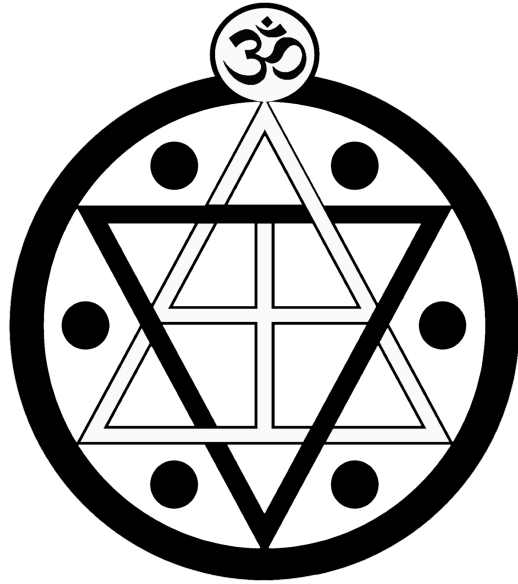


# The Celestial Forum



**Constitution**

## **Article I. Purpose**

### **Preamble**

The Celestial Forum is a pluralistic religious society for the discussion and expression of the Abro-Gnostic and Indo-Dharmic religions. While the Celestial Forum is centered around these two broad categories of religious expression, the focus is on the concepts found across these religions, and these concepts are not exclusive to only these groups. The Celestial Forum is not intended to be a sanctuary for these beliefs, or the beliefs of any other groups. Instead, the Forum is a society where both critique and praise are celebrated, and the freedom of speech for both is protected.

### **Goal**

The objective of the Celestial Forum is to create an environment where religion can be explored and expressed both critically and salvifically. The Forum seeks to be a society where religious beliefs can be shared without zealotry, while also being a society that can critique these beliefs without falling into cynicism.

### **Target Members**

Due to the nature of the Celestial Forum, adherents of a Dharmic or Gnostic religion are apt members for the Celestial Forum, but they are by no means the only ones suited for being members of the Forum. The Celestial Forum is an open society willing to explore religions in all forms. Because of this, any religious or spiritually minded individual interested in theology would be a fitting member of the Celestial Forum.

### **Non-Discrimination Policy**

The Celestial Forum does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

## **Article II. Events**

### **Forum**

Forums are regularly held discussion-based events over a prepared topic. Potential topics are not restricted beyond being required to be religiously relevant. Forum topics should typically be determined during an assembly and be revealed prior to the forum taking place. A delegate for the forum should be chosen alongside the topic to function as a mediator for the discussion. A delegate is tasked with keeping a forum discussion on topic and does not actively take part in the discussion for that forum. Forum events are open to the public, but only members of the Celestial Forum are allowed to take part in the discussion itself.

### **Assembly**

Assemblies are meetings of the Consulate and Curiate for the management of the Celestial Forum. All voting takes place at Assembly, and the planning of events, elections, and other deliberations for the Forum primarily take place at Assembly. Assemblies may be restricted for only certain members of the Forum depending on what is being deliberated, but normally assemblies are open to all member of the Forum to attend even if they are not allowed to vote .

### **Celebration**

Celebrations are festivals and ceremonies held on specific occasions of religious commemoration. These celebrations can broadly take on many forms, and may come directly from the practices of present and past religions or be syncretic in nature. In the case of the celebration coming from another religious faith, the event should be conducted to be as true to the faith as possible, if this is not feasible then the event should not be attempted.

## **Article III. Membership**

### **Membership**

General membership into the Celestial Forum is limited to enrolled Ohio State students and other non-student members such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc. All positions in the Celestial Forum are open to enrolled students while other members are limited to the Consortium. As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. The Consulate make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of the Forum. Consortium or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority general vote by the Assembly.

### **Consortium**

The Consortium is the general stratum for the Celestial Forum and is composed of non-student members, and students affiliated with the Forum but not full members and students who either rarely attend events or those who have recently joined. All members of the Consortium may participate in Forums, attend Assembly, and help prepare and conduct Celebrations.

### **Curiate**

The Curiate is composed of full members of the Celestial Forum who are its representatives and officials. Representatives are affirmed and active members who participate in Assembly and in general votes. Officials are the Dignitas and are members with an active duty and role within the Forum beyond consistent participation, a Dignita is a committee voter.

### **Consulate**

The Consulate is the executive committee of the Celestial Forum with three roles, the First Consul, the Second Consul, and Proconsuls. The First Consul is the current leader and the Second Consul is the secondary leader and the proceeding leader. Proconsuls are the founding members of the Forum and all former First Consuls who continue to remain active and valid members. Proconsuls are lead officials for administrative votes, both Consuls and Proconsuls are consular voters.

## **Advisory**

The Advisory is a specific position for Advisors of the Forum. They are full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. If a person is serving as an advisor who is not a member of the above classifications, a co-advisor must be chosen who is a member of these University classifications. The role of an advisor for the Forum is to provide academic insight as well as support for events held by the Celestial Forum. Advisors do not vote or are elected, but instead serve a position as representative for the administration of the university.

## **Article IV. Organization**

### **Voting**

There are three tiers of votes held by the Celestial Forum; general, standing, and consular votes. General votes are the broadest form of vote, including all full-time student members. Committee votes are held by the Consulate and the Dignitas of Committees relevant to the vote being cast. Consular votes are the highest form of vote, a consular vote passes when approved by at least two of three from the First Consul, the Second Consul, and the majority of the Proconsuls. Every potential event of the Forum must be approved by a consular vote.

### **Committee**

Committees are composed of Dignitas of a shared role within the Celestial Forum. Committees are lead by a Proconsul. In the absence of an eligible Proconsul, a Committee can be lead by a Dignita of the Committee. In either case, the Committee head is an elected position voted on by the Consulate and the Dignitas of said Committee. The position is re-elected with a one semester term and no term limits.

### **Consulship**

The Consulate is an elected position by a majority general vote with a term of a year and a four term limit. Potential Consuls must be full time members of the Forum and must be at least part of the Curiate. There are two Consuls, the present First Consul and the prior Second Consul. The First Consul is either affirmed or a new Consul is elected and the First Consul becomes the Second Consul, and the prior Second Consul becomes a Proconsul.

## **Amendation**

Proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be discussed in Assembly, then discussed again in at least two proceeding Assemblies before a general vote is done with at least two-thirds of all voters (including potential absent voters) approving the amendment. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.