

Letter to the Editor

We cannot begin charging a student fee; such an action could be potentially fatal to this institution.

On the surface, NCSSM's proposed Student Activity Fee may appear to be a small price to pay for such a wonderful opportunity. Looking back, I would have been willing to pay a good deal more than \$850 for the pleasures

and pains of Science and Math. However, as I ponder what made my experience so special, I remember that what changed me at NCSSM wasn't the athletics. I don't even remember eating much of the food there. What made the experience special for me was the people I met. I will never forget the late night bonding that forever linked me to my friends.

Some of the people whom I met at NCSSM did

not have that much money. Some of them also did not have parents who were willing to support them going to such a school, whether or not they had the money. We must remember that these students, if they had remained at home, could have been earning money instead of simply spending. Some students had a hard enough time convincing their parents to let them go without having to factor in paying \$850 a

year. These students made NCSSM what it is today and help make me who I am. In order for NCSSM to remain the beautiful place that it is (if you don't see that now, you will after you graduate), we cannot begin charging a student

fee. I believe that such an action could be potentially fatal to this institution.

KELLE E. LOVE
Class of 2001
Currently attending
Reed College

Letters Policy

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Assembly Hall: Public Domain?

HENRY HÉBERT

It happens all the time – I leave Hunt and see Casey Ampsacher walking toward me with sticks in hand and a dejected look on his face. “They’re in there again,” he says with a shake of the head. You may ask, “Who are these oppressors and from where have they driven this poor soul?” Some student group has taken over the Assembly Hall, that beloved chamber that is the dwelling place for students’ drum set and any number of amps. Time and again I have been practicing, only to be ousted by some renegade club or organization that has happened to reserve the space.

Every drummer on campus is painfully aware of the fact that there are only two locations where he or she can practice. One is the music room

– which closes around 7:00 in the evening. That leaves one possible place to play after dinner. Where does an aspiring group of musicians go to jam together? It isn't feasible to haul around that many amps and a drum kit just to practice for an hour or two at night – and night is really the only time they have, since the math department doesn't appreciate that much of a disturbance in their classes.

I recognize the importance of the Assembly Hall. It should be a gathering place for students of all types at all times, but at the same time, musicians have nowhere to go after the music room is locked. Many non-musical clubs and organizations have chosen to meet in the hall without any need for the equipment therein. If you have no need of a piano, a drum set, or amps, is it not possible to gather in

Why is it that a handful of musicians must fight tooth and nail for the most dilapidated, yet quintessential spot on campus?



Bob Bouvatte

Grand junior John White protects the Assembly Hall drum set with a dangerous glint in his eye.

the “new-and-improved” Hunt classroom? Are there not hundreds of empty class and conference rooms throughout campus? Why is it that a handful of musicians must fight tooth and nail for the most dilapidated, yet quintessential spot on campus? This may be the NC School of Science and Math, but despite popular opinion, music – at any speed or volume – is a major presence on campus and should be given the credit it is due.

*To My Sweetie,
I can hardly believe that ten days from now we'll be celebrating our one year! You are so wonderful, and I treasure the time we spend together. =)*
~ Your Fidget ~

To Charlie:
Hope you make room for some happy-ness on Valentine's Day.
Your Secret Admirer

To Neal Patel,
You are special to me and I just wanted you to know that! So can I keep you? Luv ya bunches-Samia (I cheat, I know)

VIGNASTY,
Viggie, Viggie, Viggie
Can't you see?
Sometimes your eyelashes just hypnotize me.
-Lilangi

To Mr. T's
Mentorship students,
Happy Valentine's Day!
Tom Trocano

To Evan Ritter,
You mean a lot to me, Evan.
You don't have to worry about losing me like you lose everything else.
Love, Amanda

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the north carolina school of science & mathematics
1219 broad street, durham, nc 27705

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