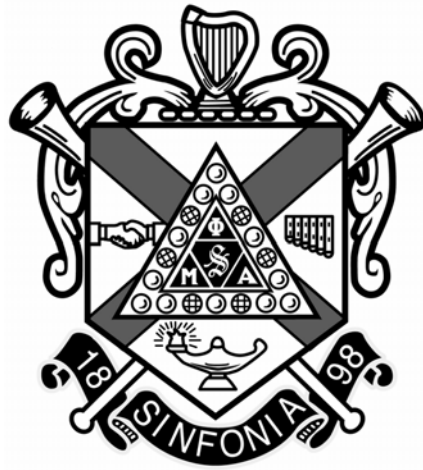


Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia



National Constitution

2000 National Assembly Revision

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NATIONAL CONSTITUTION

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, Inc. as adopted at the 2000 National Assembly

Editorial revision – February 2003

ARTICLE I

Name and Purposes

SECTION ONE. Name.

This organization shall be known as PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA FRATERNITY OF AMERICA, INC. The certificate of its incorporation was filed by the Department of State on August 26, 1904, under Section 5, Article I, of Chapter 43 of the General Laws of the State of New York.

SECTION TWO. Purposes.

The primary purpose of this fraternity shall be to encourage and actively promote the highest standards of creativity, performance, education, and research in music in America. Further purposes shall be to develop and encourage loyalty to the Alma Mater, to foster the mutual welfare and brotherhood of students of music, to develop the truest fraternal spirit among its members, and to instill in all people an awareness of music's important role in the enrichment of the human spirit.

SECTION THREE. Use of Name.

The name of this fraternity, or any part thereof, or derivative therefrom, may be employed only in connection with the official activities of a chapter or of the national organization. Special permission for the use of such name for other purposes may be granted only by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE II

Membership

SECTION ONE. Classes of Membership.

There shall be four classes of membership: probationary, collegiate, alumni, and honorary. Membership standings shall include: good standing and suspended.

SECTION TWO. Eligibility.

The spirit of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia dictates that the opportunity of becoming a Sinfonian be offered to as many men as possible regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or religion, who, through a love for music, can assist in the fulfillment of our fraternity's purposes and ideals either by adopting music as a profession, or by working to advance the cause of music in America. However, no man may be considered who is a member of any other secret national fraternal society in music, nor can he join any such organization so long as he remains a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

Collegiate membership may be conferred upon any man who is a student or faculty/staff member of the sheltering institution. In addition, not more than three persons otherwise qualified but not affiliated with the sheltering institution may be initiated each year. A student shall be eligible if he has achieved an academic standing acceptable for graduation from the sheltering institution.

SECTION THREE. Right to Confer Membership.

The right to confer collegiate membership shall reside exclusively with the collegiate chapters, the National Assembly, and/or the National Executive Committee.

SECTION FOUR. Probationary.

Candidates may be proposed for collegiate membership only by chapter members in good standing. They shall be admitted to probationary membership by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the chapter members in good standing who are present and voting. They shall participate in a probationary member program for a period of not less than four weeks nor more than three calendar months, or in accordance with the policies of the sheltering institution in consultation with the national staff. Should there be legitimate cause to reconsider a candidate during the probationary membership program, another three-fourths vote will be necessary to continue candidacy. A candidate who fails to successfully complete the probationary membership program, or who withdraws from probationary membership voluntarily, shall no longer be affiliated with Phi Mu Alpha. He may, however, be reconsidered for participation in a later probationary membership program.

SECTION FIVE. Collegiate.

Candidates must be probationary members who successfully complete the probationary member program and meet all national and chapter financial requirements in a manner satisfactory to the national staff. Prior to being initiated they must first be approved by secret ballot by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the collegiate members in good standing who are present and voting.

SECTION SIX. Alumni.

A collegiate member in good standing may be transferred to alumni membership by his chapter if he terminates his academic affiliation with his sheltering institution, if he is off campus for a professional semester (e.g. student teaching, internship), or if he has paid per capita taxes for eight semesters or its equivalent.

An alumni member may consider affiliating with a collegiate chapter pending an affirmative majority vote of its members. Upon acceptance he is entitled to all privileges of collegiate membership, and he must also assume all defined obligations and responsibilities.

SECTION SEVEN. Honorary.

Honorary membership may be conferred upon any distinguished male musician or patron of music. An honorary member shall be entitled to such benefits as determined by the National Executive Committee and listed in the fraternity's Guide for Ceremonies and Awards.

Chapter honorary membership may be conferred by any collegiate chapter in accordance with the General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters, Article VII. The initiation fee for an honorary member shall paid by the chapter.

National honorary membership may be conferred by the National Executive Committee. All national honorary members shall be initiated into the honorary Alpha Alpha Chapter.

SECTION EIGHT. Initiation Requirement.

No man may become a collegiate or honorary member without his personal attendance at an initiation ceremony, which uses the official national initiation ritual.

SECTION NINE. Good Standing.

A member is in good standing if he fulfills all the responsibilities of chapter membership as defined in Section Eleven of this article.

SECTION TEN. Suspended Membership.

Members who have been disciplined pursuant to Article XV, Section One, of the National Constitution and have been placed on suspension shall no longer be in "good standing" with the fraternity. While chapters may choose to allow suspended members to participate in meetings and activities, a suspended member has no voting rights, he may not be elected to any office, he is prohibited from purchasing fraternal merchandise, he may not act as a big brother or mentor. If an officer is placed on suspension, the office should be declared vacant and filled by election.

