

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE April 18, 2014

TO Honorable Members of the Arts, Culture & Libraries Committee: Philip T. Kingston (Chair)  
Monica R. Alonzo (Vice Chair), Vonciel Jones Hill, Jerry R. Allen, Carolyn R. Davis,  
Jennifer Staubach Gates

SUBJECT Overview of the Sammons Center for the Arts

On Monday, April 21, 2014, Joanna St. Angelo, Executive Director of the Sammons Center for the Arts, will provide the Arts, Culture & Libraries Committee an overview of the Sammons Center for the Arts.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joey Zapata".

Joey Zapata  
Assistant City Manager

## Attachment

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager  
Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary  
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge  
Ryan S. Evans, Interim First Assistant City Manager

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager  
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager  
Charles M. Cato, Interim Assistant City Manager  
Theresa O'Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager  
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer  
Shawn Williams, Interim Public Information Officer  
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council



# Overview of the Sammons Center for the Arts


Arts, Culture & Libraries Committee

April 21, 2014





**Since 1988, the Sammons Center has provided a nurturing home for the Performing Arts. Fourteen resident organizations plus over 100 non-resident groups create a vibrant and thriving arts community in this restored historic building.**

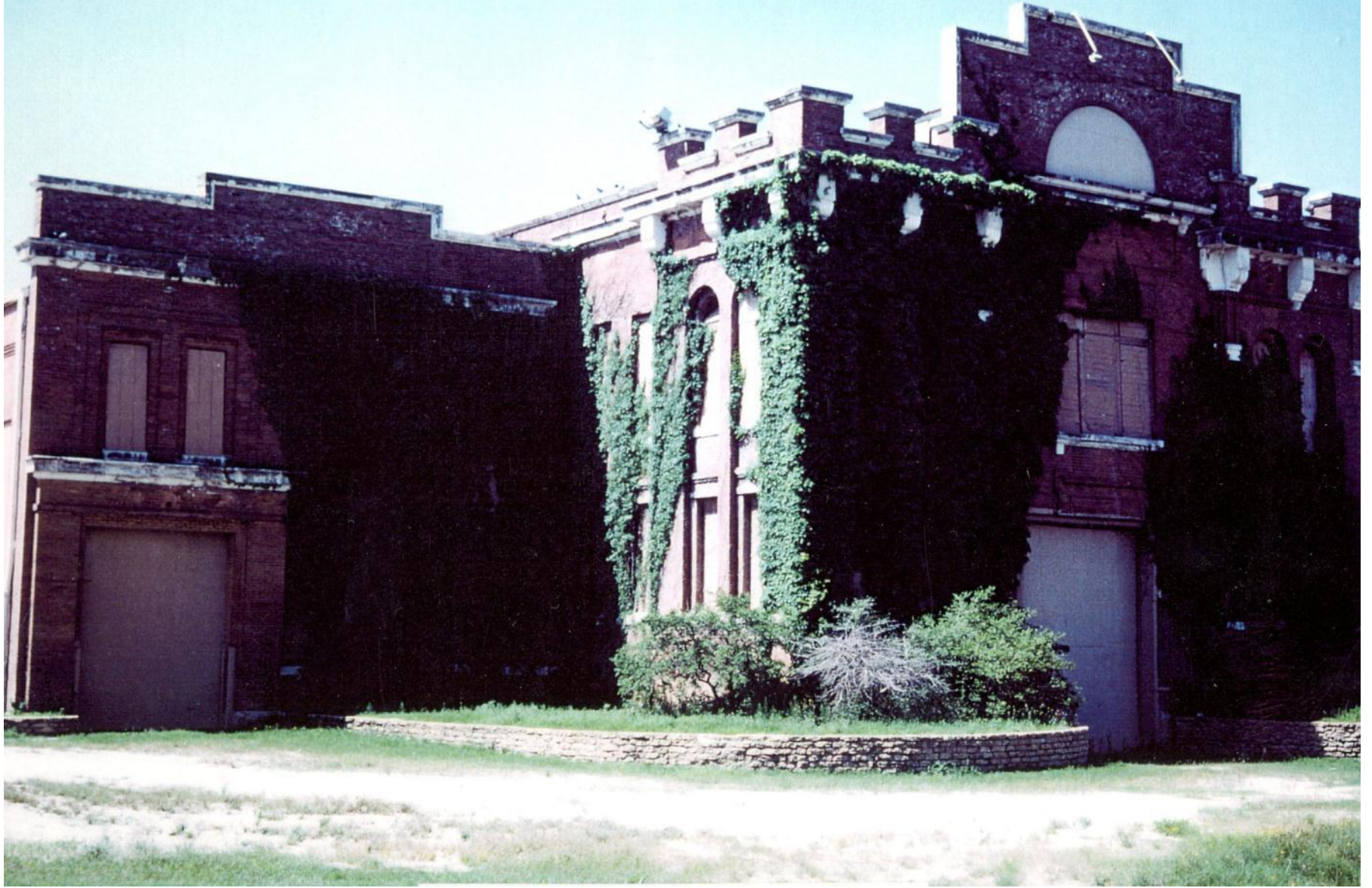
A large, ornate brick building with a prominent entrance and a semi-circular window above it. The building features classical architectural elements like columns and a pediment. The text is overlaid on the image.

