

The Constitution of

# The New Music Collective

## Article I.

### Section I. The New Music Collective

Let it be resolved, that this Student Organization shall henceforth be known as “The New Music Collective.”

### Section II. Purpose.

The mission of The New Music Collective is to engage in all aspects of the performance of a wide variety of Twentieth and Twenty-First Century music, with the main goal of the ensemble being the performance of selected works in concert and other performance venues.

The New Music Collective holds it to be self evident that the performance of contemporary music of multiple styles, genres, aesthetics, instrumentation, notation methods, sound production methods, instrumental techniques, and performance practices is central to the development and education of the contemporary academic musician.

The name of the ensemble reflects the underlying structure of the organization: a primary goal of the New Music Collective is to ensure that all members of the ensemble are involved in all aspects of its music production, from the basic acts of rehearsing and performing new and contemporary works, to concert planning, programming, repertoire choice, collaboration with guest performers, conducting, rehearsal management, writing program notes, and even composition of new works for the ensemble.

The goals and objectives of the New Music Collective are:

- i. To plan, rehearse, and perform at least one concert / performance of new music per academic quarter / semester, with preference given to at least two such concerts / performances per quarter / semester.
- ii. To collaborate with guest composers and performers from the campus community, the Columbus area, Ohio, and the musical community at large, including student composers from the Ohio State University;

- iii. To engage in and explore multiple styles of music from the Twentieth and Twenty-First century, including, but not limited to: conventionally notated works of all Twentieth and Twenty-First Century genres, graphically notated works, text instruction pieces, improvisations, indeterminate works, theatrical or performance art pieces, electronic music, electro-acoustic music, and the nearly infinite kaleidoscope of additional musical styles that have come to be since the Twentieth Century, including those styles not yet created.
- iv. To expand upon the traditional classical concert format in ways that provide a more interactive experience between performer and audience, and to experiment with entirely non-traditional concert experiences.
- v. To ensure that all members of The New Music Collective are actively involved in all aspects of the Collective's musical activities, and to ensure that in all its actions, the ensemble remains true to its "Collective" nature, that being a group of musicians cooperating and collaborating to perform contemporary works of art.

### **Section III. Non-discrimination Policy.**

The New Music Collective 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, veteran status, or political affiliation.

### **Article II. Membership.**

As a performing ensemble, general membership in The New Music Collective shall be defined as open to any and all musicians willing and capable to participate in the stated goals, purpose, and mission of The New Music Collective, and subject to the Non-discrimination policy of The New Music Collective, and the membership bylaws thereof. However, voting Members of the New Music Collective shall be limited to currently enrolled students at the Ohio State University. General membership is open to any musicians from the campus or Columbus area willing and capable to participate in the stated goals, purpose, and mission of The New Music Collective, including (but not limited to) alumni, faculty, and staff of The Ohio State University, and guest performers and composers from the campus community, Columbus or Ohio area, and general musical community abroad.

### **Articles III. Organization Leadership.**

The leaders of The New Music Collective shall consist of the President, General Manager, Associate Manager, and Treasurer. The rolls and terms of office of each leader shall be as follows:

i. **President.** The President's term of office shall be one full year. The roll of the President is to preside over all meetings, organize the agenda of meetings, represent The New Music Collective on campus, and ensure that the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by the Ohio Administrative Code including the Rules, Regulations, and Bylaws of The Ohio State University, The Ohio State University Operating Manual, the Code of Student Conduct and guidelines promulgated by the Vice President for Student Life.

ii. **General Manager.** The General Manager's term of office shall be one full year. The function of the General Manager is to preside over meetings in the absence of the president, maintain an accurate record of all organization meetings and post for members, schedule concerts, rehearsals, and meetings with guest composers, guest performers, or any other guest collaborators and post for members; maintain an archive of recordings (audio or video), repertoire, personnel, program booklets, or any other documentation of the New Music Collective's activity, and be contact the members of The New Music Collective (via email, etc.) concerning all rehearsals and other matters which pertain to the activities of the Collective.