SECTION ELEVEN. Responsibilities of Chapter Membership.

It shall be the duty of each member to attend all meetings of the chapter; to pay promptly all financial obligations to both the chapter and the fraternity; to become acquainted with the National Constitution, the General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters, and the history of the fraternity; to support the efforts and objectives of the chapter and the fraternity.

SECTION TWELVE. Change in Membership Status.

Upon termination of academic affiliation with the sheltering institution, any collegiate member in good standing may: (1) Transfer to alumni membership; (2) Retain his collegiate membership by an affirmative majority vote of his collegiate chapter provided he continues to reside in the same community; (3) Transfer to another collegiate chapter contingent upon that chapter's receipt of his credentials from the national office, and upon a favorable majority vote of that chapter's members present and voting at any regular meeting.

SECTION THIRTEEN. Term of Membership.

Membership in this fraternity shall be for life, and it may not be terminated by the member. However, as stated in Article XV, a member may be suspended or expelled for due cause by the chapter of his affiliation or the Commission on Standards. Probationary membership may be terminated as provided for in Article II, Section Four.

ARTICLE III

National Officers

SECTION ONE. Names.

The officers of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, Inc., shall be the national president, the national vice president, the national secretary-treasurer, and the national historian.

SECTION TWO. National President and National Vice President.

The eligibility, election, term, and duties of the national president and national vice president shall be as described in Article IV.

SECTION THREE. National Secretary-Treasurer and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

The national secretary-treasurer shall be designated by the National Executive Committee from among its elected members.

An assistant secretary-treasurer, when so authorized by the National Executive Committee, may fulfill the responsibilities of the secretary-treasurer. He may be designated from among the committee's elected members, or a national staff member may be so designated.

The national secretary-treasurer, acting as national secretary, shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of all national assemblies, and shall send copies of such proceedings as approved by the national president to each member of the National Council not later than three months following such meeting. He shall conduct the correspondence of the national organization, and shall be responsible for all notices of the national assemblies and meetings of the National Executive Committee, and such other notices as may be requested by any national officer or by any member of the National Executive Committee.

As national treasurer, he shall be the custodian of the funds and property of the national organization. He shall be bonded in such amount and by such company as may be designated by the National Executive Committee, the expenses of the bond to be paid from the national treasury. He shall collect all dues, taxes, and other obligations owed by collegiate chapters or members of the fraternity to the national organization. He shall work with the national staff to prepare and submit to the National Executive Committee an annual budget of all anticipated income and expenditures of the fraternity for the next succeeding fiscal year. He shall, subject to the budget approved by the National Executive Committee, disburse funds from the fraternity by voucher signed by himself as national treasurer. He shall keep an accurate record of all collections and disbursements and shall at each National Assembly submit a report of the financial transactions of the fraternity and, upon the request of the National Executive Committee, at any meeting held by it. He shall devise a uniform system of bookkeeping and shall supply forms which shall be used by all chapters. He shall send to each chapter president not fewer than four times each year an itemized statement of all money received from his chapter and all charges levied against his chapter during the period since the last statement. He shall permit inspection by any member of the National Executive Committee of all books and records of the fraternity in his possession.

The treasurer shall be responsible for all investment property belonging to the corporation, including trust funds, scholarships, and endowment funds, and other special funds of whatsoever nature, with full power to manage, sell, invest, and re-invest the same or the proceeds thereof, subject to the written approval of the National Executive Committee.

SECTION FOUR. National Historian.

The national historian shall be appointed by the national president subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee. The national historian shall be responsible for the documentation, preparation, and preservation of all books and records relating to the history and development of the fraternity.

ARTICLE IV

National Executive Committee

SECTION ONE. Membership.

The National Executive Committee shall consist of the national president, the national vice president, two committeemen-at-large, the national collegiate representative, the chairman of the Province Governors' Council, and the chairman of the Collegiate Province Representatives' Council.

SECTION TWO. Eligibility.

The national president shall have served at least three years as a member of the National Executive Committee and/or have served at least seven years as a Province Governor and /or have been a Sinfonian in good standing for at least fifteen years.

The national vice president shall have been a Sinfonian in good standing who has been a Sinfonian for three or more years.

The national president and the national vice president may be elected to succeed himself in the same office. Neither officer may serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

The committeemen-at-large shall be Sinfonians in good standing who have been Sinfonians for three or more years. They may succeed themselves.

The national collegiate representative shall be a collegiate member who is in good standing at the time of his election and who is serving or has served as an elected officer in his chapter. He may not succeed himself.

The chairman of the Province Governors' Council shall be a province governor. He may succeed himself. However, if he ceases to be a province governor, he ceases to be eligible for reelection in this category.

The chairman of the Collegiate Province Representatives' Council shall be a collegiate province representative to the National Assembly. He shall be a Sinfonian in good standing that shall have served at least one year as an elected officer in his chapter. He may not succeed himself.

SECTION THREE. National Nominating Committee.

