

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs.

ARTICLE II

Object

The object is to build working relationships between Music Clubs and with other musical organizations and individuals directly or indirectly associated with musical activity for the purpose of aiding and encouraging musical education, and developing and maintaining high musical standards throughout the state.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. The membership of the Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs shall be in three Divisions, viz - Senior, Student/Collegiate, and Junior Divisions, in each of which there may be Active members, Associate members, Honorary members, or Individual members

Section 2. Senior Division (a) Active members shall be organizations formed for the purpose of promoting the study or demonstration of music. Delegates of these organizations shall be privileged to take full part in all proceedings of the Federation. Active members shall pay annual dues.

(b) Associate members shall be such artists, composers, and organizations as are directly or indirectly interested in promoting musical activities in the State. They shall not be privileged to take part in the business of the Federation, to vote, nor to hold office, except as prescribed in Article III, Section 2, of the By-Laws. They shall pay annual dues.

(c) Honorary members shall be such persons or organizations as have achieved distinction in music, or rendered signal service to the Federation, whom the Federation desires to distinguish. They shall be elected by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors at any regular meeting thereof and may be deprived of membership in the same manner. They shall be exempt from the payment of dues and shall be granted the same privileges as Associate members.

(d) Any individual interested in the advancement of music may become an Individual or contributing member upon payment of the

required dues.

(e) Life members are those who at one time pay into Endowment Fund the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or more, of which one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) shall be sent to the National Federation of Music Clubs.

(f) A music section of another club may be federated provided such section has a presiding officer chosen from its membership, and provided they comply with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Federation and pay annual dues as Active members.

Section 3. Student/Collegiate Division. Active membership of the Student/Collegiate Division shall include Individual members, College groups, Student Musician groups, and such other musical organizations as are composed of persons between the ages of 19 and 26. They shall pay annual dues.

Section 4. Junior Division. (a) Active membership of the Junior Division shall include Special members, and all such Junior clubs, bands, orchestras, choirs, choruses, and other Junior organizations as are composed of members who are under 19 years of age. They shall pay annual dues.

(b) The Junior Counselor shall be an active member of a Federated Senior Club in good standing or a Special member.

Section 5. Application for membership, accompanied by the first year's dues, shall be presented to the State Treasurer.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1. The elective officers of the Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs shall be elective and appointive.

Section 2. The elective officers shall be President, Vice-President, eight District Vice-Presidents, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian.

Section 3. The appointive officers shall be Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentarian, who shall be appointed by the President.

Section 4. There shall be no salaried officers, but necessary expense incurred by officers or others in special service to the Federation may be paid from the general treasury on order of the Executive Committee, unless it is such that is already covered by the budget.

ARTICLE V

Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held annually in March or April, the

exact date to be decided upon by the Executive Board. The eight District Vice-Presidents shall serve, in rotation, as official hosts for the annual meetings.

ARTICLE VI Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Federation by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, the proposed amendment having been approved by the Executive Board and appended to the Call for the meeting.

BY-LAWS ARTICLE I Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of State Officers, State Chairmen, all Past State Presidents, and the Mississippi National Board Member, with or without duty assignments.

Section 2. All departments and standing committees shall operate under the direction of the Executive Board.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall have power to establish standing rules, and to repeal same by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting. At the annual Autumn meeting in years of even number it shall nominate a Director from MFMC for the National Board of Directors. No limit shall be placed on the length of his/her service, but shall be subject to re-nomination every two years.

Section 4. The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the President at least twice a year: once in the Fall, and once in the Spring. The spring meeting of the Executive Board shall be held just before, during, or just after the annual State meeting. Two weeks notice of meeting must be given.

Section 5. Special meetings of the Executive Board may be called by the Corresponding Secretary on the written request of five (5) members of the Board, provided such request states the purpose of the desired meeting. Seven days notice shall be given of a special meeting, and the purpose of the meeting must be stated.

