



# CONSTITUTION OF RAAG FUSION A CAPPELLA

**Ratified by SSMU Council on:** November 17, 2016

## **1 Article I: Name**

**1.1** Raag Fusion A Cappella also referred to hereinafter as the Club.

## **2 Article II: Mandate**

**2.1** The Club's mandate shall be to

- Unite the South Asian and Western musical cultures through fusion compositions.
- Coalesce students with a musical background and connection to South Asian and/or Western heritage by creating a platform for vocal expression.
- Educate audiences on the South Asian musical art form, from classical music to pop Bollywood songs.
- Foster connections with other McGill singing groups and the musical culture within the greater Montreal community.
- Promote participation of the members in musical events in McGill and Montreal and host concerts and musical programs.
- Partake in South Asian A cappella competitions.

## **2.2 Code of Conduct**

**2.2.1** The Club shall carry forth its mandate from an anti-oppressive and equitable standpoint AND equal respect shall be given to all members, including those of disadvantaged backgrounds, regardless of but not limited to gender, age, race, ethnic or national origin, religion, sexuality or sexual orientation, mental or physical abilities, language, or social class.

**2.2.1.1** No member shall make personal profit from the club

**2.2.2** Any executive member who fails to fulfill their responsibilities shall be subject to the expulsion procedure outlined in this constitution

## **2.3 Student Group Civility**

**2.3.1** The club will maintain cordial and respectful relations with all other clubs, services and independent student groups

**2.3.2** The club will not use SSMU resources and/or their club status to prevent other clubs, services or independent student groups from fulfilling their mandate, including but not limited to their acquisition of resources and pursuit of activities.

**2.3.3** If problems arise between groups, a member of the executive committee and/or collective of the club shall be responsible for contacting the SSMU Vice President of Student Life and attempt to remedy the problem in a collegial fashion.

## **2.4 Environment**

**2.4.1** The club shall make attempts to regularly monitor the environmental impact of all its events and operations



- 2.4.1.1 Clubs must attempt to utilize the services and resources available at SSMU in order to maximize capacities for equitable decision-making and environmental stewardship. These include but are not limited to the use of the plate club, green events guide, applications for the SSMU Green fund, assistance of the SSMU environment commissioners, environment committee and green events coordinators
- 2.4.2 The club must attempt to find sustainable alternatives to the non-recyclable #6 plastic, effective waste management, providing vegan and vegetarian options, purchasing clothing which is ethically sourced and environmentally-friendly, purchasing local and sustainable alcohol, fair trade coffee and tea, and local and/or organic foods.

### **3 Article III: Membership**

- 3.1 Membership for a club under the Students' Society of McGill University is open to all SSMU and PGSS members, including those of disadvantaged backgrounds, regardless of but not limited to gender, age, race, ethnic or national origin, religion, sexuality or sexual orientation, mental or physical abilities, language, or social class.
- 3.2 Only Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) and Post Graduate Students' Society (PGSS) members are eligible to be elected as officers and to hold voting privileges.
- 3.3 Associated non-voting membership is open to all others.

### **4 Article IV: Executive Committee**

- 4.1 The Executive Committee (EC) shall administer the Club and oversee its operations, rehearsals and performances.
- 4.2 The EC is composed of the following six portfolios:
  - 1. Co-Presidents
  - 2. Vice President Arrangements
  - 3. Vice President Communications
  - 4. Vice President Administration
  - 5. Vice President Events
  - 6. Vice President Finances
- 4.3 The EC shall meet biweekly (once every two weeks).
- 4.4 At least five of the seven EC members must be present at an EC meeting in order for quorum to be met and for the meeting to proceed.