Prior to September 1 preceding a National Assembly, the national president shall appoint a National Nominating Committee consisting of the immediate past national president who shall serve as the chairman and vote only in the case of a tie; two province governors; one collegiate province representative; and the national collegiate representative. Members shall be subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee. During September preceding a National Assembly, the committee shall solicit letters from the entire fraternity naming possible nominees. The committee shall meet not later than January 1 immediately preceding a National Assembly to nominate one eligible candidate each for the office of national president, national vice president, committeeman-at-large, and national collegiate representative. Such nominations shall be reported, together with professional biographies of all nominees, to the chapters, province governors, collegiate province representatives, and National Executive Committee no later than April 1 preceding a National Assembly. On the day preceding the election, the names of the nominees shall be presented to the National Assembly, and thereupon any delegate to the National Assembly may place in nomination the name of any member of the fraternity who is eligible for national office.

SECTION FOUR. Election and Term.

The national president and the national vice president shall be elected and installed at each National Assembly. Each shall hold office for three years or until his successor has been elected and installed.

A committeemen-at-large shall be elected and installed at each National Assembly. He shall hold office for six years or until his successor has been elected and installed.

The national collegiate representative shall be elected and installed at each National Assembly. He shall hold office for three years or until his successor has been elected and installed.

The chairman of the Province Governors' Council shall be elected by the province governors at each National Assembly. He shall hold office for three years or until his successor has been elected and installed.

The chairman of the Collegiate Province Representatives' Council shall be elected by the collegiate province representatives at the National Assembly. He shall hold office for three years or until his successor has been elected and installed.

Elections shall be by secret ballot. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. If no candidate has a majority vote at the end of the first ballot, the three names having the largest number of votes shall be candidates during the second ballot. If no candidate has a majority vote at the end of the second ballot, the two names having the largest number of votes shall be candidates during the third ballot. If only three candidates are nominated, the second ballot shall be reduced to the two candidates with the largest number of votes on the first ballot.

SECTION FIVE. Vacancies.

The National Executive Committee may appoint a substitute to fill a National Executive Committee vacancy, however created. Such appointee shall hold office until the next National Assembly. If a vacancy occurs during a National Assembly, such vacancy shall be filled by election of the assembled delegates.

SECTION SIX. National President.

The national president shall be the chief executive of the fraternity. He shall preside at national conventions and at all meetings of the National Executive Committee. Subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee, he shall appoint province governors and members of the national committees and commissions who shall hold office at his pleasure, except when some other method of selection has been provided. Consistent with the National Constitution, he shall have power to grant special dispensations to enable any chapter to deal with unusual situations, except that without the approval of the National Executive Committee he shall not excuse any chapter from meeting financial obligations.

SECTION SEVEN. National Vice President.

The national vice president shall assume the duties of the national president in the absence or incapacity of the national president. He shall perform such duties as may be requested and authorized by the national president and/or the National Executive Committee.

SECTION EIGHT. Province Governors' Council Chairman.

The chairman of the Province Governors' Council shall preside at meetings of that council. He shall supervise the training of province governors. At each meeting of the National Executive Committee, he shall submit a written report of his activities since the previous meeting. At the beginning of each school year, he shall prepare and distribute to the governors a list of topics to be covered at the year's province workshop, along with such other workshop material as he deems appropriate. He shall act as a liaison between the governors and the National Executive Committee.

SECTION NINE. Collegiate Province Representatives' Council Chairman.

The chairman of the Collegiate Province Representatives' Council shall preside over meetings of that council. He shall encourage communication among the members of the council, promote interaction among the provinces, work to develop student leadership, and foster the cooperative spirit of the fraternity. At each meeting of the National Executive Committee, he shall submit a written report of his activities since the previous meeting. He shall act as a liaison between the collegiate province representatives and the National Executive Committee.

SECTION TEN. National Collegiate Representative.

The national collegiate representative shall represent the collegiate membership on the National Executive Committee. He shall encourage communication among collegiate chapters and promote interaction within the collegiate membership. He shall act as a liaison between the collegiate membership and the National Executive Committee.

SECTION ELEVEN. Powers and Duties.

The National Executive Committee shall oversee the affairs of the national fraternity. Meetings of the National Executive Committee shall be called by the chairman thereof, or by any three members of the committee. It shall meet at least once a year.

It shall adopt an annual budget and shall have exclusive power to authorize any expenditure in excess thereof, for any purpose consistent with the National Constitution. It shall provide a competent auditor to examine the accounts of the national secretary/treasurer at intervals of at least once every three years. It shall arrange for national assemblies. It shall hear and approve proposed amendments to the National Constitution and shall report them to the National Assembly or National Council. It shall serve as the fraternity's appellate body. It shall have the power after one month's notice and due hearing, to remove from office any member of the National Executive Committee.

SECTION TWELVE. Conduct of Affairs.

The National Executive Committee shall act by majority vote. When not convened, it may conduct affairs by correspondence. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION THIRTEEN. Reports.

The National Executive Committee shall, during each triennium, make at least three reports of the status and progress of the fraternity to the chapters. Such reports may be printed in an official publication of the fraternity.

SECTION FOURTEEN. Indemnification.

Each member of the National Executive Committee and each officer of the fraternity now or hereafter serving as such, including their heirs and personal representatives, shall be indemnified by the fraternity against any and all claims and liabilities to which such member or officer has or shall become subject by reason of serving or having served as such member of the National Executive Committee or officer; or by reason of any action alleged to have been taken, omitted, or neglected by him as such member or officer. The fraternity shall reimburse each such person for all legal expenses reasonably incurred by him in connection with any such claim or liability, provided, however, that no such person shall be indemnified against, or be reimbursed for any expense incurred in connection with, any claim or liability arising out of his own willful misconduct or gross negligence. The amount paid to any officer or member of the National Executive Committee by way of indemnification shall not exceed his actual, reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in connection with the matter involved. The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of other rights to which such persons may be entitled as a matter of law.

