

**THE CONSTITUTION OF
BOSTON UNIVERSITY MUSIC SOCIETY,
AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY
ESTABLISHED OCTOBER 10, 2006**

ARTICLE 1: AUTHORIZATION

Section 1: The name of this group will be known as Boston University Music Society.

Section 2: This Constitution of Boston University Music Society is hereby ordained and established. The membership of the Boston University Music Society shall consist of graduate and undergraduate students admitted to degree-granting programs in the fields of Musicology, Music Theory or Ethnomusicology through the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, College of Fine Arts and College of Arts and Sciences at Boston University. This group also extends an offer of membership to students of other departments and programs that express an interest in Musicology, Music Theory and/or Ethnomusicology.

Section 3: Regarding the allocation of funds, the members of Boston University Music Society enrolled in degree-granting programs in the fields of Musicology, Music Theory or Ethnomusicology will have priority if funds become available. All funds allocated to members of Boston University Music Society for group-related activities must aid in expenses directly related to the following:

1. Priority of possible distribution of funds will be allocated to those members of Boston University Music Society who are presenting papers at local or national conferences or other to other members with expenses related to research and/or publication.
2. The participation in conferences related to the fields of Musicology, Music Theory, or Ethnomusicology, or in the aid of scholarly publications.
3. For the organization of social functions or gatherings related to the group.
4. Other circumstances deemed appropriate by both the elected President and Treasurer of Boston University Music Society will be evaluated on an individual basis.

Subsection 1: This organization has a diverse membership of graduate and undergraduate students. If funds become allocated to Boston University Music Society, the following disbursement statutes will be enforced:

1. Funds provided by graduate bodies within Boston University or by other external sources designated solely for graduate student members, will be allocated to the graduate student members enrolled in degree-granting programs in the fields of Musicology, Music Theory or Ethnomusicology.
2. Funds provided by undergraduate bodies within Boston University or by other external sources designated solely for undergraduate student members, will be allocated to the undergraduate student members enrolled in degree-granting programs at Boston University.

Section 4: This Constitution shall be the governing document of Boston University Music Society. This Constitution is adopted in accordance with the above and is necessary and proper for the perpetuation of this organization and thus is not suspendable.

Section 5: This Constitution shall be effective upon approval of two-thirds majority of the membership of Boston University Music Society.

Section 6: For the purposes of Boston University Music Society, the following are defined:

Subsection 1: Constitution – the formal, written description and structure of Boston University Music Society

Subsection 2: Statutory Code – the governing rules of procedure, not involving constitutional process, necessary for the effective maintenance of Boston University Music Society.

ARTICLE 2: AIM AND PURPOSE OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY MUSIC SOCIETY

Section 1: The aim and purpose of Boston University Music Society is to foster an environment where its members can meet to discuss and debate current issues in the fields of Musicology, Music Theory and Ethnomusicology. This group encourages its members to present original papers in a conference-style forum at least once during each academic semester, providing there are volunteers willing to present. This meeting will be known as the Academic Meeting. Boston University Music Society strives for the promotion of ideas in our fields outlined above, as well as networking with like-minded individuals within the disciplines of our respective and diverse fields.

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Members

Subsection 1: Defined: Any graduate or undergraduate student of Boston University that has expressed an interest in the fields of Musicology, Music Theory, and/or Ethnomusicology is eligible for membership in Boston University Music Society.

Subsection 2: Membership Status Defined: In order to be considered in good standing and capable of voting and exercising the rights of membership, a member of Boston University Music Society is expected to abide by the Constitution and Statutory Code of Boston University Music Society, and is required to attend at least two General Membership Meetings per semester.

Subsection 3: Quorum for a general membership meeting will be two-thirds of the members in good standing. Article 3, Subsection 2, defines members in good standing.

Subsection 4: Honorary Members: Anyone who is deemed worthy of such an honor shall be designated an honorary member of Boston University Music Society. An affirmative vote from two-thirds of the membership is needed for such an honor.

ARTICLE 4: OFFICERS

Section 1: The elected officers of Boston University Music Society shall be: President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. These offices shall be filled annually or when deemed necessary at elections for the benefit of Boston University Music Society by a majority vote of the active student membership. The officers shall constitute the Executive Council.

Subsection 1: Executive officers serve only one academic year and may be reelected for the same office only twice during their tenure at Boston University.

Section 2: President – The powers and duties of the President shall be:

1. To act as the official executive and responsible leader of Boston University Music Society.
2. To function as a presiding officer at all meeting and on all motions. Voting by the President shall be done only to make or break a tie, when his or her vote would determine the outcome on all elections for graduate candidate to an office.
3. To represent Boston University Music Society at University and Boston University Music Society functions, unless the membership approves a delegate in lieu of the President.
4. In conjunction with the Secretary, must keep current copies of all minutes, proceedings, and motions of Boston University Music Society.
5. To have, at the end of his or her term, a written report on the state of Boston University Music Society, and to make recommendations as to future considerations that will, in his or her opinion, benefit Boston University Music Society. At the end of his or her term, he or she shall report to the membership, in verbal form, on his or her accomplishments, failures, and recommendations.

