

PO Box 6304
Russellville, AR 72801
February 5, 2007

Dr. Robert Brown
President
Arkansas Tech University
Russellville, AR 72801

Dear Dr. Robert Brown:

I am a theatre major at Arkansas Tech University. Due to my dedication to school, I am now the student technical director. In addition to my departmental duties, I sustain a perfect grade point average. I feel that my time at your university is being well spent, but my technical training in theatre is being hampered by the absence of a substantial performance space.

The Techionery is currently serving as the main performance space for the program. This is a problem because the Techionery is an old gym. We are unable to have a fly system or rigging. The lights are hung from poles that have been draped between the support beams on the ceiling. The floor is very unsteady and plagued with holes. These problems have taught us how to be resourceful, but they have also robbed us of working in an environment that we will encounter in professional theatre.

I propose that a new theatre be built. I understand that theatre does not bring in much revenue, but adding a new theatre could be an asset to the school. A beautifully built theatre could draw prospective students to Arkansas Tech University. I have seen many prospective students turn up their noses at the condition of the Techionery. When we lose those students to schools with better theatres, Arkansas Tech loses those potential students' money.

In conclusion, Arkansas Tech University should invest in a new theatre. Once this is done, the Techionery will no longer be an embarrassment to the theatre department. The theatre would also draw in new students. Most importantly it would better educate and train theatre majors.

Sincerely,

Sarah Klocke