SECTION FIFTEEN. Expenses.

The reasonable expenses of National Executive Committee members incurred in the transaction of fraternity business shall be paid from the national treasury in accordance with the budget approved by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V

Committees

SECTION ONE. Standing.

The National Executive Committee may authorize the creation of standing committees which have continuing responsibilities. Members shall be appointed by the national president subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee. Each shall have included in its membership not fewer than one representative of the collegiate membership and one province governor in addition to representatives of such other areas of fraternal and musical interests as may be appropriate to the committee's activity. A member of the National Executive Committee shall serve as an ex officio member of each committee. The National Executive Committee representative to the Commission on Standards shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member. Committee members shall be appointed for terms not to exceed three years but may be reappointed for a total of not more than three successive terms.

SECTION TWO. Special.

When deemed necessary by the National Executive Committee, the national president may appoint members to a special committee that shall function until completing a specified assignment or until dissolved by the action of the National Executive Committee.

SECTION THREE. Functions.

Each committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the fraternity on matters within its area of interest and, in addition, may perform such operational functions within that area as may be delegated at the discretion of the National Executive Committee.

SECTION FOUR. Commission on Standards.

The Commission on Standards shall be a standing committee devoted to the development and welfare of chapters and colonies. It shall establish and review colony program requirements, approve colony applications, and monitor colony progress.

In consultation with the province governor, the Commission on Standards shall have the authority to place a chapter on reorganizational status or inactive status. It may develop operational or procedural standards for chapters and colonies for possible adoption by the National Fraternity. It may suspend or expel individual members in accordance with Article II, Section Thirteen.

ARTICLE VI

National Staff

SECTION ONE. Name.

The national staff shall consist of all individuals employed by the National Executive Committee.

SECTION TWO. Duties.

The national staff shall be responsible for the successful operation of the national headquarters, and shall assist members of the National Executive Committee in the execution of their constitutional responsibilities.

SECTION THREE. Supervision.

The national staff shall be supervised by the national president or by a staff member appointed by the National Executive Committee.

SECTION FOUR. Salaries.

National staff salaries shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the budget approved by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII

National Council

SECTION ONE. Membership.

The National Council shall be composed of the National Executive Committee, the province governors, and the chapter presidents (or their alternates).

SECTION TWO. Duties.

Between national assemblies, the National Council shall transact by correspondence any business of the fraternity not specifically referred to other governing bodies by the National Constitution.

SECTION THREE. Voting.

Votes on issues submitted by the national president or by the National Executive Committee shall be collected and counted by the national staff, who shall report the results as soon as possible to the members of the National Council. Votes must be cast within 30 days of postmark.

ARTICLE VIII

Province Structure

SECTION ONE. Provinces.

The United States shall be divided into provinces by the national president, subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee.

SECTION TWO. Province Councils.

A province may choose to establish a Province Council. Each council shall include that province's governor, its collegiate province representative, and equal representation from each of its chapters. The council should organize and concern itself with activities and decisions dedicated to the welfare of the province, membership education, chapter interaction, and the pursuit of fraternity goals.

ARTICLE IX

Province Governors

SECTION ONE. Appointment.

Subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee, the national president shall appoint a governor for each province, beginning June 1, preceding the National Assembly. The appointment shall be for a three-year term. At any time during this three-year term, and for just cause, a province governor may be removed from office by the national president.

SECTION TWO. Eligibility.

Any member in good standing who has been a Sinfonian for three or more years shall be eligible for appointment as a province governor. He may be reappointed.

SECTION THREE. Vacancies.

Subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee, the national president shall appoint a Sinfonian to fill a province governor vacancy, however created. Such appointee shall serve until June 1 preceding the National Assembly. He may be reappointed.

SECTION FOUR. Duties.

Each province governor shall be a member of the National Council and shall be the representative of the national president in all matters pertaining to activities of the chapters, colonies, and alumni associations in his province. He should visit each chapter, colony, and alumni association in his province when he deems it necessary, and shall make an official visit to each chapter in his province at least once within each triennium. In the event a chapter is not represented at a Province Workshop, the province governor shall visit that chapter as soon as possible and shall submit a report to the national staff. During an official visit he may: interview the chairperson of the music department; interview the faculty advisor; attend a formal meeting of the chapter; meet with the chapter officers as a group; inspect all chapter books, including specifically those of the treasurer, the secretary, and the alumni secretary; and look into other matters as he deems necessary. He may also inspect the condition of the chapter ritual equipment and, when possible, observe a performance of the ritual. The province governor shall be responsible for the inspection and installation of new chapters.

For just cause, after consultation with the affected chapter and with the approval of the national president, he may replace by appointment any chapter officer within his province or may declare an office vacant and direct the chapter to fill it by election.

For just cause and with the approval of the national president, he may remove the collegiate province representative or assistant collegiate province representative from office. If an elected assistant is not available to assume the vacated office, the province governor shall fill the office by election or appointment at his discretion. If the assistant collegiate province representative is removed in the manner outlined above the position shall be filled by election or appointment at the province governor's discretion.

SECTION FIVE. Province Governors' Council.

