



Executive Action Sheet for Senate Legislation

Senate Bill 329-

Resolution 329-

I, Meghana Boojala, President of the Student Assembly of William & Mary do hereby:

Approve

Veto

The Student Assembly Senate Legislation:

President, 329th Student Assembly (21-22)

DATE:

329th Student Assembly,
Senate Bill 329-029

A Bill

A Student Assembly sponsored event to promote the history of African- American individuals on campus as well promote the gathering and fostering of relationships between students in the Black community

The Fourth Annual Sankofa Gala Act

An Act of the 329th Student Assembly of William & Mary,

Sponsored by Senator Taylor Fox ('24) and Senator Shaunna Scott ('23)

Co-Sponsored by Senator Daniel Bess ('24)

Supported by Secretary of Diversity Initiatives Victor Adejayan ('23), Undersecretary of Multicultural Affairs Chance Jimenez ('23), and Undersecretary of Multicultural Affairs Alton Coston ('23)

WHEREAS, the College of William and Mary has expressed its dedication to diversity initiatives and programming that allows the College to compensate for historical wrongs it has perpetrated against African-Americans through both direct action and complacency;

WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time for all Americans, especially African-Americans, to celebrate the contributions, cultural impact, innovation, and sociopolitical presence of the black community despite continuing efforts by majority groups to oppress, marginalize and discriminate against them;

WHEREAS, the past three iterations of the Sankofa Gala have created a sense of unity and spirit of rejoicing for William & Mary students during Black History Month, embodying the spirit of Sankofa, of reaching back and remembering the past in reverence and celebration;

WHEREAS, In the spirit of Sankofa we aim to acknowledge the past and its significant events while also educating the broader community as a collective and creating meaningful steps for progress into the future;

WHEREAS, This formal black-tie event will allow African-American students to come together at a lavish event to celebrate their presence and accomplishments especially their advocacy as well as providing an environment for African- American students to not dwell on being judged and they can be their true authentic selves around their black peers with great food and music;

WHEREAS, Culturally for African-American students great food, music, and deep conversations are the foundation of the community and how they establish lasting relationships;

WHEREAS, We hope the Fourth Annual Sankofa Gala will foster lasting relationships for African-American students and show a small portion of our full appreciation of their contributions to the William and Mary Community;

WHEREAS, Student Assembly and the Secretary of Student Life have been navigating the feasibility of sponsoring the Royal Ball (formerly King & Queen Ball) in Spring 2022 and have determined that Student Assembly will not revive this event in April 2022; thus leaving a \$9000 budget allocation in the SA Annual Budget (approved by EAC) that will go unused.

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Student Assembly of William & Mary:

1. Reallocates the \$9000 currently approved in the SA Annual Budget for the Royal Ball to be applied instead to support the costs associated with the 4th Annual Sankofa Gala.
2. Allocates an additional \$550 from the Student Assembly Reserves for the 4th Annual Sankofa Gala, to be held on Saturday, February 12th, 2022 from 7-9 pm in the Brinkley Commons Room of Miller Hall, accordingly:
 - a. Decorations - \$500
 - b. Catering and Food - \$5000
 - c. Local Musical Performers - \$4000
 - d. Flyers - \$50
2. Charges the sponsors of the bill with executing and planning this event in conjunction with the Department of Diversity Initiatives.
3. Charges the Student Assembly Photographer to take the event photos.
4. Charges the Outreach Department with promoting the event on Student Assembly social media accounts, and creating a flyer that can be printed and posted on social media. As well as translating the event design to a poster to be placed around campus, in an A-Frame, as well as on a bulletin board within the Sadler building.
5. Charges the members of the Senate within Student Assembly to repost flyers on Instagram and promote the event via group chats, and other formats of social media, or help the Outreach Department with hanging flyers.
6. Stipulates all unused funds be returned to the Student Assembly Reserves.