**Often described as an “Arts Incubator,” the Center is really more like a “Greenhouse” providing a hospitable environment for artists and arts organizations to grow and flourish.**



# Sammons Center for the Arts

The Turtle Creek Pump Station was built on the shores of the Trinity River in 1909 as the first modern water facility providing water to the growing City of Dallas.

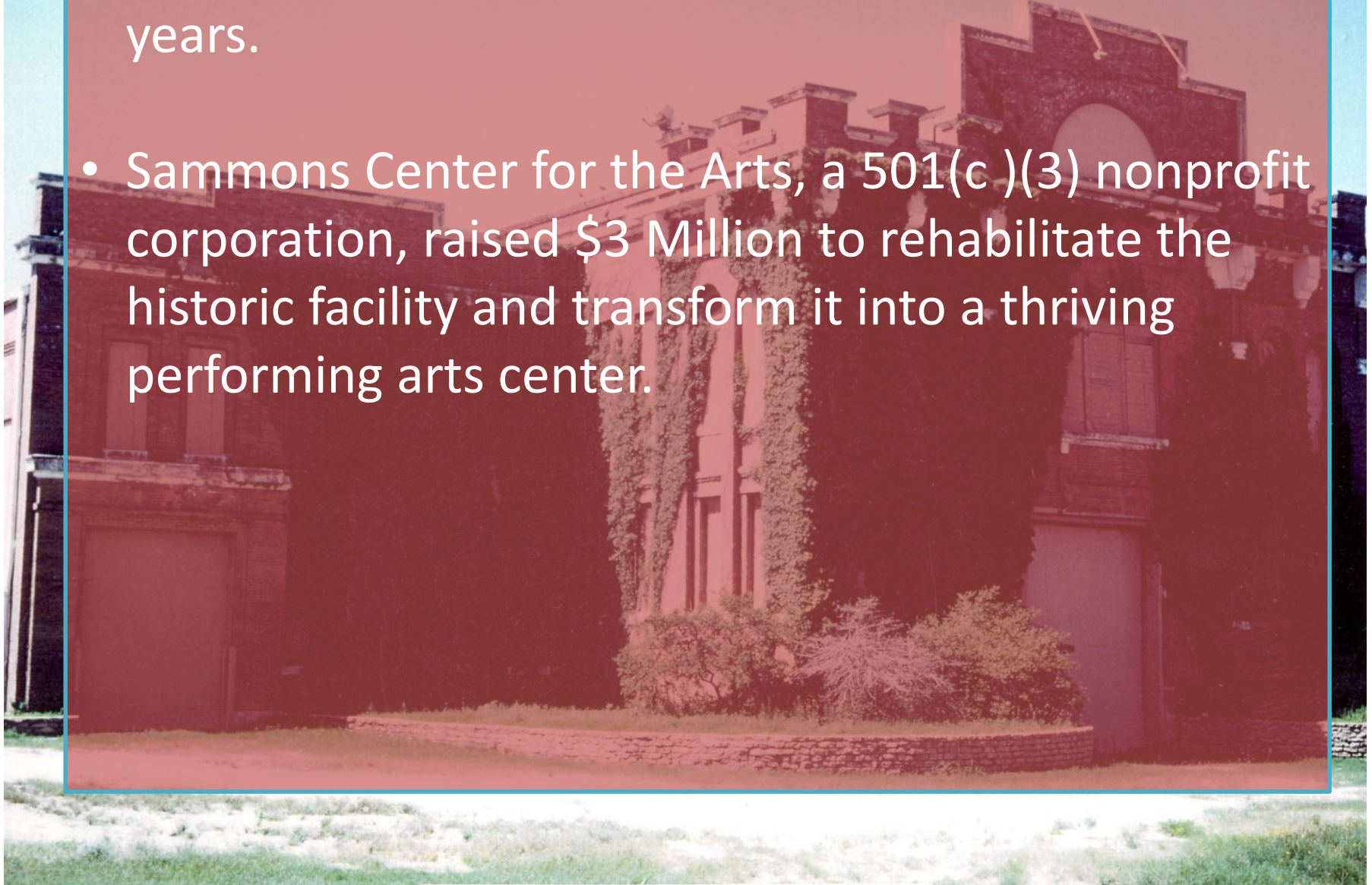


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- Sammons Center for the Arts, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, raised \$3 Million to rehabilitate the historic facility and transform it into a thriving performing arts center.



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- Sammons Center for the Arts, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, raised \$3 Million to rehabilitate the historic facility and transform it into a thriving performing arts center.
- This facility is an excellent example of private-public partnership. The City of Dallas leases the Center to the nonprofit Sammons Center, which manages it on behalf of 14 tenant organizations.



Before renovation, the Turtle Creek Pump Station sat abandoned for many years.



Now, the Center is both functional and beautiful.



Recent upgrades include landscape, artworks, and improved accessibility.



*Tessa Ring*

Meadows Hall, our largest space, is home to a wide variety of activities.



Greater Dallas Youth Orchestras rehearsals take place nearly every Sunday.



Large choral rehearsals make the building ring with sound.





Our Sammons Jazz Youth Program introduces children ages 6-12 to live jazz music.



Bandan Koro brings the vibrant music and dance of Western Africa.



Jazz students from Booker T. Washington High School perform to a packed house.



USA Dance turns Meadows Hall into a ballroom.



The Turtle Creek Chorale rehearses weekly.



Performing Arts nonprofits use the Center for fundraisers and special events.



David  
"Fathead"  
Newman

The Sammons Jazz program features local and national artists in a variety of styles.