The province governors shall organize themselves as a Province Governors' Council for the purpose of advising the National Executive Committee on the operations of the fraternity. At each National Assembly they shall elect a chairman, who shall represent the council on the National Executive Committee. A secretary shall also be elected and shall assume the chairmanship should it become vacant.

SECTION SIX. Reimbursement.

The province governor shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of his duties so long as those expenses are in accordance with the budget approved by the National Executive Committee.

SECTION SEVEN. Deputy Province Governor.

The national president may appoint a deputy province governor for certain provinces, subject to the ratification of the National Executive Committee. The deputy governor will assist the province governor, upon the governor's request, in the performance of his duties. Because he may serve in lieu of the province governor, he therefore should meet the same eligibility and appointment requirements. A deputy province governor shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of those duties of the province governor so long as those expenses have been approved in advance by the province governor and are in accordance with the budget approved by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X

Collegiate Province Representatives

SECTION ONE. Election.

At its workshop, each province annually shall elect one collegiate member to serve as collegiate province representative. The province may also elect one collegiate member to serve as assistant collegiate province representative. The terms of these offices shall be one year. Province representatives elected during the spring academic term shall assume office on September 1. Province representatives elected during the fall academic term shall assume office at the conclusion of the fall academic term.

SECTION TWO. Eligibility.

The collegiate province representative shall be a collegiate member in good standing who shall have served at least one year as an elected officer in his chapter. The criteria for the assistant collegiate province representative shall be commensurate. Each may succeed himself.

SECTION THREE. Duties.

The collegiate province representative shall assist the province governor as described in Article IX, Section Four. He shall also perform other duties as specified by the province governor. These duties may include assisting in the preparation of the province workshop, production of a province newsletter, and organization of a province council. He should accompany the province governor on official visits when feasible and should make informal visits to chapters as necessary. He shall submit typed copies of the province workshop minutes to the chapter presidents, faculty advisors, the province governor, and the national staff. He should also file a report of his activities with the province governor and the chairman of the Collegiate Province Representatives' Council. As a member of the collegiate province representatives' council, he shall attend annual meetings of the council. As a delegate to the National Assembly, he shall attend the National Assembly when it falls within his term of office.

SECTION FOUR. Vacancies.

The assistant collegiate province representative shall assume the office of collegiate province representative should the office become vacant. In the event the office again becomes vacant, it shall be filled by election or appointment at the discretion of the province governor.

SECTION FIVE. Collegiate Province Representatives' Council.

The collegiate province representatives shall organize themselves as the Collegiate Province Representatives' Council for the purpose of advising the National Executive Committee on the operations of the fraternity. At each national assembly they shall elect a chairman, who shall represent the council on the National Executive Committee. A secretary shall also be elected and shall assume the chairmanship should it become vacant.

SECTION SIX. Reimbursement.

The collegiate province representative shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of his duties so long as those expenses shall have been approved in advance by the province governor and are in accordance with the budget approved by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XI

Chapters

SECTION ONE. Classes of Chapters.

There shall be one class of chapter: collegiate

SECTION TWO. Formation of Chapters.

Collegiate chapters may be formed by the granting of charters to petitioning groups in universities, colleges, or schools of music in accordance with the official procedures for Sinfonia colonies.

SECTION THREE. Installation of Chapters.

Chapters shall be installed by the national president, by a province governor, or by any other member of the fraternity designated for the purpose by the national president.

SECTION FOUR. Conduct of Affairs.

Chapters shall conduct their affairs in accordance with the National Constitution, the General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters, and other regulations as determined by the national fraternity.

SECTION FIVE. Transfer of Charters.

In no case shall a charter to a chapter at one institution be transferred to any group at any other institution not the legitimate successor of the institution to which the charter was originally granted; nor shall the chapter name be assigned elsewhere.

SECTION SIX. Discipline.

Chapters are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Article XIV of the National Constitution.

SECTION SEVEN. Initiation Equipment.

Each chapter shall be responsible for maintaining a satisfactory set of initiation equipment.

SECTION EIGHT. American Music Program.

Each chapter shall present annually at least one program devoted exclusively to the music of American composers.

SECTION NINE. Special Observances.

Each chapter shall observe two anniversaries of the fraternity annually. These shall be Founders Day (October 6), and Chapter Day (installation date of such chapter).

ARTICLE XII

Collegiate Chapters

SECTION ONE. Governing Document.

Each chapter shall develop its organization and policies in accordance with the National Constitution and the rules and regulations of its sheltering institution. Any policy or action of the chapter or members thereof which is in violation of such policies or of legal responsibility shall be considered the responsibility of the local chapter or the members involved.

SECTION TWO. General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters.

Each chapter shall abide by and conduct business activities in accordance with the General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters. A chapter shall have the right to appeal to the National Executive Committee concerning any rules contained in the General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters which conflict in any way with the policies of its sheltering institution.

SECTION THREE. Faculty Advisor.

Each chapter annually shall elect a faculty advisor who is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. He may be reelected without limitation in accordance with the policies of the sheltering institution. Chapters may elect more than one advisor.

SECTION FOUR. Chapter Officers.

Each chapter shall annually elect in accordance with the General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters a president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer, a historian, a warden, an alumni secretary, a fraternity education officer, a faculty advisor, and such other officers as it may deem necessary. Chapter officers shall fulfill their responsibilities and conduct chapter affairs in accordance with the National Constitution, the General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters, and other regulations as determined by the national fraternity.

SECTION FIVE. Chapter Reports.