Section 6. A quorum of the Executive Board shall be ten members, provided the notice has been given to all members.

ARTICLE II Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the

President, Vice-President, eight District Vice-Presidents, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Parliamentarian, Immediate Past President, State Junior Counselor, and Mississippi National Board Member.

Section 2. This committee shall function in cases of emergency and shall have power to fill vacancies or make special appointments. It shall render a written statement of its work to the Executive Board.

Section 3. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be five (5) members, provided all members have been duly notified.

ARTICLE III Voting Body

Section 1. The voting body shall consist of the Officers of the Federation, the Past Presidents of the State Federation, Department Chairmen, State Festival Chairman, State Junior Counselor, Club Presidents (or appointees) and one delegate each from clubs having twenty (20) members or less. Clubs having more than twenty (20) shall be entitled to one additional delegate for every additional twenty (20) or major fraction thereof. Special Members shall be entitled to vote.

Section 2. Senior Choirs, Choruses, or Associate organizations shall be entitled to one vote each.

Section 3. Only delegates from Senior organizations whose dues are paid in full shall be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE IV Quorum

A majority of the enrolled Senior accredited delegates in attendance at an annual meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V Nominations

Section 1. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the president at least two months before the annual meeting at which elections are held. This committee shall consist of five (5) members, at least one of whom shall be from the Executive Board. They shall present names for all offices to be filled.

Section 2. Only members of organizations in good standing are eligible for nomination.

ARTICLE VI Elections

Section 1. All elections shall be by ballot except when there is but one nominee for an office, then a viva voce shall be taken.

Section 2. All officers shall be elected biennially in the odd calendar years, excepting Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentarian who shall be appointed by the President.

Section 3. On the first day of the annual meeting in an election year, the President shall appoint an Election Committee of five (5) members. The balloting shall take place at the time and place designated by the Executive Board. There shall be no proxy votes, no absentee votes, and no write-in votes. A candidate receiving the majority vote for an office shall be declared elected, otherwise the election must be held again. Where there is only one candidate for an office a viva voce vote may be taken. The terms of all officers, both elective and appointive, shall begin with the fiscal year, July 1st. The outgoing Treasurer shall turn over to the incoming Treasurer all funds and documents pertaining to the office not later than July 1st.

ARTICLE VII

Dues

Section 1. The finances of the Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs shall be derived from the payment of annual dues, from endowment payments, from gifts, and from such other sources as shall be approved by vote of the Executive Board.

Section 2. (a) Senior Clubs shall pay ten dollars (\$10.00) a year per capita with a minimum of seventy dollars (\$70.00) for the club.

(b) Associate Senior Organizations shall pay annual dues of forty dollars (\$40.00). One half of this fee shall be retained by the State.

(c) Senior Individual Members shall pay annual dues of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per year; twenty eight dollars and fifty cents (\$28.50) to be paid to the National Treasurer and twenty-one dollars and fifty cents (\$21.50) to be retained by the State.

Section 3. (a) The Music Department of a college, university, school of music, etc. may become an Active Student/Collegiate Organization. Annual dues shall be forty five dollars (\$45.00) for up to 20 members; twenty three dollars (\$23.00) to be paid to the National Treasurer and twenty two dollars (\$22.00) to be retained by the State.

(b) A Student/Collegiate Individual Member shall pay annual dues of sixteen dollars (\$16.00); eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50) to be paid to the National Treasurer and four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) to be retained by the State.

Section 4. (a) Junior Clubs shall pay one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per capita annual dues, with a minimum of twenty-five

dollars (\$25.00) per club. Fifty-five cents (.55) of the per capita dues or ten dollars (\$10.00) of the minimum dues shall be retained by the State Treasury. NFMC directives will be followed for further breakdown of Junior dues structure.

(b) A Junior Individual Member shall pay annual dues of thirteen dollars (\$13.00); nine dollars and fifty cents (\$9.50) to be paid to the National Treasurer and three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) to be retained in the State Treasury

Section 5. The fee for Cradle Roll Membership shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which shall cover the entire period of Cradle Roll Membership. One half of this fee shall be retained in the State Treasury.

