



**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON**

Board of Directors | Session CXXV (125)

Sponsor(s): Grace Clarke, Director of Programming | **Cosponsor(s):** Jacquelyn Symbol-Archie, Director of Arts and Entertainment

Date: April 23rd, 2026

BOARD BILL 3.170 - An Act to Grant Funding for A+E Comedy Show

WHEREAS: Arts and Entertainment (A+E) as an entity of the Associated Students of the University of Washington (ASUW) is dedicated to fostering a vibrant and engaged campus culture through high-quality programming and student-centered events, with a longstanding mission to bring renowned artists and performers to the UW community; and

WHEREAS: Large-scale events, particularly our Fall Fling and Spring Show and Comedy Show, have proven to be among the most successful and widely attended ASUW programming efforts, increasing visibility for ASUW and creating traditions that enhance school spirit and student engagement; and

WHEREAS: The cost of reserving spaces on campus has increased due to necessary labor contributions from event service workers and security, and these components are essential to having an engaging, safe, and enjoyable event for students and visiting performers; and

WHEREAS: Additional funding will enable ASUW A+E to continue providing an event experience that is free and accessible to students while ensuring a high standard of performance quality and engagement; and

WHEREAS: Unlike the Fall Fling concert, which receives financial contributions from First Year Programs, the ASUW A+E Comedy Show is solely funded by the A+E budget making additional financial support critical to its success; and

WHEREAS: Booking talent for these events is extensive and requires funding sources to be confirmed before moving forward with a performer's contract, and the lack of required funding is causing a delay in the contract process, which could lead to the event being cancelled entirely;

and

WHEREAS: The ASUW Board of Directors previously allocated \$30,000 for this event in Board Bill 3.154, and this funding is not sufficient to ensure the execution of the Comedy Show beyond compensating the performer;

**THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

THAT: An appropriation of \$10,000 be made from the ASUW General Fund to the ASUW A+E budget to support the 2026 Comedy Show; and

THAT: These funds be allocated toward travel costs, venue booking fee, green room booking fee, and security costs to ensure a successful and well-attended comedy event; and

THAT: A copy of this bill be forwarded to Nandana Jaideep, ASUW President, Sonal Virk, ASUW Vice President; Khushi Loomba ASUW Finance and Budget Director; Grace Clarke Director of Programming; Rick Young, SAO Advisor; Marshall Traverse, Associate Director of SAO; Carrie Moore, Executive Director of the Husky Union Building; and Trevor Hunt, Associate Director for Finance and Business Operations.

References:

Bid Sheet from Fall 2025: Shows Artists number of monthly listeners and bid prices. Typical lineups from the last three years cost 60k for all artists together. Displays increase in talent price across the board. This demonstrates the cost increase for legacy events leaving us with less money left over to put on our other events. Increased prices for talent have hindered us from continuing to uphold our mission statement to our standards.

https://uwnetid-my.sharepoint.com/:x/g/personal/asuwaedr_uw_edu/IQDZaDufNqYoTKfdBeXFSe-mAWD2Vc5TNOEYeOL8D8IOdeQ?e=aRo3Tb

Updated link!

Comedy shows past: The Most we have paid for artists in the past has been 20k. Last year we paid an increased price of 30k for Mary Beth Barone, and this year we are seeing an additional increase in talent costs with the same amount of online presence with bids between 40-75k. (cannot include official bid/contract information due to policy) The current bid for the artist we are considering is 30K.

Breakdown: 30k (Artist fee) + 5k (required travel costs)

Travel Costs: For every visiting artist, A+E has traditionally paid for their travel as it is part of their contract.

Event Pricing: Event pricing for renting equipment and spaces has increased this year. Below are the prices for last Years Kane Hall rental and this year's Battle of the Bands room rental. The approximate cost for Room rental, green room rental (plus stocking) and security is 5k, for this show.

