Constitution of Odissi at Ohio State (O2)  
Born in April 2014

Preamble

We, the students of The Ohio State University, create a student organization to be called Odissi at Ohio State. Operating within the student legislative body as well as under faculty administration, our mission is to promote cross-cultural mingling through an ancient dance form of India, Odissi. We want to showcase the art form on this international platform to promote the rich cultural heritage of India while embracing other cultures leading to a cross-cultural camaraderie. Our goal is to channelize the vibrant energy of dance lovers in an intense yet creative fashion. Believing in the motto “Work is Worship”, O2 will go beyond the narrow barriers of racism to launch this organization where every activity will be dealt with transparency forging ahead for the betterment of mankind as a whole. We will be establishing a strong dance repertory and use it as a medium to reach out to the greater community of Columbus resulting in useful interactions of the OSU student body with the people from outside the university. Via regular performances O2 promises to foster lasting relationships with different cultures of the world along with the vibrant community of artists at OSU. O2 wants to make creative movement and dance education and experience available to all those interested. O2 will promote dance as a prayer and as a means of spiritual growth, connecting to the Divine, culminating in the integration of the mind, body and spirit. O2 is accessible to both undergraduate and graduate student community wanting to expand their horizon both spiritually and energetically while establishing lasting relationships with the world culture.

We recognize that certain statutes of the Ohio Revised Code and bylaws of The Ohio State University Board of Trustees govern the administration of The Ohio State University. Accordingly, we recognize our freedoms with respect to these existing statutes.
**Article I: Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization**

Section I: The organization shall be called **Odissi at Ohio State (O2)**

Section II: The purpose of O2 is to employ the Indian dance form of Odissi towards showcasing talent, community outreach, and fostering inter-cultural exchange. O2 has the following goals:

1. O2 wants to bring the rich and varied culture of India on the world platform through Odissi dance.

2. O2 will build a strong dance repertory representing this art form in as many cultural and professional events as possible. As an unregistered organization its members have already represented the university in various cultural and professional events. It wants to continue doing the work being under the banner of a registered student organization such that more and more OSU students can benefit.

3. Teaching and learning this intricate and aesthetic dance form, O2 wants to make dance education available to all, exposing the members to professional level performances. It wants to engage OSU students towards international outreach building strong inter-cultural ties and productive relationships.

4. O2 will frequently hold extended workshops that will promote useful interactions and exchange of ideas between international artists, performers, dance exponents and scholars with the OSU student body and interested members not only in the city of Columbus but also outside of the USA.

Section III: Non-discrimination Policy of O2

This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) for reasons of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

**Article II: Qualifications and Categories of Membership**

General Membership

Membership is free and voluntary for undergraduate and graduate students of The Ohio State University. O2 invites honorary members from the greater community of Columbus who need to pay $20 for an annual membership. All members enjoy discounts on ticket prices for all the O2 events. The members also benefit from scholars and performers who come to
share their knowledge in O2 workshops and events. Odissi performance repertory is chosen through an audition exercise. The auditions depend on the performance venue, act and required number of people. Repertory membership is contingent upon a minimum required attendance at rehearsals.

Voting Membership

Voting membership is limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students only. Members can be a part of the election procedure if and only if

a. They have shown active participation in O2 events.
b. They have taken leadership initiative in at least two O2 events as volunteers, public relation officers or repertory members.
c. They are full-time OSU students with a valid Buck-ID and dot number.
d. Clauses (a), (b) and (c) hold for members hoping to contest elections.

Article III: The Executive Committee

Organization leaders represent the general membership. The leaders are nominated from the student members. They are elected by organization’s voting membership. There will be three major titles of organization leaders forming the Executive Committee—Founder, President and Treasurer. All positions in the Executive Committee are to be held annually for the academic year beginning Fall semester until the Fall semester of the following year. New Executive Committee members will be elected at the beginning of spring quarter. They will work with the previous board in an apprenticeship role in order to ensure smooth execution of the organization during the transition between the previous committee and the newly elected committee Members of the Executive Committee must attend all O2 meetings unless they have a valid reason for absence. The job descriptions are as follows:-

Founder: Primary leader

1. Will be the public face and the spokesperson for the organization.
2. Will be proactive in generating interest for executive committee meetings for conceptualization of projects.
3. Will provide a leadership model and set guidelines for all projects and initiatives taken by the organization
4. Will be instrumental in respecting differing viewpoints and unify them towards the goal of service to the community of artists, students and the greater community inside and outside the university.
5. Will direct executive committee meetings.
6. Will be the artistic voice for the organization. Will be responsible for all artistic and cultural productions.

President

1. Will be organizing rehearsal schedules.
2. Will maintain a ledger for scheduled appointments with performance venue directors.
3. Will be responsible for overall event management and coordination.
4. Will maintain clear communication with cultural festival organizers.

Treasurer

1. Will be responsible for all monetary transactions in O2
2. Will need to maintain transparent accounting.
3. Will be responsible to present the detailed balance accounting for existing, allocated as well as collected funds from fund-raisers, student organization funding and from community membership.
4. Will conduct public relations and non-monetary marketing activities for O2 performance troupe.

The executive committee members shall not discriminate against any individual members for reasons of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

**Article IV – Method of Selecting and/or Removing Officers and Members**

Membership Decorum:

1. Members are expected to attend meetings at least four times a month.
2. Repertory members need to attend rehearsals at least twelve times a month.
3. Repertory members are required to attend timely rehearsals.
4. Members are expected to deliver responsibilities entrusted upon them by the executive committee (president, treasurer and the repertory manager).
5. Hazing is strictly prohibited and needs to be reported immediately to the student organization office.
6. If any voting member or a member of the executive committee is charged with being tardy and inefficient, he or she will have a hearing in the next general weekly meeting. The organization will provide a probationary period of two weeks to prove responsible action. The accused will be allotted ten minutes to present his or her case. At the end the members will vote for or against the motion. A voting member will need more than fifty percent votes to remain in the organization. In the case of a student
officer, he or she needs to win by a two-thirds majority in order to remain an officer. If the member loses in the voting process, an interim leader may be elected, self-appointed or nominated until the next academic year. The interim leader needs to conduct his or her responsibilities till the next elections. He or she may or may not choose to stand for the next elections.

Article V: Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification criteria

1. The appointed advisor must be an Ohio State Faculty or Administrative & Professional staff.
2. The advisor needs to be sensitive to visual or performing arts.
3. The advisor should encourage students and provide useful suggestions for optimal operating conditions.
4. The advisor is not required to attend any organization event.
5. The advisor is required to attend training once every two years.

Article VI: Meetings of the Organization: meetings, practices and their frequency

1. There will be weekly general body meetings and people will be assigned projects across the university throughout the year.
2. The repertory meets twice a week for rehearsals in general and thrice a week for rehearsals two weeks prior to the show all through the academic year.
3. Free dance classes will be offered once in two weeks for the OSU students and the members from the community.
4. The Executive Committee members are required to attend all the meetings and rehearsals. Absences will be entertained only on the premise of a valid excuse.
5. Prior notification via email is mandatory in case an officer is unable to attend a meeting.

Article VII: Amendment of the Constitution

The amendment of the constitution can be proposed by either a member of the organization or the Executive Committee. Each amendment needs to be discussed extensively and debated over a period of at least two months. It needs to be brought to a motion and a final hearing requiring a two-third majority in order to prevail.
Article VIII: Method of Dissolution of Organization

The organization can undergo dissolution during any school year only after approval of the organization’s members by a third-majority. In the case of remaining assets, all assets will be donated to the Department of Dance at The Ohio State University since the founder member is a Dance graduate student.