iii. **Associate Manager.** The Associate Manager's term of office shall be one full year. The function of the Associate Manager is to fulfill the duties of the General Manager in his/her absence, maintain a membership directory, coordinate organization promotion and publicity of events, compile biographies, program notes, and any other information for each concert/event program booklet, and maintain the New Music Collective's websites (official webpage, Facebook, etc.).

iv. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer's term of office shall be one full year. The duties of the Treasurer are to maintain accurate records of organization transactions, collect dues if required, develop the organization budget and present it to the membership; arrange fund-raising opportunities for the organization as necessary, and solicit additional funding if needed from the Student Government Association in conjunction with the President.

### **Article IV - Executive Committee**

The executive committee of the New Music Collective is comprised of the faculty advisor, president, general manager, assistant manager, and the treasurer.

## **Article V. Standing Committees.**

Standing committees, when needed, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, or created on a volunteer basis from general members of The New Music Collective membership.

## **Article VI. Method of Removing Officers and Members.**

If actions by an officer or member of the New Music Collective are deemed inappropriate by the membership of the New Music Collective, he/she may be removed from the Collective. Any officer or member of the New Music Collective may bring forth a motion to remove an officer or member by consulting the faculty advisor. The faculty advisor must then approve an election of the general membership for the removal of an officer or member. Before the deliberation and election, the officer or member is permitted to speak before the executive committee and the general membership about the charges made concerning his/her performance. The officer or member in question may be removed from office by 66% vote and majority rule by a quorum of the executive committee. The officer or member is not permitted to participate in the deliberation of the general membership and executive committee regarding the charges.

## **Article VII. Advisor(s).**

The advisor of the New Music Collective shall be a faculty member of the Department of Music Theory and Composition at The Ohio State University, with preference given to a member of the Compositional faculty.

## **Article VIII. Meetings of The New Music Collective.**

As a performing ensemble, the majority of meetings of The New Music Collective shall take the form of rehearsals in preparation for each performance. Rehearsals shall occur at a minimum rate of one per week per performance event, unless deemed otherwise by the members of the Executive Committee. Specific dates, times, and locations for each weekly rehearsal (meeting) shall be set by the General Manager, and communicated to the members of the New Music Collective.

## **Article IX. Method of Amending Constitution.**

Proposed amendments should be in writing, should not be acted upon but read in the general meetings in which they are proposed, should be read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken. Approval will require at least 75% of all current New Music Collective members present and a 66% vote.

## **Article X. Method of Dissolution of The New Music Collective.**

Whereas the New Music Collective and its members hold that the performance of contemporary compositions of the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries is crucial towards the development and education of the contemporary musician, and the musical community of Columbus and The Ohio State University:

- i. The dissolution of the New Music Collective shall be accomplished only with a 100% rule of the voting members;
- ii. And the unanimous rule of the voting members of the Executive Committee. Should the ruling of the executive committee be contrary to that of the general voting membership, the Executive Committee shall have veto power over all matters of the dissolution of the New Music Collective.

# Bylaws of The New Music Collective

## **Article I. Parliamentary Authority.**

The rules contained in Robert's Rule of Order shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of this organization.

## **Article II. Membership Procedures.**

**I. Membership.** The New Music Collective shall not restrict membership in the organization in violation of the Collective's non-discrimination policy (Article I, Section III of the Constitution of the New Music Collective).

However, as an ensemble dedicated to the performance of contemporary music from the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries, the willingness and capability to perform this body of music must be present in each member of the New Music Collective.

Specifically, each member of the New Music Collective must demonstrate:

- i. The willingness to engage in the performance of contemporary musical literature and the goals of the New Music Collective, as defined in Article I, Section II of the Constitution of the New Music Collective.
- ii. The musical capability to achieve these goals. "Musical capability" shall be defined as proficiency in at least one instrument or method of performance or style of music making, which includes (but is not limited to) acoustic instruments, vocal performance, conducting, theatrical / performance art training, electronic media, and other forms of sonic or art production.

