**Dance of the Soul from China Constitution**

Current revision by Anna Zheng (President) April 4, 2025

**Article 1: General Provision**

1. Name of the Organization:

-Dance of the Soul from China

1. Non-discrimination Policy:

Dance of the Soul from China is committed to provide everyone a chance to learn, perform, and lead dance practice and lecture based on Chinese culture, which is free from discrimination 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 basis. Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

Dance of the Soul from China agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination 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 basis in accordance with these guidelines.

If your organization wishes to add additional categories to the above language, please add a section below the above paragraph with this information. NOTE: The paragraph above cannot be changed or altered. You may not remove categories from the above section.

Section B. Hazing

Dance of the Soul from China agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.

1. Our Mission:

•Create, practice and perform traditional Chinese cultural dance

•Host workshops and cultural events to reach out to organizations from different culture backgrounds and promote communication and cooperation

• Showcase the beauty behind Chinese culture through art

1. Concept:

* **Attitude:**

**Theory:** Dance can be described as art from the soul. A person with or without skill can express themselves through dance if they hold passion. Dance of the Soul’s priority is to spread cultural awareness to audience members through our choreography across campus and beyond. Through our organization we hope to gather students who show willingness to learn and are dedicated to our mission.

**Application:**

1. Evaluate the performance of a group member not based on her or his skill of dancing but how he is passionate and devoted to our training.

2. Open membership as of right now due to limited members but if interest exceeds beyond capacity an official application or audition process will be mandated

3. Application would we sent to interested individuals that require them to state their interest in our organization, previous experience, and a video or photo showcasing a dance or any skill that they think would add to the organization

* **Leading role:**

**Theory:** Everybody should have a chance to be a leader. A leading role allows members to feel engaged and involved in our dance organization. Everyone is given the opportunity to showcase their skills by leading the rest of the group through teaching at dance practices in preparation for performances.

**Application:**. Any member can have the opportunity to choreograph once they have at least been an active member with Dance of the Soul for an entire school year. A choreo proposal form is required to be submitted to the lead choreographer for approval before auditions for spots in the dance can be held. If approved, choreographers will work alongside the lead choreographer to complete the dance in time for performances. Choreos will be approved based off execution and if the choreo aligns with the goals of the organization in representing the beauty behind authentic Chinese culture.

* **Base and Audiiton choreo:**

**-**Each semester there will be a base dance where all members are free to participate in regardless of skill.

**-**In addition, there will also be audition choreos that have a pre-specified number of spots determined by the choreographer. Once approved by the lead choreographer, audition videos will be due 2 weeks after. The allocation of available spots will be voted on anonymously by the primary leader, choreographer, and an outsider (with a dance background) after thorough discussion.

* **Culture:**

**Theory:** Dance is not simply just the movement of the body but also holds an important cultural significance. When we take the time to understand the history behind the culture, we can create better dances for audience members that showcase the beauty behind it.

-Explore the beauty of Chinese dance and the culture behind it

-Participate in activities with different culture exhibitions.

-Hold culture events, gathering, and performances for cultural Chinese celebrations every year.

**Application:** Every time we learn a new type of dance, we should not only learn the movement, but also the cultural significance and story behind it through the sharing of sources, participation in group discussions, and performing at cultural events throughout the school year.

**Creativity:**

**Theory:** We always believe that communicating between two different things will create the spark of truth. Diversity is like different colors of flowers in the spring and various shapes of leaves in the summer.

**Application:**

-Create new dances inspired by the diverse array of Chinese dances across different regions of China.

-Incorporate different mediums and modern music into our choreographs

* **Team bonding**

**Application:**

-Keep record of birthdays and wish members a happy birthday in group chat

-Hold team bonding events such as movie nights, escape rooms, team dinners, and other fun activities at least twice a semester, that members can choose to participate in.

**Article 2: Membership**

1. Membership in Dance of the Soul is open to all students to uphold the non-discrimination policy.
2. General Membership:

* Any person who shows interest in Dance of the Soul can attend our regular weekly practices. Membership is obtained and maintained through the payment of a semesterly club fee of 15 dollars, payment of their individual dance uniforms, participation in at least one dance per semester starting their second semester, and regular attendance to practice.
* A point system will help keep track of attendance. Points will be allocated to members who are tardy (20-minute grace period), failure in informing absence 24 hours before the scheduled event (except in emergencies), and failure to provide a legitimate reasoning for no shows/tardiness after expressing availability beforehand. After the third point, the individual’s membership will be reconsidered by the executive board.
* Privileges and Rights includes, but not limited to, voting and standing for election, participation in any organization activities, suggestion and supervision of organization work, and initiation and quitting voluntary.
* Obligation includes, but is not limited to, implementation of organization accords and active participation in organization activities.

C. Official members

Official Member Benefit:

(Membership Fee: 15 dollars semesterly)

1. Opportunities to participate in dance performance and special events

2. Opportunities to apply for executive board positions

3. Opportunities to lead and choreograph dances under the supervision of the head choreographer

4. Opportunity to participate in voting

D. Creative Team

A dance audition is needed to be a member of our creative team. Our creative team will deal with choreography performed at dance competitions and other performance events.

E. Leading Group

Council Meeting System: Mandatory executive board meetings are held once a month to plan for events, discuss changes that are necessary, address issues, track progress, disperse roles, and share important announcements.