### **5 Article V: Portfolios**

- 5.1 The Co-Presidents shall:
  - 5.1.1 Be the chief executive officers, chief representatives, and chief spokespeople of the Club.
  - 5.1.2 Oversee all aspects of the Club and lead the executive committee.
  - 5.1.3 Be the main point of contact between the SSMU VP Student Life and the Club.
  - 5.1.4 Apply for a cappella competitions, locally and abroad
  - 5.1.5 Ensure that the Club is abiding by the Constitution, By-laws and Policies of the Students' Society of McGill University
- 5.2. The Vice President Arrangements shall:
  - 5.2.1 Assure that musical arrangements for renditions are completed on time



- 5.2.2 Provide copies of arrangements for each section (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass).
  - 5.2.3 Act as a guide or reference to whichever member is writing the musical arrangement.
- 5.3 The Vice President Communication shall:
- 5.3.1 Publicize Raag's mission and vision within McGill and Montreal communities.
  - 5.3.2 Regularly update Raag's social media platforms – Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Sound Cloud and YouTube.
  - 5.3.3 Design posters and other promotional materials to promote Raag's events and performances.
- 5.4 The Vice President Administration shall:
- 5.4.1 Book SSMU spaces, or other spaces, for rehearsals.
  - 5.4.2 Maintain a record of rehearsal attendance.
  - 5.4.3 Document and allow for absences in rehearsals
  - 5.4.4 Issue reminders and warning to those members who are continuously late and or/absent for rehearsals.
- 5.5 The Vice President Events shall:
- 5.5.1 Coordinate performances through McGill clubs, non-McGill venues, and Montreal event planners.
  - 5.5.2 Coordinate availabilities with external performance requests/bookings.
  - 5.5.3 Plan and coordinate a Spring Showcase performance
- 5.6 The Vice President Finances shall:
- 5.6.1 Apply for funding or grants through SSMU.
  - 5.6.2 Complete SSMU audit forms and other paperwork related to funding.
  - 5.6.3 Organize and book samosa sales for fundraising.
  - 5.6.4 Maintain an updated and accurate budget throughout the year.
  - 5.6.5 Act as the main liason between the Club and Scotiabank for all matters pertaining to the bank account.
- 6 Article VI: Fees**
- 6.1 The Club's membership fee shall be \$0.
- 7 Article VII: Finances**
- 7.1 The Executive Committee or Collective shall examine the financial records, and prepare an audit, complete with records of all transactions and receipts, to be submitted to the SSMU at the end of each semester before May 31st of each year.
  - 7.2 All club bank accounts must be kept at Scotiabank as subsections of the SSMU account
    - 7.2.1 Each account must have a minimum of two and maximum of three signing officers
    - 7.2.2 In order to receive funding of any kind from the SSMU, the club must have a Scotiabank account



### **Article VIII: Meetings**

- 8.1 There shall be a general meeting held in March for the purpose of announcing new members to the EC.
- 8.2 Regular Executive shall be held throughout the fall and winter terms.

### **9 Article IX: Electoral Procedures**

- 9.1 Members apply for EC position via an online form.
- 9.2 All candidates are interviewed by the Co-Presidents.
- 9.3 EC, excluding those EC members running for re-election, congregates to discuss all candidates and makes the final decision on the future executive
- 9.4 A general meeting will be held prior to March 31 when new executive is announced.

### **10 Article X: Affiliations**

- 10.1 The club shall have no affiliations.

### **11 Article XI: Constitutional Amendment Procedure**

- 11.1 Any member of the club may propose an amendment to the Constitution.
- 11.2 In order to amend the constitution a two-thirds majority vote at a General Meeting must be in favor of the proposed amendment.
- 11.3 All amendments shall be submitted to the Club Commissioner, will be reviewed by the Club Committee and ratified by the SSMU council before they take effect.

### **12 Article XII: Bylaws and Policies**

- 12.1.1 The club shall create and maintain bylaws that cover the operations of the club which are not specified in the Constitution.
- 12.2 The club's bylaws shall not contravene the Constitution.
- 12.2.1 The club by laws must be available to any member of the SSMU when and if requested.

### **13 Article XIII: SSMU Constitution, By-Laws and Policies**

- 13.1 In case of any inconsistencies between the Club Constitution and the SSMU Constitution and By-Laws, the SSMU Constitution By-Laws and Policies shall take effect.
- 13.2 If there are any areas not covered in this Constitution, the SSMU Constitution, By-Laws and Policies shall take effect.