

**FLORIDA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**CONSTITUTION**

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FLORIDA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

**CONSTITUTION**

(Ratified January 9, 1986)

(Amended January 13, 2011)

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this Association shall be the Florida Bandmasters Association, Incorporated. This Association shall exist perpetually.

**ARTICLE II - PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE**

**Section 1. PHILOSOPHY**

The Membership of the Florida Bandmasters Association believes that it must always be flexible to change, to stay ahead of trends and to always protect the best interests of our students and music.

As its guiding principle, the ASSOCIATION further believes that music holds a unique place in human existence and touches our lives in ways that no other experience can.

We believe that our growth as individuals is defined in terms of our ability to develop thinking capacities, motor skills, and affective responses. Music is unique in that it has the potential to develop people in all three areas, fostering performance skills, musical literacy, and musical creativity and response.

We believe that because of its special qualities, music is clearly justified in assuming a prominent role in the school curriculum, both as an academic and an artistic discipline.

The ASSOCIATION further believes that music shares many broad objectives in common with the total school curriculum, but that it possesses the capacity to develop unique skills and knowledge. Among the intrinsic values that the ASSOCIATION holds to be associated with music are the following:

- A. The development of aesthetic sensitivity.
- B. Insight into one of the major symbolic systems.
- C. The opportunity for creativity and self-expression.
- D. The development of musical taste and values.

Among the extrinsic values are:

- A. The development of coordination and physical skills.
- B. Participation in structured organizations focusing on the development of various social skills that include self-discipline, responsibility, social interaction, the development of ethical character, good citizenship, and, finally, an important outlet for life-long learning.

The ASSOCIATION believes that the above stated values are strongly articulated through the medium of band, and that instrumental music education is an essential part of the school curriculum.

**Section 2. PURPOSE**

Furthermore, the ASSOCIATION is concerned with the promotion and development of band programs in the state of Florida by providing opportunities for in-service growth through clinics and conferences, and by acting as a resource for college and university pre-service training programs that encourage professional development.

The ASSOCIATION provides opportunity for realistic and constructive program evaluation through the sponsorship of solo/ensemble and large group ensemble Music Performance Assessments at the District and State levels.

The Constitution and By-Laws of the ASSOCIATION exist for the purpose of codifying and facilitating the stated philosophy, and to provide the means for change and amendment as needed.

## **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in this ASSOCIATION shall be open to individuals who meet the qualifications of membership as specified in the By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION**

### **Section 1. GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRICTS**

The ASSOCIATION shall be organized into Districts. Boundaries of these Districts shall be specified in the By-Laws.

### **Section 2. CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY**

All Districts shall be governed by the Constitution, By-Laws and Handbook of this ASSOCIATION.

## **ARTICLE V - STATE OFFICERS**

### **Section 1. STATE OFFICERS**

The State officers of this ASSOCIATION shall be:

- A. President
- B. President-Elect
- C. Past-President
- D. Executive Director
- E. District Chairpersons
- F. Junior High/Middle School Representative

The duties of the State officers are specified in the By-Laws.

### **Section 2. EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- A. The State officers shall constitute the Executive Board of this ASSOCIATION.
- B. The Executive Board, as representatives of the membership, shall be responsible for the conduct of the business and finances of the ASSOCIATION, except where such authority is specifically assigned by the Constitution, By-Laws, or Handbook.

### **Section 3. TERM OF OFFICE**

The term office for all elected state officers shall be two (2) years. Terms shall commence on July 1.

## **ARTICLE VI - ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

### **Section 1. PRESIDENT-ELECT**

- A. The President-Elect shall be elected bi-annually at the Clinic/Conference meeting.
- B. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President to submit candidates for the office to the general membership. Specific operating procedures for this office are found in the By-Laws.
- C. Additional nominations from the floor may be made at the Summer Convention meeting.

