RISE: The Black Wellness Alliance
Constitution & By Laws at The Ohio State University

Article I - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization
Section 1 - Name: The name of this organization should be RISE: The Black Wellness Alliance.

Section 2 – Purpose - The purpose of this organization is to create a safe space for Black students to be open and reflective, while exploring various experiences to enhance emotional, social, and career wellness. We will serve as a resource for our Black Community, establishing connections, engaging with stimulating and interactive meetings, in addition to the abundance of professional development opportunities we will make available to the Black population attending Ohio State. Our overall goal is to prepare students for their lives post-undergrad, creating a generation of leaders ready to make their mark in a world full of possibilities. We shall rise!

Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy:
"The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a diverse community to reflect human diversity and to improve opportunities for all. The university is committed to equal opportunity, affirmative action, and eliminating discrimination. This commitment is both a moral imperative consistent with an intellectual community that celebrates individual differences and diversity, as well as a matter of law.
Ohio State 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, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment." [00312468-1]
This organization 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, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.
As a student organization at The Ohio State University, Black Humanities (BH) expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf.
If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at http://titleIX.osu.edu or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleIX@osu.edu.

Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership.
The organization’s voting membership should be limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students. Others non-student members, such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc., may become members, but only as non-voting associate or honorary members. For educational and leadership development reasons, student organizations are to be student initiated, student lead, and student run.
II.a. As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Active members and Executive Committee are able to make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of an organization. Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Article III – Methods for Removing Executive Officers
Expectations for Executive Board:
- Attend ALL training sessions
- If you are missing an E-Board or general meeting, you must communicate that with the Co-Presidents
- If you are more than 30 minutes late to the meeting, it will count as an unexcused absence.
- You are allowed 2 unexcused (with prior warning) absences to any Executive Board Meetings and Training Sessions
- 3 unexcused absences: Conversation with the Exec Board
- 4+ unexcused absences: Dismissal from E-Board

**What counts as an Excused Absence?**
- Illness
- Family Matters (Death, visit, etc.)
- Exam during meeting time
- Out of town
- Class
- Anything that is urgent and unpreventable

**What counts as an Unexcused Absence?**
- Forgot about the meeting
- Being more than 30 minutes late to a meeting unless previously communicated
- Anything that is preventable and not urgent

**RBWA Strike Policy**
- You are allowed 3 strikes per year
  - 1 Strike: Written Warning
  - 2 Strikes: Verbal Warning
  - 3 Strikes: Dismissal from E-Board

**Removal Policy**

III.a. *If an elected officer engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization’s constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the elected officer will automatically be removed if they attain three strikes unless they request to put it up to a majority vote of the Executive Board. If they decide the latter, the officer will be required to present methods on improvement and/or provide justifications for their behavior. From there, the Executive Board will decide whether or not the officer should remain in the position.*

III.b. *Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Board may act for removal based on the strike system set into place.*

III.c. *In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), {00312468-1}*

III.d. *A strike system will be placed into effect to monitor the behavior of Executive Board members. Each officer is allowed three strikes per year. More than three strikes will result in removal from the position.*

**Outlined below are various behaviors and activities that will result in a strike:**
1. If you do not respect those within the organization or the organizations guidelines.
2. Failure to perform duties assigned more than three times warrants one strike.
3. Three unexcused absences warrant two strikes.
4. Four or more unexcused absences warrants three strikes.

Article IV - Organization Leadership:
Required leadership positions:

General Requirements for all the Executive Board:
1. Contribute and present material during General Body meetings
2. Regular attendance at bi-weekly General Body meetings
3. Regular attendance at weekly E-board meetings
4. Complete all required trainings

Primary Leader (President(s))-Full academic year:
1. Contribute and present material during general body meetings
2. Attend weekly E-board meetings as well as general body meetings
3. Facilitate and Lead both Executive and General Body meetings
4. Complete all required trainings
5. Follow up with fellow executive board members
6. Enforce Strike System

Secondary Leader (Secretary)-Full academic year:
1. Attend weekly E-board meetings as well as general body meetings
2. Assist President in tasks
3. Facilitate Executive and General Body Meetings in absence of President(s)
4. Taking Minute Notes during Executive Board meetings
5. Coordinate with President(s) to make sure all meeting points are addressed in noted
6. Send minute note Google Docs to executive board

Treasurer-Full academic year:
1. Maintain past and current financial records
2. Lead fundraising activities
3. Monitor the RBWA banking account
4. Apply for funding for RBWA
5. Any other responsibilities as assigned

Marketing Executive
1. Creating Marketing Plans to communicate in exec board meeting
2. Lead Social Media Ambassadors Team
3. Guide Discussion with Future Presenter to create the marketing plan that they desire
4. Assist creation and delegation of flyers and marketing content

Social Media Ambassadors
1. Push it onto social media platforms (GroupMe, Instagram, LinkedIn??)
2. Communicating and Executing plans alongside the marketing executive
3. Facilitating various aspects of Black Student Outreach (Help make plans to get people in the meetings)
Outreach Director
1. Working alongside the Presidents in partnering with new Presenters, Potential Mentoring Opportunities
2. Facilitating Email Discussion keeping all Presenters, Network, and Community updated on what events are happening in Black Humanities (MailChimp)
3. Find new connections and potential partnerships to improve overall student engagement

Secretary
1. Having General Body Meeting Highlights, addressing quotes said and major key takeaways
2. Taking Minute Notes during executive board meetings and coordinating with the Presidents to make sure all meeting points are addressed in the notes
3. Send Google Docs to reflect on the content of the exec board meetings and what was talked about (Make it clear what they’re titled and where different info is)
4. Assist Presidents in tasks needed

All positions will be chosen by appointments.

Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership
Executive Board elections will be held annually during spring semester. In order to be eligible for office members must fulfill these requirements:
1. Be full-time Ohio State students
2. Be a Ohio State student for the entire academic year
3. Be able to attend weekly E-Board Meetings
4. Be able to attend bi-weekly RBWA general body meetings

In order to be considered for the Executive Board, members must complete applications even if they have held a certain position before. Once an application has been submitted, interviews and presentations will be conducted to determine the skills and experience of the candidate. After interviews and presentations have commenced, the Executive Board will decide the best candidates for each position. The founder Timothy Hinton will remain President until graduating.

If someone resigns or is impeached, a replacement will be found immediately either by appointment by the Executive Board or through an application and interview process (if necessary). The executive board will split the responsibilities of the lost position until a replacement is found.

Article VI–Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria.
Advisors of student organizations must be 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.
VIa. Expectations of advisor: See article IV

Article VII – Meetings and events of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency.
Required meetings and events and their number should be specified in the governance documents and should reflect the organization’s expectations for all members. For example:
IX. Two general meetings and attendance at all or 50% of events hosted may be required for membership each academic term except for summer.

Article VIII– Attendees of Events of the Organization: Required events and their frequency.
The organization reserves the right to address member or event attendee behavior where the member or event attendee’s behavior is disruptive or otherwise not in alignment with the organization’s constitution. {00312468-1}

**Article IX – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements.**

XI. Any 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 read in the general meeting, then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken, and should either require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

**Article X – Method of Dissolution of Organization**

Requirements and procedures for dissolution of the student organization should be stated. Should any organization assets and debts exist, appropriate means for disposing of these assets and debts should be specified clearly and unequivocally. Upon the official dissolution of the organization, Student Activities staff must be contacted to remove organization information from website. {00312468-1}

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