Section 6. Organizations encompassing all age groups formed for the purpose of promoting a specific music project, such as community choral societies, orchestras/orchestra associations, opera companies/opera guilds, music teachers' associations, local alumni chapters of music fraternities or sororities, church choirs/orchestras/bands, hand bell choirs, school bands, orchestras and choruses, groups dedicated to the promotion of a community concert series, and similar music organizations shall be eligible for associate membership upon payment of dues the same as listed in Article VII, Section 2b, By-Laws.

Section 7. A member of the Past Presidents' Assembly shall pay two dollars (\$2.00) annual dues to the Treasurer of the State in which his/her membership is retained, and the State Treasurer shall in turn remit one half of the amount to the National Treasurer, retaining the other half in the State Treasury.

Section 8. All Senior dues shall be sent to the State Treasurer by November first. All Student/Collegiate and Junior dues shall be sent to the State Treasurer by December first.

Section 9. Delinquent clubs may be reinstated by payment of one half dues for previous year in addition to current dues.

ARTICLE VIII

Zoning and Districting

Section 1. The state shall be divided into eight districts.

Section 2. These districts shall be under the supervision of the eight District Vice-Presidents.

ARTICLE IX

Publication

The Federation shall publish one required Bulletin a year plus another edition or newsletter at the discretion of the State President.

**ARTICLE X
National Meetings**

Section 1. The State Federation shall pay expenses of its President to attend National Meetings (Board or Convention), expenses not to exceed \$500.00 per year. (refer to MFMC budget for updates)

Section 2. The State Federation shall pay \$500.00 per year on the expenses of its National Board Member to attend National Meetings. (refer to MFMC budget for updates)

**ARTICLE XI
Contestants**

All contestants for state scholarships must be members of organizations federated with MFMC or Special Members.

**ARTICLE XII
President's Council**

Section 1. There shall be a President's Council which shall be organized for the purpose of discussing club activities and correlating club, state, and national work. This is by the discretion of the State President.

Section 2. Meetings shall be held annually during the Annual Meeting of the MFMC, if requested by the State President.

**ARTICLE XIII
Duties of Officers**

Section 1. The President shall preside over all meetings of the Executive Committee, the Executive Board and Business meetings of the Federation; shall sign all bills before payment is made, countersign all checks, drafts, etc.; shall, together with the Recording Secretary, sign all such leases and contracts as have been approved by the Executive Board; shall decide time of publishing such bulletins, etc. as may be issued; shall decide time and place of Fall Board Meeting; shall enforce these By-Laws and Parliamentary Laws, and shall perform all duties incident to his/her office, including appointment of all chairmen from the Executive Board.

Section 2. The Vice-President shall serve in absence of the President; in the event of the President's inability to serve due to illness or any other reason he/she shall automatically be called upon to fill an incomplete term. He/She shall also serve as chairman of the President's Council.

Section 3. The District Vice-Presidents shall have charge of the District Festivals as prescribed by Article VIII, Section 1, By-Laws.

Each District Vice-President shall/may appoint a festival chairman, and other chairmen deemed necessary to carry out the work of the District. District Vice-Presidents should be involved in extension and, if they wish, may hold a District Workshop to provide information to club officers and members. District Vice-Presidents are official hosts serving in rotation for the annual meeting.

Section 4. The Recording Secretary shall take the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee, the Executive Board, and Business meetings of the Federation. He/She shall, together with the President, sign such leases and contracts as have been approved by the Executive Board.

Section 5. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct such correspondence as may be directed by the President, send out notices of all meetings, keep a correct enrollment of all federated organizations and send a directory of same to all members of the Executive Board and Department Chairmen.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds and securities of the Federation and shall deposit in the name of the Federation all monies in such financial institutions as shall be designated by the vote of the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall collect and pay out all money under the direction of the Federation and all bills which are signed by the President. All checks or drafts shall be countersigned by the President. He/She shall render a financial statement, duly audited, at the State meeting. The outgoing Treasurer shall within thirty (30) days after election of the incoming Treasurer, turn over to the latter all funds and documents pertaining to his/her office.