All collegiate chapters shall submit to the national headquarters semiannual chapter reports which must be postmarked on or before November 1 (Fall Report) and March 1 (Spring Report). These shall be prepared on the forms provided by the national headquarters and shall be accompanied by the required per capita tax and convocations tax.

SECTION SIX. Per Capita Tax.

During each academic year each chapter shall pay to the national headquarters the current per capita tax for each member of such chapter. Payment shall be made in two equal installments: postmarked on or before November 1, and on or before March 1, and shall accompany each chapter report.

SECTION SEVEN. Convocations Tax.

Each collegiate chapter shall contribute annually to the Convocations Fund by remitting the current convocations tax to the national headquarters. Payment shall be made in two equal installments simultaneously with the chapter reports postmarked on or before November 1 (Fall Report) and March 1 (Spring Report).

SECTION EIGHT. Reorganizational Status.

When a chapter is having severe difficulty maintaining a minimum standard of viability, the province governor or the Commission on Standards may place the chapter on reorganizational status. This rehabilitative status is intended to be used only as a last resort and shall last no longer than twelve (12) months. During that period, the chapter may have its normal rights, privileges, duties, and/or obligations modified by the province governor in consultation with the national staff. In addition, the chapter shall undertake activities prescribed by the governor which are intended to help the chapter overcome the difficulties which caused it to be placed on reorganizational status. Should the chapter fail to accomplish its prescribed activities or to return to good health through reorganization, the Commission on Standards may, in consultation with the province governor, place the chapter on inactive status.

The Commission on Standards will consider placing a chapter on reorganizational status if it fails to submit chapter reports twice in succession and/or reports no initiations for twelve (12) months. Should the Commission on Standards conclude that the situation warrants disciplinary action, it may, in consultation with the national president and province governor, expel the chapter or place it on suspension.

SECTION NINE. Inactive Status.

If a chapter becomes so small that it is unable to function effectively, or the enrollment of students in the sheltering institution becomes so small that it is no longer possible to support an efficient chapter, or, in the judgment of the province governor or the Chairman of the Commission on Standards, it seems desirable as an aid to the amelioration of chapter difficulties, the Commission on Standards may place a chapter on inactive status. If a chapter is made inactive, remaining members of the chapter who are in good standing shall be transferred to alumni membership. Members not in good standing shall be expelled. The chapter may be reactivated through the Colony Program.

ARTICLE XIII

Alumni Associations

SECTION ONE. Purposes.

The purposes of the fraternity are basic to alumni as well as collegiate chapters. To promote these purposes, alumni associations shall act in support of collegiate chapters, shall encourage and enable alumni members to retain identity with the fraternity, shall engage in or support such musical projects in the community as promote the ideals of the fraternity, shall maintain a continuing spirit of brotherhood among men of music, shall aid deserving students of music in whatever way possible, and shall encourage and support local music programs.

SECTION TWO. Charter.

Subject to approval by the Commission on Standards, an alumni charter may be granted to twelve (12) or more petitioners.

SECTION THREE. Charter Fee.

Upon the granting of a charter to an alumni association, it shall pay to the national headquarters the charter fee as approved by the National Executive Committee.

SECTION FOUR. Organization.

Alumni associations may adopt bylaws consistent with the National Constitution.

SECTION FIVE. Electing Members.

Associations shall have the right to elect to membership any alumni Sinfonian.

SECTION SIX. Dues.

Alumni associations shall be assessed dues in an amount equal to the annual alumni dues set by the National Executive Committee for each member, due no later than June 1 of each year.

SECTION SEVEN. Reports.

Each alumni association shall report no later than June 1 of each year to the national headquarters concerning its activities, membership, and financial condition. It shall report to the national headquarters all changes in membership and officers.

SECTION EIGHT. Discipline.

Alumni associations may be placed on probation, be removed therefrom, or be expelled from the fraternity in the same manner as and subject to the same conditions as collegiate chapters consistent with Article XIV of the National Constitution.

Individual alumni members may be placed on probation, be removed therefrom, or be expelled from the fraternity in the same manner as and subject to the same conditions as collegiate members consistent with Article XV of the National Constitution.

SECTION NINE. Inactive Status.

In case the membership of an alumni association becomes fewer than four, the Commission on Standards shall have the right to place the association on inactive status.

ARTICLE XIV

Chapter Discipline

SECTION ONE. Probation.

If a chapter becomes delinquent in any of its operational and/or financial obligations to the national fraternity, or is suspected of unbecoming conduct, the province governor or the Commission on Standards in consultation with the province governor may place the chapter on probation. While on probation the chapter may continue to meet and function even though the conditions of probation may include suspension of the right to initiate members, forfeiture of reimbursement for convocation expenses, and/or such other reasonable and appropriate conditions.

If the delinquency is in the filing of chapter reports, probation shall be imposed automatically on November 15 (in the case of the fall report) or March 15 (in the case of the spring report). Chapters placed on probation for this reason will be restored to good standing automatically as soon as the delinquency is rectified.

A chapter placed on probation due to suspected unbecoming conduct can be restored to good standing by the Commission on Standards in consultation with the province governor, placed on reorganizational status (see Article XII, Section Eight), or considered for suspension or expulsion.

SECTION TWO. Suspension.

