Baton Rouge Community College
Student Technology Fee Committee

Funds Request

Department Information	
Department Requesting Funds: Fine Arts and Communication, Liberal Arts	Date: 11/18/2021
Representative: Rhett Poché	Title: Chairperson, Fine Arts and Communication
Email: pocher@mybrcc.edu	Phone Number: 225-216-8234
Signature: Gail Suberbielle (Department's director or dean, site manager, or respective Vice Chancellor)	Description/Justification of request: This request is being made to upgrade outdated equipment in the audio recording studio. (See detailed description/justification attached.)

Goals and Objectives
Student Technology Fee Program Goal: To provide students with access to, and training in, information technology and discipline-specific equipment that represents the current state of the art technology for that discipline.
Which objective would this advance?
☐ Objective 1.1: To provide public access computers with current software as well as network connectivity.
☑ Objective 1.2: To provide the BRCC student body with access to state-of-the-art software and hardware, including classroom technologies which support student learning.
☐ Objective 1.3: To increase access to the campus network and internet resources via wireless internet and other innovative access options.
☐ Objective 1.4: To ensure that instructional laboratories and open laboratories are equipped with the most current equipment appropriate to teaching and learning in the various disciplines of the College.
☑ Objective 2.1: To enhance student learning by providing support programs in order to optimize the use of multi-media and other instructional technologies.
☐ Objective 2.2: To provide appropriate state-of-the-art technology to student services that directly support student life and learning (e.g., Career Planning and Placement, the Academic Learning Center, Student Development etc.)
Beneficiaries of funds: Students enrolled in BRCC's audio recording and multi-media courses

Initial Cost:	Recurring Costs:	Other Sources of Funds:	Duration of Funds (end date):
$13,582.00	0	N/A	2022 (after purchase and installation)

Impact on college priorities:
Has the potential to increase number of graduates prepared for 2-, 3-, and 5-star jobs in audio and multi-media fields

Office Use Only		
☐ Approved ☐ Partially Approved ☐ Not Approved	Total Amount Approved:	Rating:
Stipulations:		
Signatures of Quorum:		

- **Please attach a detailed cost breakdown and any other relevant information that is relevant. Academic Departments must include a letter of support from their Dean. Student Services or Administrative Departments must include a letter of support from their Department Head.**
- **If funding is for a recurring item, funding can be provided for up to two years. Afterward, the requestor must reapply for future funding consideration.**
- **If the cost for a recurring item increases after the first payment, this approval allows for subsequent payments to be made at the increased rate as long as funding is available.**
- **Submit all request fund from to student_tech@mybrcc.edu by the 1st of October, December, February, May, or July.**

To: Student Technology Fee Committee
From: Gail Suberbielle, Dean of Liberal Arts
Re: Support for funds request
Date: 18 November 2021

Dear Committee Members:

In late 2019/early 2020, this committee approved the funds for upgrades to the Division of Liberal Arts audio recording studio in the Governors Building. However, that project was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Because there is a new SGA and Student Technology Fee Committee, I am writing to offer my support of a re-presented proposal by Mr. Rhett Poché, Department Chairperson for Fine Arts and Communication.

BRCC has the capacity to provide needed skilled workers to the state of Louisiana in audio recording and engineering through the Associate of Applied Science in Entertainment Technologies or the Associate of Arts Louisiana Transfer in Fine Arts in fields rated 2, 3, and 5 stars by the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

However, outdated equipment in the audio recording studio hampers the program's ability to provide state-of-the-art training to our students. Upgrades to this aging infrastructure, including mixers, digital audio interfaces, and a control system, would assist the program in attracting, retaining, and completing program graduates.

I am writing to offer my full support of Mr. Rhett Poché, Department Chairperson for Fine Arts and Communication, in seeking funds from your committee to perform these critical upgrades that will give students access to the best equipment to help train them for the growing demand for workers in this industry.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this request or my support of it.

Sincerely,

Gail Suberbielle

Gail Suberbielle, Dean

Request for Upgrades to the BRCC Audio Recording Studio

Justification

The advanced age, wear, and outmoded capabilities of BRCC's audio recording studio's infrastructure are hampering the College's ability to train students to meet current recording industry needs. For example, the audio interfaces and sound mixers are outmoded and do not afford students the ability to use the latest available technology. As one of only two audio recording studios operated by Louisiana community colleges—the other being in north Louisiana at Bossier Parish Community College—it is crucial that BRCC update its audio studio infrastructure to attract students, train them using the latest technologies, and subsequently help meet the demand of Louisiana's entertainment industry workforce.

Upgrades to the recording studio are essential to the competitiveness of workforce-ready students and to attracting audio recording students to BRCC. This project is built around both a workforce-driven and student-centered rationale. Because students typically do not have outside access to the technology, equipment, and software required for them to hone their skills, it is crucial for BRCC to provide the necessary laboratory facilities in which students can practice. Students in audio recording and engineering learn to play music for recording, technical recording, mixing, and editing. They are also instructed in foley, the art of making sounds, which can be used in the film industry.

In short, BRCC students become generalists in audio recording and engineering. The equipment used to learn these skills—audio interfaces, mixers, and a professional all-in-one iMac computer—would otherwise be readily available to students. This proposal seeks to resolve this issues by upgrading the existing studio infrastructure through the purchase, installation, and implementation of critical hardware and software upgrades.