Section 7. The Historian shall collect and preserve all printed matter pertaining to the Federation. He/She shall keep a scrapbook in which all newspaper articles and other matter shall be placed.

Section 8. Parliamentarian: It shall be the duty of the Parliamentarian to attend the meetings of the Executive Board and the Executive Committee and the sessions of the annual meetings of the MFMC, to interpret the By-Laws, to advise the presiding officer on points of parliamentary procedure and to render an opinion whenever requested.

**ARTICLE XIV
Standing Committees**

Section 1. The work of this Federation shall be carried on by standing committees grouped according to the scope of the work

involved, each group being called a department; the chairman shall be appointed by the President; each chairman shall render a written report at the annual convention.

Section 2. The Finance Chairman and two others appointed by the President shall form a committee to budget the income of the Federation, providing an equitable allowance for all Federation expenses. The State Treasurer shall sit on this as an advisor. This budget shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval annually in the fall. Refer to MFMC Budget for President's office allowance and any other officer expenditures.

ARTICLE XV

Parliamentary Authority

The Parliamentary Authority of all meetings of the Federation and the Executive Board shall be Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.

ARTICLE XVI

Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended at any annual meeting by a majority vote, provided notice of the proposed amendments shall have been approved by the Executive Board and appended to the Call for the meeting. They may be amended at any annual meeting by three-fourths vote, without previous notice.

ARTICLE XVII

Scholarships

Section 1. MFMC Scholarship Foundation. (a) The MFMC Scholarship Foundation created by vote of the Executive Board on March 25, 1982 shall be used only for scholarships and shall be segregated at all times from all other funds of the Federation. A committee of five (MFMC Finance Chairman, MFMC Treasurer, MFMC President, member at large, and a National Board Member) shall make decisions on investing and/or transferring funds of the MFMC Scholarship Foundation. Donations and gifts toward scholarships shall be transferred to the MFMC Scholarship Foundation. At no time and under no circumstances shall the principal or any part thereof of the MFMC Scholarship Foundation be withdrawn. Income from these funds shall be transferred automatically into a "Scholarship Account" which always shall be used exclusively for the MFMC state scholarships and summer camp scholarships. All funds withdrawn from the "Scholarship Account" shall be signed by check drawn on such account, signed by authorized MFMC Officers. Written reports shall be submitted at the

MFMC State Convention and at the MFMC Fall Board Meeting.

(b) Anyone may make donations to the Scholarship Foundation. MFMC members may join the \$52 Dollar Club by paying a sum of fifty-two dollars (\$52.00) yearly to the Scholarship Foundation. Members may also become MFMC Scholarship Foundation Fellows by making a one-time donation of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to the Scholarship Foundation and receiving an engraved medal. Information concerning those donations may be obtained from the State Treasurer.

Section 2. Junior Division. Junior Scholarships Committee.

The Mississippi Federation of Music Club Junior Scholarship Committee shall conduct the business of all Junior Scholarships and will make any decision necessary that does not require a State Board vote. The Committee will present a report at every State Board meeting. This Committee shall consist of six (6) members as follows:

MFMC President

MFMC Treasurer

Scholarships Chairman

Three (3) MFMC members appointed by the MFMC President Meetings shall be called as necessary by the MFMC President and Committee Chairman. All Committee members shall serve for two (2) years.

Section 3. Student/Collegiate Division. Student/Collegiate Scholarships. The Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs began awarding Scholarships on the Student/Collegiate level in 1984. Scholarships in the amount of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) are awarded in five classifications:

piano or organ

man's voice

woman's voice

instrumentation

strings

(Consult MFMC budget concerning any changes)