Any musician demonstrating the willingness and capability (as defined above) to meet the stated goals and purpose of the New Music Collective (as defined in Article I, Section II of the Constitution) to the general verbal consensus and satisfaction of the existing members of the New Music Collective and its Executive Committee shall be granted membership in the New Music Collective, with the following stipulations:

- i. Should the "general verbal consensus and satisfaction" of the existing members of the New Music Collective be too difficult to ascertain, then the admission of the musician in question shall be decided by a minimum of a 51% majority vote of the voting membership;

- ii. The members of the Executive Committee shall have veto power over all matters of membership concerning the New Music Collective, and a veto decision shall be enacted by a majority rule of a quorum of the Executive Committee.

**II. Termination of Membership.** Any member of the New Music Collective who wishes to terminate his or her membership must supply a written notice of withdrawal to the Executive Committee. The member seeking withdrawal must ensure an appropriate amount of time for the New Music Collective to enact any programming or personnel changes for any pending, predetermined performances. Termination will be enacted after the completion of any pending performances in which the member is involved.

**III. Dues.** No dues shall be required of the members of the New Music Collective. Should the need for membership dues arise in the future, the Collective shall amend the Constitution and its bylaws as necessary.

### **Article III. Election / Appointment of Government Leadership.**

Any members at the undergraduate or graduate level interested in becoming an officer must be a full time student with a minimum 2.5 GPA. Members may nominate themselves or other members. All nominations must be sent to the faculty advisor, who will compile the nominees into a ballot system. Nomination requests will be accepted on a rolling basis until the election.

The election of officers will take place at the second annual meeting of the general membership. Each member of the New Music Collective, including the faculty advisor, will receive one ballot and vote for a maximum of one nominee in each position. Any ballots that fail to comply with these rules will be discarded. Election of the New Music Collective's organization leaders will require a 51% majority vote from the general membership of the New Music Collective. If a candidate fails to receive a majority of votes, a run-off election will be held between the two candidates that received the most votes. After the votes are tallied by the faculty advisor, the faculty advisor should inform the inducted officers and the general membership of the results in a timely fashion.

Once elected, the president and treasurer must attend one training session at the Center for Student Leadership and Service. Presidents and treasurers must attend training each year, while advisors must complete training every three years. As set forth in Article VI of the constitution, elected officers may be removed from their positions for any activity deemed inappropriate by any member(s) of the New Music Collective.

To resign from any executive committee position, an officer must submit a letter of resignation to the faculty advisor and the executive committee with at least two weeks notices of their desired departure date. Upon removal/resignation of an officer, the faculty advisor will appoint a member of the New Music Collective to assume the duties of the vacant position.

#### **Article IV - Executive Committee**

The executive committee of the New Music Collective is comprised of all elected officers and the faculty advisor. The executive committee's foremost duty is to ensure that the New Music Collective's mission, policies, and reputation are upheld at all times. The executive committee shall meet in addition to regular organization meetings. The executive committee shall appoint auxiliary committees if they are needed to carry out organization goals.

#### **Article V. Standing Committees.**

Standing committees, only as needed (based upon the determination of the members of the Executive Committee) shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, or comprised of members of the general New Music Collective, on a volunteer basis. The specific duties of each Standing Committee shall be determined and set forth by the Executive Committee.

Should the functions of each Standing Committee be deemed necessary to the continuing operations of the New Music Collective, the New Music Collective shall amend the Constitution and its bylaws to incorporate the functions of the Standing Committee in question.

#### **Article VI. Advisor Responsibilities.**

- i. The functions of the advisor of The New Music Collective shall be three fold:
  - a. To advise and provide general information, suggestions, and feedback to the members of The New Music Collective concerning all aspects of its music making activities, including but not limited to: repertoire choices, programming decisions, Twentieth and Twenty-First Century performance practices, and rehearsals;
  - b. To assist and advise the Executive Committee and other members of the New Music Collective in enlisting guest performers, composers, commissions for the ensemble, and securing performance venues and spaces;



- c. To be a performing member of The New Music Collective.
- ii. Preferably, the advisor shall be present at all Special Meetings of the Executive Committee, though the absence of the advisor shall not result in the cancellation of any meeting.
- iii. The advisor shall be present at all general meetings of the New Music Collective which constitute a rehearsal of a piece in which he/she is performing. However, the advisor's attendance is not required at meetings / rehearsals for pieces in which he/she is not performing.
- iv. The General Manager shall keep the advisor informed concerning all decisions, actions, and rehearsals / meetings enacted in the absence of the advisor.

