

Kesher

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Kesher

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

Kesher Columbus exists to build meaningful connections and relationships between Jewish students at Ohio State University and the broader Columbus Jewish community. Our mission is to foster a sense of belonging, cultural enrichment, and spiritual growth by creating a supportive community that encourages in-depth conversations, shared experiences, and opportunities for collaboration. Through events, educational programs, and service initiatives, Kesher Columbus aligns with Ohio State's mission of fostering diversity, inclusion, and personal development by promoting cultural understanding and strengthening ties between campus and the local community.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

Kesher 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 the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.

Section B. Hazing

Kesher 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.

Section C. Bylaws

Kesher retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not

require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

Open Membership

Membership in Keshet is open to all currently enrolled Ohio State students who support the mission and values of the organization. Faculty, staff, and alumni may participate as associate members but may not vote or hold office.

Section B. Member Selection

Interested students may email the organization's leadership to learn more about membership opportunities. An interview or introductory conversation will be conducted prior to the start of each session to ensure alignment with Keshet's purpose and goals.

Section C. Membership Timeline

Membership recruitment occurs at the beginning of each autumn and spring semester. Additional members may be accepted on a rolling basis at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section D. Member Removal

Members of Keshet are expected to uphold the organization's purpose and values. A member may be removed for failing to meet membership requirements, violating university policies or laws, or engaging in behavior inconsistent with Keshet's mission. Concerns must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board, which will consult with the advisor to determine if action is necessary. The member will receive written notice of the concern and have at least seven days to respond in writing or in person. A two-thirds vote of the Executive Board is required for removal, and the advisor should be present as a non-voting resource. A removed member may appeal in writing to the advisor within ten days, after which the advisor and Executive Board will make a final decision.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

The advisor serves as a resource and mentor for Keshet, providing guidance to officers and members in leadership, programming, and organizational development. The advisor supports continuity through officer transitions, ensures the organization operates within university policies, and encourages a positive and inclusive environment. The advisor does not vote or hold office within the organization.

Section B. Advisor Term

The advisor serves a one-year term with the option for renewal. Advisors must complete required university training every two years and remain in good standing with The Ohio State University throughout their service.

Section C. Advisor Selection

The Executive Board selects the advisor by majority vote, pending the advisor's consent. The advisor must be a full-time faculty or professional staff member at The Ohio State University. Additional co-advisors may be appointed with approval from the Executive Board.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

If the advisor resigns, becomes ineligible, or is unable to fulfill their duties, the Executive Board will appoint an interim advisor and begin the selection process described in Section C. The organization's advisor and Executive Board will work together to ensure a smooth transition.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

Kesher will have the following officers: Primary Leader, Secondary Leader, and Treasurer. The Primary Leader oversees general operations, presides over meetings, and represents the organization. The Secondary Leader assists the Primary Leader, manages communication, and coordinates member engagement. The Treasurer manages finances, maintains records, and oversees funding requests. Additional officers may be established as needed by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

All officers must be active members in good standing with Kesher and The Ohio State University. The Primary Leader and Treasurer must be enrolled as full-time students, and the Secondary Leader must be a student in good standing. Officers must maintain compliance with all university policies throughout their term.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

Officers are nominated by active members and elected by a majority vote of those present at a scheduled meeting. Elections are held annually during the spring semester. Candidates may deliver brief statements before voting. In the event of a tie, a runoff vote will be held immediately. Newly elected officers assume their roles at the conclusion of the spring semester.

Section D. Officer Removal

An officer may be removed for failing to perform their duties, violating university or organizational policies, or acting in a way that damages Kesher's integrity. Concerns must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board. The officer will be notified and allowed to respond before a vote. A two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board is required for removal. Vacancies will be filled following the standard selection process.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

If Kesher is unable to fulfill its purpose or maintain active membership, dissolution may be proposed by the Executive Board. The proposal must be presented to the membership and approved by a two-thirds majority vote of active members.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

Upon dissolution, all debts and obligations must be satisfied. Any remaining assets will be transferred to a university department or organization with a similar mission, as approved by the advisor and the Ohio Union and Student Activities. Under no circumstances may debts be left to The Ohio State University or its entities.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by any active member of Kesher. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board for review and discussion at a general meeting. Approval requires a two-thirds majority vote of active members present. All amendments must be submitted to the Ohio Union and Student Activities for approval within thirty days.