



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
GOVERNMENT

## **Ma'Frisah Dance Team**

### **ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT**

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish Ma'Frisah Dance Team at the University of Rochester and enact this constitution for its governance. Failure to follow this constitution could result in penalties or revocation of Students' Association recognition of this organization.

### **ARTICLE II - MISSION STATEMENT**

Ma'Frisah aims to show traditional and modern dance forms from (but not limited to) Western and Southern Africa. Ma'Frisah hopes to continue to spread African dance cultures in order to show the diversity of cultural groups on campus as well as promote the inclusion of individuals of various African backgrounds.

### **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

#### **SECTION ONE - MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Eligibility - All Students' Association (SA) members shall be eligible for membership. An SA Member is a University of Rochester undergraduate of the College who has paid their SA activities fee. All members and associate members shall be listed on the organization's Campus Community Connection site. Membership is automatically renewed yearly unless the member graduates, requests to cancel their membership, or fails to meet membership requirements.
- B. Definition of active member - Must be present during rehearsals, workshops, and tryouts. Active members **must** be present at **least 85%** of rehearsals. An active member can miss up to and only 3 events per year. **Signature events are not included.** An active member is expected to create at least one choreography per semester.
- C. Definition of associate member - All University of Rochester faculty, staff, graduate students and Eastman students shall be eligible for associate membership but not eligible to hold an officer position. Graduate students, faculty, and staff are not eligible to compete nor travel as part of a college student organization.

### **ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS AND VOTING**

#### **SECTION ONE - QUORUM**

- A. A meeting shall be valid if a quorum is present. Quorum is defined as 1/2 of the active membership with at least one officer.

#### **SECTION TWO - VOTING**

- A. Voting on any issue shall be official only if the meeting is valid.
- B. All members shall have equal voting power.
- C. Procedure – All decisions shall be arrived at by simple majority using a hand vote unless otherwise specified by the presiding officer. The President shall only vote to break a tie.

## **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

### **SECTION ONE - OFFICER POSITIONS**

- A. President - Will be the primary contact on behalf of the team. Is required to be present at most rehearsals and communicate with other organizations and advisors.
- B. Vice president - Will assist the president in all areas. Directly communicates with the members.
- C. Business manager - Will oversee the team's budget.
- D. Publicity chair – Will be responsible for finding someone to record performances and keeping Ma'Frisah's social media active.
- E. Costume manager – Will be responsible for coming up with ideas for costumes and confirming it with the E-board in addition to making costumes for the team.

### **SECTION TWO - DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

- A. All officers shall be members of the Students' Association.
- B. All officers shall promote active recruitment of new members.
- C. All officers shall enforce this constitution.
- D. All officers shall be responsible for knowing the sections of the Students' Association constitution and bylaws that apply to this organization.
- E. The President shall preside over the meetings and shall maintain organization within the club, communicate with other officers and delegate duties to maintain a functioning club that fulfills the purposes set forth above.
- F. The Business Manager shall be responsible for maintaining all finances and keep detailed records of all transactions.
- G. The president shall be responsible for maintaining a current copy of this constitution open to inspection by all members of this organization, Senators, and all members of the Students' Association.
- H. The president shall also take roll call at all meetings, tally votes, keep an accurate list of organization members and take and maintain meeting minutes.

### **SECTION THREE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

- A. Nomination and Elections Procedure - Nominations for one to become an officer is open to every active member. President should finalize the list of nominees and send it out to the members to vote.
- B. Term of Office - The length of each term of office is one academic year. Each officer will have to serve their term until the end of the Spring semester. New officers will start their term at the end of the Spring semester.
- C. Timing of Elections - Elections will start in mid-April. Student organization elections must be held at least 2 weeks before the last day of classes each semester.

### **SECTION FOUR - VACANCIES, RESIGNATIONS, AND REMOVALS**

- A. At the first valid meeting following a vacancy of an office, the position is to be filled by the same manner described in *Article V, Section Three*.

- B. A vote of no confidence is a vote to remove an officer. Such a vote shall require a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of the entire active membership to pass. Any member of the organization may call for a vote of no confidence.
- C. If a vote of no confidence on any officer is to take place, they must be notified one week in advance.
- D. An office shall be declared vacant as the result of a vote of no confidence.

**ARTICLE VI - RESOURCES**

**SECTION ONE - RESOURCES**

- A. Ma'Frisah Dance Team at the University of Rochester will abide their Resource Agreement.

**ARTICLE VII - HAZING POLICY**

Hazing, defined as the harassment of one individual by another individual or organization, is not permitted by Ma'Frisah. Behavior prohibited under this rule includes actions threatening substantial risk of physical or mental injury; actions exposing the individual to distressing, repulsive, or alarming situations or sensations; forced consumption of alcohol or drugs; actions in the form of social pressure which might cause harm to an individual.

**ARTICLE VIII - NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

Ma'Frisah abides by the nondiscrimination policy of the University of Rochester.

Samantha Mensah  
 Signature of Confirmation  
 Samantha Mensah  
 President, Ma'Frisah

11/12/2019  
 Date

Genessis Galindo  
 Signature of Approval  
 Genessis Galindo  
 Chair, Student Organization Administration & Review Committee

11/19/20/9  
 Date