Officer duties and responsibilities:

President: Anna Zheng

-Complete the annual registration requirements

-Assign tasks to the executive board

-Approve Treasurer for funding use

-Co-sign organization bank account

-Effectively representing the organization to the community

-Primary contact for our organization

-Help manage conflicts

-Identify and prepare future leaders

-Providing motivation and support.

-Organize team bonding events

Vice-President: Ida Zheng

-Edit and manage music alongside choreographer

-Keep and record attendance (give warnings if needed)

-Speaker of decisions at meetings after approval by the President

-Communicate issues to President

-In charge of fundraising events

-Organize team bonding events

Treasurer: Lillian Chesak

-Keeping records of incomes and expenses for long-term financial security

-Apply for operating and programming funds

-Apply for grants with communication with the rest of the executive board.

-Promote financial wellness

-Monitoring spending of the organization

-Manage bank account for organization

-Assist vice-president in fundraising events

-Collect dues (e.g., semesterly application fees)

Advisor: Angela Li

-Complete trainings

-Rights to details in participation in own choreographies

-Supervise progress of choreographs led by other members

-Approve organization’s registration, funding requests, and goals.

Secretary: Sofia

-Keep all records (performance details, availability, group decisions, agenda, etc.)

-Be responsible in sharing performance opportunities and staying connected with organizations via email and Instagram

-Responsible for sending out a summary of each meeting within 48 hours of it being held

Lead Choreographer: Selina Wu

-Rights to details in participation in choreographies

**Article 3: System of appointment and removal**

A. The election of the organization will be completed by the end of the third month of spring semester. The main content is the election of leading group.

B. Applicants are required to submit a form for executive board positions by the announced deadline. All members have the right to vote for their President during the last general body meeting.

C. The newly elected President will then choose their executive board from the applicants. Once decided, the organization will announce the establishment of the new leading group and report the name list to the Ohio State University.

D. If members in the leading group have reoccurring implications during his\her tenure, including reoccurring absences to regular meeting without excuse, inoperative attitude, bad repercussion by members, he\she will be removed from the executive board after a majority vote by the rest of the leading group. A vote will be held if there have been at-least two formally written complaints from two different individuals issued to the Primary leader or Advisor. The defendant will have the opportunity to plead their case before the council makes their decision.

E. If members of the organization have reoccurring implications during his\her tenure, including reoccurring absences to regular meeting without excuse, inoperative attitude, bad repercussion by members, he\she will be removed from the organization after a vote by the leading group. The defendant will have the opportunity to plead their case before the council makes their decision. A vote will be held if there have been at-least two formally written complaints from two different individuals issued to the Primary leader or Advisor. The defendant will have the opportunity to plead their case before the council makes their decision.

**Article 4: Assets Management, and Using Principles**

1. Source of Funding

* Operating Funds

All organization is eligible for the same level of Operating Funds ($200 each year)

* Programming Funds

Your Active status determines your available levels of Programming Funds ($2000 for New/Re-established or $3000 for Established each year)

* Fundraising & Sponsorship
* Donation for Charity Activities

1. This organization’s funds must be used for the activity related to the development of this organization.
2. This organization establishes strict financial management system, and ensures the legitimacy, authenticity, accuracy, and integrity of the fiscal materials.
3. Treasurer should submit a financial report to the leading group every semester and when personnel changes.
4. No units or individual shall encroach, embezzle, and misappropriate the organization’s assets.

**Article 5: Bylaws**

**Section A. Meeting Procedures**

1. **General Meetings:**
   * Mandatory and monthly during the academic semester.
   * Meeting agendas will be shared in advance by the Secretary.
   * A quorum for voting is defined as 50% of active members plus one.
   * Information is recorded by the Secretary and a summary is shared with all members within 48 hours after the meeting.
2. **Executive Board Meetings:**
   * Mandatory and held monthly, as stated in the constitution.
   * Special meetings may be called by the President with at least 48-hour notice.
   * Decisions must be passed with a majority vote unless otherwise specified.

**Section B. Voting Procedure**

1. **Eligibility:**
   * Only official members in good standing (with paid dues and minimum participation met) may vote.
2. **Balloting:**
   * All elections and major decisions will be conducted via anonymous ballot (paper or electronic).
   * In the case of a tie, the President will cast the deciding vote, unless they are involved in the vote—in which case the Advisor will act as tiebreaker.
3. **Impeachment Voting:**
   * Requires at least two formal complaints submitted in writing to the President or Advisor.
   * A 2/3 majority of the executive board is required for removal.

**Section C. Amendments to Constitution or Bylaws**

1. Proposals must be submitted in writing to the executive board at least one week before a general meeting.
2. Proposed amendments require a 2/3 majority vote from official executive board members.

**Section D. Attendance & Points System (Clarified)**

1. **Points Defined:**
   * 1 Point: Tardiness exceeding 20 minutes or failure to notify of absence.
   * 1 Point: Unexcused absence without prior notice (24-hour rule) for scheduled weekly practices.
   * 1 Point: Failure to follow through on confirmed availability for additional practices or team obligations.
2. **Consequences:**
   * Upon reaching 3 points in a semester, the member will receive a written warning and be called to meet with the executive board.
   * Continued violations may result in suspension of performance eligibility or removal from official membership.

**Section E. Executive Board Transition**

1. Outgoing officers must meet with their successors to provide transition documents, tips, and access to club platforms (email, social media, bank, etc.).
2. All transition materials must be submitted within 14 days of new officer appointments.