

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY EAST MEETS WEST OFFICIAL CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this organization shall be East Meets West (EMW).

ARTICLE II: Purpose

Section I:

The purpose of EMW is to create opportunities for artistic collaboration, engage diverse educational experiences and build global citizens for the 21st century.

Section 2:

EMW shall coordinate and promote activities, programs and fund-raising events that support the goals of the organization.

ARTICLE III: Membership

Section I:

Membership in EMW shall be open to any and all students, faculty, and staff at Kent State University. Active membership shall be determined by payment of dues, attendance of meetings, and participation in organization sponsored events. Upon graduation or termination of a student's enrollment at the University, said student's active membership in EMW shall cease.

Section 2:

An affiliate member is one who is taking less than three hours of university course work or one who is not currently enrolled. Such members may not outnumber active student membership, hold office, vote for officers, or vote on the expenditure of money. They may not schedule university facilities or services on behalf of the organization. Such members are expected to know, understand, and abide by all university rules and regulations.

Section 3:

Any member may be removed from membership for violation of the purposes of the organization by a two-thirds vote of the active membership. All members must be notified of this pending action at least one week prior to the removal decision. Written charges by a member are to be presented to the Executive Committee who will notify the member in question with sufficient opportunity given for the member to answer charges at a meeting of the membership. Voting for removal from membership is to be done by secret ballot within the first 30 minutes of the meeting. Only active members may vote. The member in question must be notified immediately of the outcome of the vote.

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Section 4:

It shall be stated as part of the policy of EMW that there shall be no form or type of discrimination in the organization, whether it be due to one's race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, age, handicap, or veteran's status.

Section 5:

With active membership in EMW come full floor and voting privileges on any and all items of organization business, including resolutions, items of legislation, bylaws, and elections.

Section 6:

A dance faculty member in the School of Theatre and Dance at Kent State University shall advise the Executive Committee and general membership of EMW.

ARTICLE IV: Officers

Section 1:

The officers shall consist of one president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, social media chair, and event coordinator. Officers shall be responsible for all administrative duties of EMW.

Section 2:

The president shall have the power to establish and maintain operation procedures of EMW, call meetings, and answer for all actions of the other officers. The president shall be able to vote in all decisions affecting the organization. The president shall serve as the official representative of EMW by attending and coordinating events (conferences, workshops, guest speakers etc.) for the benefit of the chapter. The president shall consult with the membership prior to attending all events to determine how to best serve the membership.

Section 3:

The vice president shall assist the president with all administrative duties and assume those duties in the absence of the president. The vice president shall assist the president as official representative of the chapter.

Section 4:

The secretary shall keep accurate and detailed records of all meetings and affairs, send/transmit all official organization correspondence, and coordinate preparation and distribution of organization flyers, handouts and publications. The secretary shall provide copies of all documentation and correspondence for the faculty advisor.

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Section 5:

The treasurer shall receive and distribute EMW funds upon the authorization of the president and faculty advisor, in accordance with the financial rules and regulations of the University and the laws of the State of Ohio, and make financial reports at all Executive Committee meetings, as well as at the regular meetings of the organization, and coordinate all fund-raising activities.

Section 6:

The social media chair shall be responsible for keeping historical records of EMW activities, events, fund-raisers, etc. to assist the group in maintaining its purpose and direction. Social media chair is responsible for creating/maintaining all social media accounts.

Section 7:

The event coordinator shall be responsible for organizing every detail of each event held by EMW.

Section 8:

The elected officers shall form the Executive Committee.

Section 9:

Any active member of EMW may hold the offices of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, social media chair, and event coordinator. All elected officers must meet all requirements for holding offices as stated in the Student Organization Manual.

ARTICLE V: Elections

Section I:

The officers shall be elected by the active members of EMW to serve a term of one year. Annual elections shall be held at a meeting during the thirteenth week of the spring semester. Only the members present at the meeting will be eligible to vote. The officers shall be elected by means of a secret ballot. The term of office for all officers shall begin on the first day of the fourteenth week of the spring semester and end of the same day the following year.

Section 2:

Nominations of candidates for EMW officer positions shall be from the floor of the meeting by a EMW active member. Nominees for officer positions must be active members of EMW.

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Section 3:

Voting shall take place after the close of nominations for each office. Officers shall be elected by majority vote of those EMW active members present, provided quorum is met. Affiliate members are ineligible to vote for officers.

Section 4:

The order of succession shall be: (1) president, (2) vice president, (3) secretary, (4) treasurer, (5) social media chair, (6) event coordinator. There shall be no order of succession amongst co-presidents.

Section 5:

Vacancies occurring in any of the elected offices shall be officially filled at the next regular organization meeting following the occurrence of such a vacancy or vacancies. The order of succession shall be followed in the filling of any vacant office during any unexpired term. If an officer declines to succeed to a vacant office an election shall be held to fill the vacant office for the remainder of the unexpired term. The election procedure for filling the unexpired term of a vacant office shall be the same as the standard procedure for elections.

ARTICLE VI: Appointments

Section 1:

The president shall appoint, with the approval of the Executive Committee, such positions as may contribute to the successful operation of the organization. Examples include, but are not limited to, program chair, fund-raising chair, etc.

ARTICLE VII: Removal from Office

Section 1:

Any officer may be removed from office for failure to perform his/her prescribed duties by a two-thirds vote of the active membership, provided that all members are notified of this pending action at least one week prior to the removal decision. Removal from office can occur for failure to carry out the responsibilities of that office, actions which violate the purposes of the organization, or actions which violate University Rules and Regulations. Written charges by a member are to be presented to the Executive Committee who will notify the officer in question with sufficient opportunity given for the officer to answer charges at a meeting of the membership. Voting for removal from office is done by secret ballot. Only active members may participate in this vote, affiliate members are ineligible to vote.

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ARTICLE VIII: Meetings

Section 1:

General membership meetings shall be held twice a semester, with additional meetings called by the president as needed. Notice of additional meetings must be given to all members in the timeliest manner possible, but not less than one week. The official means of notifying members shall be agreed upon at the first meeting held after the election of a new president.

Section 2:

The Executive Committee shall meet when called by the president.

Section 3:

Official notice of the meeting at which the election of EMW officers will take place must be provided to all EMW members not less than two weeks prior to such meeting.

Section 4:

Quorum shall be defined as fifty percent plus one of the total of EMW active membership.

ARTICLE IX: Funding

Section 1:

Dues shall be charged for membership in EMW. The number of dues charged for each year/semester will be determined at the first meeting for the Fall Semester. Membership dues can be paid during any semester and will be collected by the treasurer. No one may participate as an active or affiliate member without payment of dues. Active membership requires dues to be paid to EMW. Students who do not pay their membership dues will lose their privileges of membership, including voting rights.

Section 2:

EMW will, as it deems necessary, undertake fund-raisers for its own purposes. All fund-raising shall be conducted in accordance with University policies and procedures.

ARTICLE X: Amendments

Section 1:

Amendments to this constitution shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the active members present at two consecutive meetings at which the amendment has been read.

Section 2:

Once approved by the active membership, amendments shall be submitted, when applicable, the Center for Student Involvement of Kent State University.