If a chapter demonstrates unbecoming conduct, the Commission on Standards in consultation with the province governor may place this chapter on suspension. While on suspension a chapter cannot meet, function, or conduct probationary membership activities for a period of time not to exceed 60 days during which a decision will be made leading to further action. The Commission on Standards in consultation with the province governor may restore a suspended chapter to good standing, place it on probation, or consider it for expulsion.

SECTION THREE. Expulsion.

If a chapter fails to respond to previously defined disciplinary actions or is guilty of unbecoming conduct, the Commission on Standards may expel a chapter currently on suspension or probation. Should the chapter be expelled, the national staff shall take appropriate measures to reclaim the charter and other fraternity insignia. Remaining collegiate members of the chapter are automatically expelled. Such members have the right to appeal their expulsion in accordance with Article XV, Section Two. The charter of an expelled chapter will be retained by the national fraternity and can be reinstated if a chapter is reactivated through the colony program at a later date.

ARTICLE XV

Individual Member Discipline

SECTION ONE. Suspension.

For conduct which is harmful to the chapter but which does not warrant expulsion a member may be suspended from chapter membership by at least a three-fourths vote of the members present and voting in a regular or called meeting with a quorum present. Reasons may be: financial delinquency, a grade standing lower than that required for membership, persistent unexcused absences from chapter meetings, disregard for chapter welfare, and other causes deemed adequate and reasonable.

At least one week before action is taken, the member shall receive official written notification which shall explain the reasons for proposed suspension and the actions necessary for reinstatement. He shall be entitled to personal interviews with the chapter executive committee and the faculty advisor.

The name of a suspended member shall be reported to the national headquarters at the time of suspension and again when suspension is removed. During the time of suspension, per capita tax for the suspended member shall not be paid by the chapter to the national headquarters. However, before reinstatement, the tax for the period of suspension shall be remitted in full by the member to the chapter and forwarded to the national headquarters with authorization to remove suspension.

A member who fails to remit per capita tax to the chapter before the date on which the chapter report is filed shall be automatically suspended without necessity of a chapter vote.

If suspended for financial delinquency, a member shall be reinstated automatically upon payment of his indebtedness. If dues in arrears are not paid within 60 days of the date of suspension, the suspended member shall be considered for expulsion from the fraternity. In cases of emergency, such a member may appeal to the chapter executive committee for an extension of time.

If a suspended member is not reinstated before the date of his graduation or departure from the sheltering institution, he shall be expelled from the fraternity and shall receive immediate written notification from the chapter of such action, a copy of which must be filed with the national headquarters within 30 days.

SECTION TWO. Expulsion.

For conduct which is harmful to the best interests or good name of the fraternity, a member may be expelled from membership in the fraternity by a three-fourths vote of chapter members in good standing. The member involved shall first receive written notification and shall have the privilege of personal interviews with the chapter executive committee and the faculty advisor. Such interviews may be waived by the member. The written notification shall contain the reasons for the proposed action, shall state time and place of the proposed interviews, and shall state the member's right of appeal to the National Executive Committee should such action be effected.

For conduct which is harmful to the best interest or good name of the fraternity, any member may be expelled from membership in the fraternity by majority vote of the Commission on Standards. The member involved shall first receive written notification and shall have the privilege of an interview with the Commission on Standards. The member may waive such an interview. The written notification shall contain the reasons for the proposed action, shall state time and place of the proposed interview, and shall state the member's right of appeal to the National Executive Committee should such action be effected.

The name of any person who has been so expelled shall be reported within 30 days to the national headquarters. He shall relinquish all emblems and insignia of membership, which shall be forwarded to the national headquarters. All money paid to the chapter and the national headquarters will be nonrefundable. Any person expelled from membership may appeal such expulsion to the National Executive Committee, which shall have final jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XVI

Fraternity Convocations

SECTION ONE. Names.

Fraternity convocations shall include the National Assembly, regional conventions, and province workshops.

SECTION TWO. Conduct of Affairs.

Fraternity convocations shall be conducted in accordance with the National Constitution.

SECTION THREE. Credentials.

Before being allowed to vote at any fraternity convocation, a delegate shall present such credentials from his constituency as shall establish his identity to the satisfaction of a committee on credentials to be appointed by the presiding officer.

SECTION FOUR. Proxies.

Voting by proxy shall not be permitted in fraternity convocations.

SECTION FIVE. Parliamentary Authority.

When parliamentary authority is requested, a fraternity convocation shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order - Newly Revised (1990 Edition).

SECTION SIX. Attendance.

Fraternity convocations are open to all members in good standing. However, the right to vote shall be reserved for official delegates in accordance with the National Constitution.

ARTICLE XVII

National Assembly

SECTION ONE. Assembly Call.

A National Assembly shall be held triennially: 1994, 1997, et seq., at a time and place determined by the National Executive Committee. At least two months prior to the date set for a National Assembly, the national president shall announce to the collegiate province representatives, the province governors, and the National Executive Committee, the place, date, and time of the first meeting of such Assembly, and shall outline the business which is expected to be conducted.

SECTION TWO. Delegates and Voting.

The delegates of the National Assembly shall be the members of the National Executive Committee, the province governors, and the collegiate province representatives, each of whom shall have one vote. Those chairmen of national commissions who are not included in any of the foregoing categories shall be considered ex officio delegates of the National Assembly without vote. A province governor or collegiate province representative who also serves as a member of the National Executive Committee shall have only one vote.

SECTION THREE. Duties.