### **Section 2. DISTRICT OFFICERS**

District Chairpersons/Treasurers and District Secretaries shall be nominated by the District members at a meeting prior to the November/December meeting of the Executive Board. District Officers will be elected by secret ballot at the January/February District meeting. Odd-numbered Districts shall hold elections in even-numbered years. Even-numbered Districts shall hold elections in odd-numbered years. **Qualifications for nomination to a District Officer position: FBA members in good standing must have (1) completed 5 full years of band instruction in Florida; (2) have had regular attendance at FBA District and State meetings during those same years; (3) have had active participation in FBA sponsored activities, including clinics, conferences and Music Performance Assessments during those same years; and (4) be willing to accept the responsibility of the office, and follow the guidelines set forth by the FBA Executive Committee.**

**Section 3. JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE**

- A. Candidates for the office of Middle School / Junior High Representative will be nominated at the Middle School / Junior High caucus at the annual FMEA Clinic/Conference in even-numbered years.
- B. Elections for this office will be held at the same meeting as the nominations, with voting by written ballot.

**Section 4. ELECTIONS**

All elected state officers of this ASSOCIATION shall be elected by a majority of the constituency of that office casting ballots in the election. If such a majority does not exist, further elections shall be held between the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

**ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES**

**Section 1. STANDING COMMITTEES**

The ASSOCIATION shall establish the following Committees:

- A. Auxiliary Committee
- B. Adjudication Committee
- C. All State Bands Committee
- D. Benevolence Committee
- E. Clinics Committee
- F. Commissioning Committee
- G. Concert Music Committee
- H. Ethics Committee
- I. Music Performance Assessment Committee
- J. Finance Committee
- K. Past Presidents Advisory Committee
- L. Professional Resources Committee
- M. Sight Reading Committee
- N. Solo/Ensemble Music Committee
- O. Technology Committee

**Section 2. OTHER**

The President shall be empowered to appoint other committees and task forces.

**Section 3. AUTHORITY**

The membership, authority, responsibility, and term of service for each Standing Committee are specified in the By-Laws.

**ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS**

**Section 1. BUSINESS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Business of the ASSOCIATION shall be conducted only at general business meetings, Executive Board meetings, and District meetings.

**Section 2. GENERAL BUSINESS MEETINGS**

The membership of the ASSOCIATION shall have two (2) business meetings each year; one at the annual Clinic/Conference, and the other at the Summer Professional Development Conference.

**Section 3. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS**

Executive Board meetings shall be held three (3) times a year: during July/August, November/December, and May/June. The specific dates shall be set in advance by the President and the membership of the Board duly notified.

**Section 4. DISTRICT MEETINGS**

District meetings shall be held four (4) times a year. These meetings shall occur prior to the November/December and May/June Executive Board meetings, and following the July/August and November/December Executive Board meetings.

**Section 5. QUORUM**

- A. A quorum for the conduct of business at District and General meetings shall consist of the voting members assembled.
- B. A quorum for the conduct of business at Executive Board meetings shall be a majority of the members of the Executive Board.

**Section 6. VOTING MEMBERS**

Voting members of the ASSOCIATION are defined in the By-Laws. Each voting member shall have one vote and may participate and vote only in person.

**ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

Constitutional amendments shall require readings and approval by two-thirds (2/3) vote in two (2) Executive Board meetings, followed by a majority vote at two consecutive General meetings.

**Section 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS AND HANDBOOK**

Provisions for amendments to the By-Laws and for changes in the Handbook are found in the By-Laws.

**Section 3. COMMENCEMENT OF EFFECTIVENESS**

All amendments to and changes in the Constitution, By-Laws and Handbook shall take effect beginning with the school year following their approval. Amendments and changes may not be put into effect during a given school year.

**ARTICLE X - RATIFICATION**

**Section 1. RATIFICATION**

Ratification of this Constitution and By-Laws shall require readings and approval by two-thirds majority vote in two Executive Board meetings, followed by presentation to the membership and approval by a majority vote at the Clinic/Conference General Business Meeting.

**Section 2. COMMENCEMENT OF EFFECTIVENESS**

Upon ratification, this Constitution and By-Laws shall be in effect for the following school year.