## **Article VII. Meeting Requirements.**

- i. **Regular Meetings.** Regular meetings of The New Music Collective shall consist of weekly rehearsals for each performance event. The specific dates, times, and locations of the regular meetings (rehearsals) shall be set by the General Manager, and communicated to the members of The New Music Collective.
- ii. **Special Meetings: Executive Committee.** The members of the Executive Committee, along with other members of The New Music Collective as needed per performance and on a volunteer basis, will meet an additional five times per performance event per quarter, according to the following scheme:
  - a. **First Special Meeting.** This shall take place at the earliest possible convenience, including during the academic quarter / semester prior to the quarter / semester of the performance in question. The purpose of this meeting is to make preliminary suggestions and choices of repertoire for the performance.
  - b. **Second Special Meeting.** The second special meeting shall be a follow up meeting to the First Special Meeting, and at this meeting further decisions concerning repertoire, guest performers, and other issues relating to the performance in question shall be addressed.
  - c. **Third Special Meeting.** The third special meeting of the Executive Committee shall be a logistical meeting, wherein tasks concerning the performance in question are partitioned between members of the Executive Committee and other members of the New Music Collective, such as the writing of program notes, conducting decisions, drawing stage diagrams, making provisions for instruments and additional guest

performers needed for the performance in question, and any other logistical matter deemed germane to the performance in question.

- d. Fourth Special Meeting. The fourth special meeting shall take place no later than one week prior to the performance in questions, and shall be a pre concert planning session, in order to assure that all details which pertain to the performance in question have been met.
- e. Fifth Special Meeting. The fifth special meeting of the Executive Committee shall be a post concert meeting (to take place no earlier than one week after the performance in question, in order to provide the benefit of the perspective of time). This meeting shall be open to all members of the New Music Collective. The efficacy of the performance in question shall be openly discussed, and suggestions made for the improvement of future concerts.

The dates, times, and locations of all Special meetings of the Executive Committee shall be set by the General Manager, and communicated to the members of the Executive Committee, and all other members of the New Music Collective who wish to participate in these meetings.

iii. **Special Meetings, General Membership.** Special meetings of the general body of The New Music Collective shall consist of dress rehearsals for each upcoming performance event. The dress rehearsal dates, times, and locations shall be set by the General Manager, and communicated to the members of the New Music Collective.

iv. **Determination of Quorum, Attendance.** Whereas the majority of meetings of The New Music Collective shall consist of rehearsals for each performance event, necessary attendance of certain members at regular meetings (rehearsals) shall be determined by the General Manager, based upon the specific pieces being rehearsed at each meeting, and the performers playing on each piece.

- a. For each performance, the General Manager shall determine a specific schedule for the rehearsal times of each piece, and notify the appropriate members of the New Music Collective of the rehearsal times of the piece which pertains unto them.
- b. **Quorum, General Membership.** For all matters placed before the voting members of the general membership, a minimum quorum of 66% of the voting members of the New Music Collective shall be required.

- c. **Quorum, Executive Committee.** Attendance of all members of the Executive Committee is expected at all Special meetings of the Executive Committee. However, a quorum shall be reached by a 3/5 attendance of the members of the Executive Committee. All matters before the Executive Committee shall be decided by majority rule of those present (two-thirds, three-fourths, or three-fifths, depending on the presence of a three, four, or five person quorum, respectively.)

## **Article VIII. Method of Amending By-Laws**

By-laws may be amended by proposing in writing and reading the change at a general meeting of the membership and then bring the proposed change up for a vote at the next general meeting with 66% majority vote of the current membership present (a quorum being present).