physical infrastructure (e.g., building, equipment, open spaces) will be well-maintained and useful
I have no idea how much a new center for the visual and performing arts would cost to build and to administer although I am certain it would not be inexpensive.
Bozeman, a regional cultural center, and Montana State University, dedicated to producing knowledge and art with highly successful Schools of Art, Film and Photography and Music, lacks an art museum and has only limited spaces for music performance, gallery exhibitions and film screenings, limiting the potential of the College of Arts & Architecture to promote and share the achievements of its faculty and students with the university and community. Our ability to attract new students is also limited by our existing facilities. The College of Arts & Architecture needs a shared environment that will promote interdisciplinary exploration in the arts. MSU, Bozeman, and Montana need a Visual and Performing Arts Center.

Such a center would include an Art Museum with storage and galleries for display of permanent collection and temporary exhibitions. It would include a large concert hall that might also serve as a large film-screening venue (300-400 seats). It would include additional smaller performance and screening spaces (100-200 seats). It would include seminar and conference rooms for interdisciplinary engagement across the arts. It might provide new housing for the College of Arts & Architecture’s Creative Media Laboratory, which is dedicated to interdisciplinary research in the arts. It might also be the headquarters of a new interdisciplinary graduate program in the arts. It would be an architectural gem and a regional focal point for the arts. It would promote tourism and bring additional attention to Montana State University as a producer of knowledge and art.

This arts center would actualize upon and expand MSU’s core themes serving to better integrate the four individual schools within the College of Arts and Architecture, better link the activities of the College with the rest of the university, and better link the university with the community and region.

Currently, the number and capacity of film studies classes is limited by the available screening rooms on campus. Additional screening spaces would increase enrollments and could house a film festival.

Currently, the photography program has no gallery of its own and must rent space outside for its biannual student photography exhibitions, and cannot organize outside photography exhibitions for the benefit of its students.

Currently, the School of Art has only a small exhibition space and inadequate storage and limited opportunity to display its growing permanent art collection.

These are only a few of the ways that our activities in service of MSU’s core themes would be enhanced by a Visual and Performing Arts Center.
There is no art museum in Bozeman or nearby. Colleges and Universities that have built arts centers develop new partnerships with their communities and draw visitors from a wider region, supporting their local economies. A center would provide needed opportunities for our students and faculty to share their achievements with a wider audience, and also provide needed venues to host exhibitions, screenings, concerts, lectures, symposia, conferences, music and film festivals, etc., for the benefit of College of Arts & Architecture students and the wider university and local communities.
### Implementation Plan (Please describe with timelines)

1. Make this a fundraising priority
2. Raise the funds
3. Design it
4. Build it
5. Staff it
6. Use it

### Assessment Plan (Please describe with indicators)

The success of the project would be assessed by the attendance at events and the impact on students, faculty and members of the MSU and Bozeman communities.

### If assessed objectives are not met in the timeframe outlined, what is the plan to sunset this proposal?

NA
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<tr>
<th>SIGNATURES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department Head (please print)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Arnold</td>
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<td>12/22/11</td>
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<td>Dept Head Priority (please circle one):</td>
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<td>Dean/Director (please print)</td>
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<td>Joseph Fedock</td>
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