



## **Associated Students of Fullerton College Statement**

**Statement in Support of the Fullerton College French Film Festival, urging the Fullerton College Administration, Faculty, and Staff to Provide the Resources Necessary for This Enriching, Cultural Experience.**

**Author: Vice President of Records Grant DeVries, Vice President of Student Senate Kennedy DeVries, and Zathia Zarza**

**Voted on: 3/1/2022**

**Vote: Passed unanimously**

Fullerton College Administration, Faculty, and Staff,

For the last 11 years, the Fullerton College French Film Festival has provided students with an invaluable, firsthand experience to further their understanding of world cultures and films, introducing them to French and German song, dance, food, films, and language. Ultimately, the event fosters a level of cultural immersion that is difficult to find outside the countries that speak these languages. The benefits are not only joy amongst Fullerton College students, but also a new curiosity and love of learning when regarding the French and German cultures. The French Film Festival provides the space for students exploring humanities disciplines—particularly foreign languages—to apply and enhance their knowledge. This reality is even more crucial today, as the type of immersion experience the film festival provides has not been experienced by FC students in nearly three years. Students benefit immensely from interacting with and truly experiencing the material they are learning. After years of being online, it is these types of events, these types of programs that can and will bring a love of learning and even a sense of community back to Fullerton College.

Community is something that Fullerton College must continue to cultivate, as we return to campus. The FC French Film Festival is the perfect opportunity to not only meet new people, but develop lifelong friends and foster a sense of community. Providing Fullerton College students with the opportunity to work together and volunteer at the event—while also giving hundreds more the chance to attend—builds an invaluable sense of connection. Whether laughing over a French crêpe, crying while watching a French movie, or becoming totally embarrassed while

trying traditional German dance for the first time, the FC French Film Festival inspires people from across campus to unite in shared experiences. Students can interact, explore, and work together to not only bring the event to life, but to truly enjoy and learn from it, and they can do all this alongside and with the Fullerton College and Orange County communities. The FC French Film Festival does not only provide students and the community with the capability to explore French and German culture, it allows them to do it together.

The Associated Students of Fullerton College pledges to support this program any way it can and urges the campus community to do the same. In the past, the film festival has allowed for those involved in the French or German programs to volunteer at the event, working together to bring the film festival to life. This continues today. Students not only assist in the technical operations of the program, but are also invited to perform songs and dances that connect with French culture during the “cultural hour” of activities before the films begin. Being one of the most incredible aspects of the film festival, many talented students have already hurried to sign up for precious time slots, looking to celebrate French through their performances. However, to the dismay of students, recent difficulties have arisen with the acquisition of a sound system, without which Fullerton College students will not be able to perform. Every aspect of the F.C. French Film Festival is part of its magic, and this cultural hour is no exception. This hour of performances, food, and life is the heart of the film festival and its vision. Associated Students feels it vital that this plight be brought to the college’s attention, as we urge Fullerton College to support the F.C. French Film Festival in every way it can.

In summary, the Associated Students of Fullerton College supports in the strongest terms the support of the Fullerton College French Film Festival from faculty, staff, and administration. We urge Fullerton College to provide all necessary resources to sustain the illuminating nature and vitality of this amazing program.

Sincerely,  
Fullerton College Associated Student Senate