Equipment Request

- **MOTU Digital Audio Interface Model 1248—1 at $1,495.00**
    - **https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/1248--motu-1248-32x34-thunderbolt-usb-2.0-audio-interface-with-avb**
- **MOTU Digital Audio Interface Model 8M—1 at $1,495.00**
    - **https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/8M--motu-8m-24x24-thunderbolt-usb-2.0-audio-interface-with-avb**
- **MOTU Digital Audio Interface Model 16A—1 at $1,495.00**
    - **https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/16A--motu-16a-32x32-thunderbolt-usb-2.0-audio-interface-with-avb**

A digital audio interface is the key component of digitally capturing and storing music files. This piece of equipment converts electric voltages to binary code the computer can read and distribute to various areas of its system.

This component will be used by students in the recording studio to record and store student- and faculty-driven projects, as well as provide hands on training with industry-specific hardware with state-of-the-art software applications.

The MOTU company is one of the leading manufacturers of digital audio recording equipment. Their interfaces provide the highest quality conversion of analog sound to voltage with significantly lower signal to error ratios than any other interfaces on the market.
Avid, Tascam, Focusrite and Universal interfaces were considered. In addition to its longevity as an industry standard, the MOTU company produces affordable interfaces with wide varieties of features. Furthermore, MOTU interfaces are fully compatible with Pro Tools, the industry-standard software used in the recording studio.

- **Mackie MCU Pro Universal Control Surface—1 at $1,299.00**
    - **https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/MCUpro--mackie-mcu-pro**

Control surfaces are mixers. They connect audio engineers to digital audio workstations. In other words, they provide the human interface required for communication with digital audio systems.

This component will be used by students in the recording studio to record and store student- and faculty-driven projects, as well as provide hands-on training with industry-specific hardware with state-of-the-art software applications.

Mackie hardware is widely recognized as standard to the audio recording industry. Students will be expected to work on various models of Mackie control surfaces.

Avid, Studio Logic, Yamaha and Berhinger interfaces were considered. In addition to its longevity as an industry standard, the Mackie company produces affordable interfaces with wide varieties of features. Furthermore, Mackie interfaces are fully compatible with Pro Tools, the industry-standard software used in the AAS-ETEC recording studio.

- **Mackie XT Pro 8 Fader Expansion Board—2 at $750 = $900**
    - **https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/MCUproXT--mackie-xt-pro?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organicpla**

Control surfaces generally stop at 8 channels so any studio with more than 8 needs an expansion board (extension) to properly control the remaining channels of sound in software and hardware located within the digital audio workstation.

This component will be used by students in the recording studio to record and store student- and faculty-driven projects, as well as provide hands-on training with industry-specific hardware with state-of-the-art software applications.

Mackie hardware is widely recognized as standard to the audio recording industry. Students will be expected to work on various models of Mackie expansion boards.

Avid, Studio Logic, Yamaha and Berhinger interfaces were considered. In addition to its longevity as an industry standard, the Mackie company produces affordable expansion boards that complement their control surfaces. Furthermore, Mackie expansion boards are fully compatible with Pro Tools, the industry-standard software used in the BRCC recording studio.

- **27-inch iMac with Retina 5K display—1 at $4,299.00**
    - **https://www.apple.com/shop/buy-mac/imac-imac/27-inch-3.8ghz-8-core-processor-with-turbo-boost-up-to-5.0ghz-512gb**

This is a professional, all-in-one computer system has the specifications needed to ensure full integration and seamless navigation of all audio studio equipment and software.

Hardware

- Standard glass
- 3.6GHz 10-core 10th-generation Intel Core i9 processor, Turbo Boost up to 5.0GHz
- 64GB 2666MHz DDR4 memory
- Radeon Pro 5500 XT with 8GB of GDDR6 memory
- 2TB SSD storage
- Gigabit Ethernet
- Magic Mouse 2
- Magic Keyboard - US English
- Accessory Kit

Software

- Pages, Numbers, Keynote
- Photos, iMovie, GarageBand
- macOS

This computer system will be the hub of audio studio operations. It will be the main system on which instructors and students navigate the studio's other hardware and software components (microphones, audio interfaces, control boards, Pro Tools, etc.).

Apple computer systems are standard to most digital creative industries, including the audio recording industry. All students will be expected to have a fundamental knowledge of the Apple OS and how it integrates all components of a recording studio.

Various PCs were considered. However, given that most professional recording studios run their systems with Apple computers, this particular iMac is the best fit for outfitting the audio recording studio as a facility that trains work-ready graduates.

- **Avid ProTools Ultimate Perpetual License—1 at $2,599.00**

- https://shop.avid.com/ccrz__ProductDetails?cclcl=en_US&rdp=1637270296811&sku=DYNA20004&viewState=DetailView&cartId=84a1aaee-dc52-4443-9e60-2c57063138fe&reloaded=true

The latest version of ProTools will help to attract potential students to audio recording courses. ProTools is vital for editing, recording, and mixing audio, and the recording studio does not have the most recent version. This version of ProTools has a perpetual license that does not have to be renewed annually.

TOTAL—$13,582.00

Audio Recording Request_FA21

Final Audit Report 2021-11-19

Created:	2021-11-19
By:	Rhett Poche (pocher@mybrcc.edu)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAOKbGALvT85w2dbNNqJ1pho4wUONDNbqI

"Audio Recording Request_FA21" History

Document created by Rhett Poche (pocher@mybrcc.edu)
2021-11-19 - 7:34:17 PM GMT- IP address: 174.69.226.34

Document emailed to Gail Suberbielle (suberbielleg@mybrcc.edu) for signature
2021-11-19 - 7:34:53 PM GMT

Email viewed by Gail Suberbielle (suberbielleg@mybrcc.edu)
2021-11-19 - 7:49:05 PM GMT- IP address: 174.69.226.34

Document e-signed by Gail Suberbielle (suberbielleg@mybrcc.edu)
Signature Date: 2021-11-19 - 7:49:27 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 174.69.226.34

Agreement completed.
2021-11-19 - 7:49:27 PM GMT

Adobe Sign