The National Assembly shall elect the officers of the national fraternity, enact legislation pertaining to national policies and procedures, act upon proposed amendments to the National Constitution, and the General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters, review national programs, and fulfill such advisory and resource roles as may be required for the good of the fraternity.

SECTION FOUR. Chairman.

The national president shall serve as chairman of the assembly and shall be responsible for its planning and execution.

SECTION FIVE. Quorum.

A quorum shall consist of the majority of attending qualified delegates.

SECTION SIX. Expenses.

The national fraternity shall pay for round-trip travel from the location of the chapter or the legal residence of all delegates to and from the assembly site. Hotel lodging and reasonable meal expenses during the National Assembly shall also be paid by the national treasury.

ARTICLE XVIII**Regional Conventions****SECTION ONE. Regions.**

Regions shall be defined as geographic areas encompassing two or more provinces. Regions shall not be considered operational or political entities. Boundaries of the various regions shall be determined by the National Executive Committee.

SECTION TWO. Assembly Call.

Regional conventions can be held at a time and place determined by the province governors involved and with the advice and consent of the National Executive Committee. At least six weeks prior to the date set for a regional convention, the convention chairman shall announce to the collegiate chapters, the faculty advisors, the province governors and collegiate province representatives in the region, and the National Executive Committee, the place, date, and time of the convention and shall outline the agenda.

ARTICLE XIX**Province Workshops****SECTION ONE. Assembly Call.**

A workshop shall be held annually in each province at a time and place determined by the province governor. As early as possible in advance of the province workshop, the province governor shall announce to the collegiate chapters, the alumni associations, the faculty advisors, and the national headquarters, the place, date, and time of the first meeting of the workshop and shall outline the agenda.

SECTION TWO. Voting.

Each chapter shall be entitled to a maximum of five voting delegates who are chosen from among collegiate members in good standing except that the faculty advisor of a collegiate chapter shall be considered one of the five voting delegates if he is present. Delegates in excess of five per chapter, including probationary members (with appropriate restrictions) and alumni members, may participate fully in workshop activities but may not vote.

SECTION THREE. Duties.

The planning and execution of the workshop shall be the responsibility of the province governor with assistance from the collegiate province representative. The workshop shall include, but not be limited to: orientation for chapter officers;

cooperative province projects; discussion of matters of national, province, and local concern; interaction and communication between chapters; and consideration of such other matters as may be directed by the national fraternity.

SECTION FOUR. Expenses.

The national fraternity shall pay round-trip mileage for one car from the location of each represented chapter to the site of the province workshop. Reasonable province governor and collegiate province representative expenses shall be reimbursed.

ARTICLE XX

Ritual and Symbols

SECTION ONE. Pledge and Initiation Rituals.

Ritual scripts for the purpose of pledging and initiating probationary members shall be prepared under the direction of the National Executive Committee, and shall be supplied at cost to all chapters.

SECTION TWO. Memorizing Rituals.

All rituals of the fraternity shall be presented from memory.

SECTION THREE. Official Insignia.

Each probationary member of the fraternity shall receive an official pledge pin, which shall be surrendered at the close of the probationary period. Each man initiated into full membership shall receive an official pin, certificate of membership, and songbook. Additional insignia may be made available to members as approved by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XXI

Publications

SECTION ONE. The Sinfonian.

The official publication of the fraternity shall be called THE SINFONIAN. It shall be published no more than four times each year except by vote of the National Executive Committee and shall be sent without charge to each collegiate member of the fraternity who is in good standing.

SECTION TWO. Other Publications.

Upon direction of the National Executive Committee, the national staff shall prepare and publish in lieu of, or as a supplement to, one issue of THE SINFONIAN, such publications as the history of the fraternity, the National Constitution, General Regulations for Collegiate Chapters, a roster of the chapters, or similar desirable publications.

ARTICLE XXII

Sinfonia Foundation

There has been organized by the authority of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, Inc., the SINFONIA FOUNDATION, a corporation not for profit incorporated under the laws of the State of Kentucky, for the purpose of complementing and augmenting the fraternity's first purpose, TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF MUSIC IN AMERICA.

ARTICLE XXIII

Appeals

SECTION ONE. Procedure.

Any individual, collegiate chapter or alumni association may exercise the right of appeal by sending said appeal to the national headquarters. Copies of the appeal will be presented to the National Executive Committee. Within twenty days of

its deliberation the National Executive Committee will forward its decision to all parties involved. Decisions of the National Executive Committee shall be final.

SECTION TWO. Form of Appeal Papers.

All papers in connection with an appeal shall be typewritten. Legible copies of appropriate supporting documents should be included with the original letter of appeal.

ARTICLE XXIV

Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the fraternity, the directors and members shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the fraternity, dispose of all the assets of the fraternity exclusively for the purposes of the fraternity in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the directors and members shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall, upon final dissolution, escheat to the State of New York for exclusively public purposes.

ARTICLE XXV

Amendments

SECTION ONE. National Assembly.

Amendments to the National Constitution may be adopted by the affirmative vote of two thirds of those qualified delegates present and voting at the National Assembly. Anticipated amendments shall be published to the chapters and delegates at least two months prior to the National Assembly.

SECTION TWO. National Council.

Upon recommendation of the National Executive Committee, amendments to the National Constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds affirmative vote of a valid National Council ballot. Proposed amendments shall be published to all members of the National Council at least two months prior to the dissemination of ballots. A valid National Council ballot shall be defined as a majority return of all disseminated ballots.