Audiences experience jazz music in many forms, from traditional to modern.





Jazz music can incorporate unusual instruments from around the world, such as this silk-stringed Korean Haegeum.



Members of D'Drum coax a jazzy tune out of ethnic percussion instruments from across the globe, such as this Indonesian Gamelan set.



The Arts Magnet Jazz Ensemble entertained guests at the kickoff of D’JAM – Dallas Jazz Appreciation Month, April 2012. D’JAM is a consortium of jazz presenters, founded by the Sammons Center.



Our Conference Room provides a professional, creative meeting space.



The Cree Mezzanine is perfect for sectionals, rehearsal breaks, meetings, and classes.



Children from Boys and Girls Clubs of Dallas enjoy a mid-concert snack break.



Kurth Hall is used for recitals, intimate concerts, and rehearsals.



GDYO joins forces with the Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas for a holiday concert.





Kurth Hall is also home to our new Cabaret Concert Series. Sheran Goodspeed Keyton performs in the Spring 2014 series.



Artworks by Eliseo Garcia were installed in January 2012, through the Dallas Public Art Program, adding even more artistic flair to the Center.



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- Hosting rehearsals, auditions, workshops, and classes, the Center is a critical arts ecosystem and backbone of the local arts community.
- Students and performers in many of the Center's tenant and user groups such as Greater Dallas Youth Orchestras, Junior Players, and Fine Arts Chamber Players go on to entertain on stages in the Arts District and around the nation.

**Sammons Center for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Most of the photographs in this presentation were contributed by members of various performing groups, and are used with permission. Night-time photo of the building by Justin Terveen**

**Music:**

**“Rio” - composed by Cindy Horstman & Mike Medina**

**Cindy Horstman, harp**

**Mike Medina, bass**

**Andy Timmons, guitar**

**Gary Freeman, keyboards**

**Greg Bissonette, drum machine**

**From the CD “Out of the Blue”**