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Brie A Finegold* (briefly@math.ucsb.edu), Department of Mathematics South Hall Rm 6607, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106. *The Third Torus Complex is Simply Connected.*

The 3rd Torus Complex is a simplicial complex on which $SL(3, Z)$ acts co-compactly. The action is analogous to the action of $SL(2, Z)$ on the Farey Graph (the curve complex of the Torus). I will sketch a proof that the 3rd Torus Complex is simply connected and display a palindromic presentation of $SL(3, Z)$ that results from using basic ideas about Complexes of Groups. A palindromic presentation is one in which any relator written backwards is again a relator. (Received September 22, 2009)