Section 3: Vice-President – The powers and duties of the Vice-President shall be:

1. To serve at all times, as the executive assistant to the President, and in the Presidents absence, incapacity, or disqualification, to serve as the executive and responsible leader of Boston University Music Society.
2. The Vice-President will have the power to appoint all committees and to designate the chairpersons thereof, to see that the duties are carried out, to remove members who may neglect their duties or abuse their powers, and to serve as a member ex-officio on all Boston University Music Society committees.
3. To have, at the end of his or her term, a written report on the state of Boston University Music Society, and to make recommendations as to future considerations that will, in his or her opinion, benefit Boston University Music Society. At the end of his or her term, he or she shall report to the membership, in verbal form, on his or her accomplishments, failures, and recommendations.

Section 4: Treasurer – The Treasurer shall advise the President on all financial matters. The powers and duties of the Treasurer shall be:

1. He or she shall present, in writing, to Boston University Music Society, by the end of the month of April, a budget for the next academic year and a written statement of financial transactions for that previous year.
2. Be responsible for signing all necessary paperwork with the Student Activities Office and is the sole signatory for the funds of the organization.
3. Is responsible for the funds, securities, vouchers, and account books of Boston University Music Society.
4. Deliver to his or her successor, or anyone designated by Boston University Music Society, all or any ledger, as directed, of the funds, securities, vouchers, and account books of Boston University Music Society.
5. Be audited by the Executive Council each and every semester.
6. To have, at the end of his or her term, a written report on the state of Boston University Music Society, and to make recommendations as to future considerations that will, in his or her opinion, benefit Boston University Music Society. At the end of his or her term, he or she shall report to the membership, in verbal form, on his or her accomplishments, failures, and recommendations.

Section 5: Secretary – The powers and duties of the Secretary shall be:

1. Responsible for keeping an accurate, complete, and impartial account of the proceedings of the Boston University Music Society and motions of Boston University Music Society and shall keep custody of all minutes and proceedings of past meetings as well as true and current copies of the Constitution and the Statutory Code of Boston University Music Society. These documents and records *must* be relinquished to the newly elected secretary at the beginning of his or her term.
2. Copies of these aforementioned documents *must* be furnished to the President in a timely fashion and kept current at all times.
3. The Secretary will also ascertain whether or not a quorum is present before a meeting begins.
4. Inform the President of all old business and such new business proposals as he or she may have received in writing.
5. To have, at the end of his or her term, a written report on the state of Boston University Music Society, and to make recommendations as to future considerations that will, in his or her opinion, benefit Boston University Music Society. At the end of his or her term, he or she shall report to the membership, in verbal form, on his or her accomplishments, failures, recommendations, and legislation passed during his or her term in office.

Section 6: All elected Boston University Music Society officers (Article 4, Sections 2-5) shall have one vote on the Executive Council.

Section 7: Faculty Advisor—the powers and duties of the Faculty Advisor shall be:

1. The Faculty Advisor must be a full-time faculty or staff member at Boston University.
2. The Faculty Advisor must be within the specialization of Musicology, Music Theory or Ethnomusicology.
3. The duration of the Faculty Advisor’s term shall be two years. A Faculty Advisor may not serve in this position for more than two consecutive terms.

4. In order to keep Boston University Music Society as diverse as possible, the position of Faculty Advisor will rotate between the specializations of Musicology, Music Theory and Ethnomusicology. In the event that this scenario is not possible, the President has the ability to suspend the term limit restriction for up to one year, at which point a Faculty Advisor from another discipline can fill this position.

Section 8: Appointed Officers

Subsection 1: The appointed officers of Boston University Music Society shall be:

- 1) The Publicity Chairperson, who shall take actions to publicize the activities of Boston University Music Society.
- 2) The Webmaster, who shall take responsibility of building and maintaining a web page that describes the aim of Boston University Music Society, present links to the personal web pages of its members that describe their research interests (individual pages are the sole responsibility of the individual member) and promote upcoming events of Boston University Music Society in conjunction with the Publicity Chairperson.
- 3) Any others deemed necessary and appropriate.

Subsection 2: The above officers shall be nominated by any member in good standing of Boston University Music Society and must be seconded by another member in good standing in order to accept or reject the position.

ARTICLE 5: ELECTIONS – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1: All candidates for election to offices outlined in Article 4, Section 2-5 and Section 8 of the Boston University Music Society must be members of the organization in good standing and enrolled in a degree-granting program at the graduate level.

