

# Constitution of The MIT Centrifuges

## Article I: Purpose

The purpose of The MIT Centrifuges is to perform mashups of pop, classic rock, and R&B songs, whereby the primary instrument shall be the human voice.

## Article II: Membership

1. Any member of the MIT community is eligible to become a member of this organization, subject to auditions as described in Article VI.
2. The organization's membership will at all times consist of at least 5 MIT students and be more than half MIT students.
3. The membership of the group consists of all persons who have been accepted into the MIT Centrifuges from the auditions process and have declared themselves active for the coming semester. This is comprised of those who actively attend rehearsals with the intention of performing with the group at the end of semester concert.
4. This organization will not discriminate based on any characteristic listed in MIT's Nondiscrimination Statement.
5. If this organization charges any monetary dues, there will be exceptions made for students that cannot afford these dues.
6. A member can be removed by an anonymous two-thirds vote of all the other members. The member to be removed will be given the opportunity to speak at the meeting at which the vote takes place, but will leave for the other members to discuss and vote. To start this process, at least three members must speak to the president, treasurer, or music director.

## Article III: Officers

1. This organization will have at a minimum three officers:
  - a. President
    - i. The president shall be the official representative of the group to any other organization and to MIT.
    - ii. The president will preside over group meetings.
    - iii. The president will serve as the ASA liaison for the organization for all matters excepting those that are financial.
    - iv. The president is responsible for the overall organization of the group and may delegate responsibilities appropriately.
    - v. The president is responsible for organizing concerts.
    - vi. The president acts as business manager, and is responsible for responding to requests for performances and for requesting that other groups open for our performances.

- b. Treasurer
    - i. The treasurer will be responsible for overseeing group finances.
    - ii. The treasurer is required to sign all checks/vouchers of the group that are applicable.
    - iii. The treasurer will update the group on the state of the budget at least once a semester.
    - iv. The treasurer will serve as the liaison to the UA and the ASA for all financial matters.
  - c. Music Director
    - i. The music director will be responsible for planning and leading the musical aspects of the group.
    - ii. The music director will have the final say on all repertoire, solo, and other musical decisions.
    - iii. The music director will plan and run the musical aspects of rehearsals, including warm-ups, spot-checks, run-throughs, and solo auditions.
    - iv. The music director will act as conductor or delegate this task as they deem appropriate.
    - v. The music director will choreograph or delegate choreography whenever they choose to include it.
    - vi. The music director may choose to have an assistant music director, who may be either nominated or democratically elected according to the procedure defined below.
2. All positions listed above must be held by distinct persons and MIT students.
  3. All responsibilities indicated above may be delegated, but the primary responsibility for each task falls on the person holding a particular position.
  4. Other defined positions include:
    - a. Publicity chair, responsible for maintaining the Centrifuges' ASA Poster space, advertising concerts, and organizing publicity for audition periods.
    - b. Social chair, responsible for organizing social events within the Centrifuges across the semester.
    - c. Auditions chair, responsible for organizing and reserving rooms for auditions.
  5. Elections:
    - a. Officer elections shall occur semesterly.
    - b. Any member of The Centrifuges is eligible to run for office.
    - c. Quorum for elections is two thirds of the group.
    - d. Any member is elected if he or she wins a majority of the voting members.
    - e. If more than two people are running and no one wins a majority, then the person with the fewest votes is dropped from the ballot and votes are recast.

- f. The minimum terms of office are, by default, as follows:
  - i. President: 1 year, elected at the end of Fall
  - ii. Treasurer: 1 semester, elected at the end of each semester
  - iii. Music Director: 1 semester, elected at the end of each semester.
  - iv. Social Chair: 1 semester, elected at the beginning or end of each semester.
  - v. Pub Chair: 1 semester, elected at the beginning or end of each semester.
  - vi. Auditions Chair: 1 semester, elected or appointed at the end of any semester preceding an auditions period.
6. Removal: Officers may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the group, including the officer to be removed.

#### **Article IV: Meetings and Rehearsals**

1. Rehearsals shall be held at least twice a week.
2. Meetings shall be presided over by the president, unless they are absent, and in that case the music director shall preside.
3. All decisions shall be made by a majority vote of all members present.
4. Quorum for a meeting shall be one third of the members of the organization.

#### **Article V: Auditions**

1. Auditions shall be held preceding the fall semester and, optionally, prior to the spring semester.
2. All members of the MIT community are welcome to audition.
3. In selecting members, The Centrifuges will not discriminate based on any characteristic listed in MIT's Nondiscrimination Statement.
4. New members are accepted into the group if and only if music director, section, and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the people present at the meeting after call backs agree to accept the person.
5. Regarding Re-accepting Old Members:
  - a. Old members must notify the Centrifuges if they are planning on re-auditioning before the first day of auditions.
  - b. Whether to make them audition, just come to callbacks, or just rejoin can be up to the discretion of the current members, the MD, and the section(s) they wish to/can join.
  - c. We reserve the right to just accept them, pending consent of the group, MD, and their section.

#### **Article VI: Solos**

1. All solo positions will be determined by internal audition.

2. All solo auditions and assignments will be decided by the music director(s) following a poll of all members present for every audition for a given solo.

#### **Article VII: Amendments**

1. Amendments shall be presented by any member of the organization.
2. Amendments shall be passed by a two-thirds vote of the members present.
3. Quorum for amending this constitution shall be two-thirds of all members of the organization.

#### **Article VIII: ASA Governance Clause**

The MIT Centrifuges agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of the Association of Student Activities, and its executive board. This constitution, amendments to it, and the by-laws of this organization shall be subject to review by the ASA Executive Board to insure that they are in accordance with the aforementioned rules and regulations.