Section 2: For an election to be valid a majority of the official members must be present during the voting process. The Secretary, according to the number of official members, will calculate this number by determining a majority of the average attendances of members in good standing, per semester.

Section 3: Nominations of Boston University Music Society officers shall be opened on the first general membership meeting of April and remain open until the second general membership meeting of April, when elections shall be held. Candidates for each position will be nominated verbally and must be seconded by any member of Boston University Music Society before they can be officially added to the ballot. Election for each office shall be by secret ballot, in the order that the Constitution (Article 4, Sections 2-5) has determined.

Section 4: The newly elected officers shall be installed on the following General Membership Meeting, thus closing business for the semester. All officers shall begin their duties on that meeting. The newly elected Boston University Music Society officers shall be installed at the final meeting of the academic year. All officers shall begin their duties on the day of that meeting. Likewise, all duties end at that meeting for outgoing officers.

Section 5: Any Boston University Music Society officer retains the right to resign from his or her duties, but must do so in accordance with the guidelines found in the Boston University Music Society Statutory Code.

Section 6: Boston University Music Society members retain the right to begin impeachment proceedings against any Boston University Music Society officer in the event that there is just cause. These proceedings must be in accordance with the guidelines found in the Boston University Music Society Statutory Code.

Section 7: Only one Executive Council Officer may hold a particular office at any given time, though they may appoint assistants subject to majority approval by Boston University Music Society. Each officer shall have only one vote on the Executive Council.

Section 8: Elections for the position of Faculty Advisor will occur at the same time as Boston University Music Society elections. These nominations will begin at same time as officer nominations according to Article 5, Section 3. Ballots containing the names of all nominees will be distributed with election ballots.

Subsection 1: The Executive Council will meet before the nomination period and decide which potential Faculty Advisors will be approached to gauge their interest in the position. The Executive Council will then present to the membership potential Faculty Advisors during the New Business section of the meeting where officer nominations will occur.

ARTICLE 6: COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Section 1: The Executive Council

Subsection 1: The President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary shall serve as the Executive Council. This Council shall advise the President on all matters concerning Boston University Music Society. All meetings of the Council shall be open to any member of Boston University Music Society who may speak in turn but will have no vote. The Executive Council will have to right to call a closed session when just cause is presented.

Subsection 2: Quorum shall be three-quarters of the Boston University Music Society officers. All motions shall take a simple majority vote.

Subsection 3: The Executive Council may consider and vote on any motion in order to endorse a motion before Boston University Music Society has voted. They may not make decisions that will put into effect a motion before Boston University Music Society has voted, nor may they disregard a decision by Boston University Music Society.

Section 2: Any Boston University Music Society officer may call for the organization of a particular committee when the need for one is seen.

ARTICLE 7: MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES

Section 1: Boston University Music Society General Meetings

Subsection 1: The Boston University Music Society shall have at least one general membership meeting per month during the academic term at a time that is deemed convenient to the general membership with special consideration to the Executive Council officers, beginning with the second week of the school semester. When extraordinary circumstances prevent the meeting, the President may reschedule or omit the meeting. At no time, however, shall Boston University Music Society go without a General Meeting for more than two consecutive months.

Subsection 2: General Membership Meetings shall be open to all members in good standing, honorary members, the designated Faculty Advisor and any student of Boston University potentially interested in becoming a member of Boston University Music Society. No one else shall be given admittance to a Boston University Music Society meeting unless, for a particular reason, a guest is deemed appropriate by the Executive Council.

Subsection 3: Motions of an immediate nature and not relevant to Constitutional process shall require a majority vote to pass, but all financial motions and Constitutional amendments require a positive vote of two-thirds present and voting to pass, abstentions not counting, and only when there is quorum present.

Subsection 4: All votes, unless otherwise indicated, shall be by a show of hands, unless a member objects, at which time a secret ballot vote will occur.

Subsection 5: In addition to scheduled General Membership Meetings, the President may call meetings on an unscheduled basis, to meet some pressing need, at which specified and posted orders of business are to be discussed, in any order the President may decide.

Subsection 6: At all times, and in all circumstances not specifically covered by this Constitution and Statutory Code of Boston University Music Society, *Robert's Rules of Order* shall be the final arbiter.

Subsection 7: Motions of censure, meaning the official, public rebuking of a member for his or her actions shall require a two-thirds show of hands vote, abstentions counting.

Section 2: The Executive Council of Boston University Music Society— in addition to monthly General Membership Meetings—shall meet on an infrequent basis throughout each semester. The day and time is to be at the convenience of the officers.

ARTICLE 8: AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1: Any member of Boston University Music Society in good standing may propose amendments to this Constitution. Such amendments must be proposed at a Boston University Music Society General Membership Meeting, seconded, and posted for one meeting before it may be considered for a vote at the next General Membership Meeting. A two-thirds positive vote is needed for the acceptance of the amendment, abstentions not counting toward the majority.