

# **Society of Composers at Georgia State University**

## **Constitution**

### **Preamble / Purpose Statement**

The Society of Composers is dedicated to the promotion of composition, performance, understanding, and dissemination of new and contemporary music in and around Georgia State University.

We, the members of the Society of Composers at Georgia State University hereby design and adopt this constitution.

### **Article I – Organization**

#### ***Section 1:***     Name

The organization governed by this constitution shall be named the **Society of Composers at Georgia State University**; hereafter referred to in this constitution as **SCI**.

#### ***Section 2:***     Purpose and Objectives

- a. To encourage and promote student composition and performance of new music at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.
- b. To foster a sense of camaraderie and cooperation among student composers at Georgia State University.
- c. To represent the student composers of Georgia State University to the national Society of Composers, Inc., to Georgia State University, and to the public through regular meetings and performances.

#### ***Section 3:***     Affiliation

The Society of Composers at Georgia State University is a representative student chapter of the Society of Composers, Inc. national organization (Society of Composers, Inc., Box 450, New York, NY, 10113-0450) and thereby governed by its policies and regulations concerning student chapters.

***Section 4:***     Organization Agreement

The Society of Composers agrees to abide by the Georgia State Student Code of Conduct. Furthermore, the Society of Composers agrees to abide by all Student Life and Leadership policies as outlined in the student handbook; to attend an annual student organization orientation session; to keep all content accurate on the Club Manager website; to check the organization's mailbox regularly; to communicate via email upon request; to update the organization's records whenever there is a change; and submit a petition for renewal by May 1st of each year.

**Article II – Membership**

***Section 1:***     Requirements

- a. Membership shall be open to all undergraduate and graduate students at Georgia State University studying music composition with a faculty advisor of the university. Enrollment in Composition Seminar (MUS 4210 or MUS 6210) qualifies as acceptable study of composition with a faculty advisor.
- b. Extending membership to non-composition students or students at other universities will be considered at the discretion of the President and Faculty Advisor.
- c. Officers for SCI must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5. All members must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.0.
- d. In order to present music at SCI concerts and related activities, including contests, members must maintain an “active” status within the student chapter of SCI.

***Section 2:***     “Active” Versus “Inactive” Members

- a. Members who remain in good standing by demonstrating active participation in all official SCI events, which may include but are not limited to concerts, receptions, and chapter meetings, shall be considered “Active” members of the student chapter of SCI.
- b. Each member's standing and level of participation shall be determined by the President and Faculty Advisor.

- c. Members placed on “Inactive” status are ineligible to participate in selected chapter events for the duration of the semester.

***Section 3:***     Chapter Dues

Dues shall be collected at the beginning of both fall *and* spring semesters for the local student chapter of SCI (The Society of Composers at Georgia State University) based on a percentage of those charged by the national chapter. Annual dues to the national chapter must be paid each September, or upon initial submission of an application for membership, directly to the national chapter of the Society of Composers, Inc.

***Section 4:***     Non-Discrimination

SCI will not discriminate or deny membership on the basis of race, gender, age, religion, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation, except as authorized by law, and will adhere to the Student Handbook and the rules and regulations of Georgia State University in its operations.

**Article III – Powers and Duties of the Organization**

***Section 1:***     Duties

It shall be the duty of SCI to:

- a. Hold meetings monthly or as determined by the President and Faculty Advisor to fulfill needs of the organization.
- b. Elect new officers at the end of each spring semester for the following school year.
- c. Appoint a delegate to be a member of the Community Development Council (CDC) of Georgia State University and attend its monthly meetings. If no delegate is appointed to the position, this responsibility will fall to the Treasurer.
- d. Establish by-laws, a constitution, and a calendar of events.
- e. Organize and sponsor a reception for concerts of the neoPhonia ensemble of the Georgia State University School of Music.

***Section 2:***     Quorum

A simple majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

***Section 3:***     Powers

It shall be the power of SCI to:

- a. Approve expenditures by a 2/3 majority vote of the members present.
- b. Organize and promote new music through concerts, contests, and lectures.
- c. Impeach or censure SCI officers by a 3/4 majority vote of its members.
- d. Recommend members for “Active” or “Inactive” status by a 3/4 majority vote of its members.

***Section 4:***     Anti-Hazing Policy:

The Society of Composers shall abide by the Georgia State University policy on hazing and prohibits its members, both individually and collectively, from committing any acts of hazing.

**Article IV – Powers and Duties of the Officers and Faculty Advisor**

***Section 1:***     Powers and Duties of the President:

- a. Conduct all meetings of the organization.
- b. Develop a calendar of events for the organization.
- c. Present all SCI student concerts.
- d. Represent SCI or designate a representative of SCI to outside organizations and interests.
- e. Coordinate a contest each fall semester to determine student compositions for inclusion on an SCI Student Chapter CD and act as producer for the final recording.
- f. Withdraw his/her vote in the case of a tie.

- g. Appoint members to fill vacant offices when necessary.
- h. Attend a student organization orientation meeting presented each fall by the Office of Student Life and Leadership at Georgia State University.
- i. Maintain an active status and charter for the organization with the Georgia State University Office of Student Life and Leadership.
- j. Exercise other powers as designated and approved by the organization to perform the duties of the office.

***Section 2:***     Powers and Duties of the Vice-President:

- a. Conduct meetings in the absence of the President.
- b. Become acting President upon vacancy of the office of President.
- c. Coordinate receptions for neoPhonia new music concerts.
- d. Reproduce SCI Student Chapter CDs and sell them at chapter events.
- e. Develop a calendar of events for the organization.
- f. Assist the President as needed.
- g. Exercise other powers as designated and approved by the organization to perform the duties of the office.

***Section 3:***     Powers and Duties of the Secretary:

- a. Keep accurate minutes of all meetings. At each meeting, the minutes from the previous meeting should be read and become part of a permanent record, open to inspection by outside interests.
- b. Maintain a contact list of current members.
- c. Contact members about upcoming SCI events.
- d. Exercise the powers and duties of the Webmaster upon vacancy of this office.
- e. Exercise other powers as designated and approved by the organization to perform the duties of the office.

***Section 4:***     Powers and Duties of the Treasurer:

- a. Acquire, control, and disburse funds under the jurisdiction of the Society of Composers at Georgia State University.
- b. Keep a record of all income and expenditures for the organization and report on such matters when requested to do so by other Officers, the Faculty Advisor, or the national organization.
- c. Coordinate fundraisers and draft grant proposals.
- d. Join the Community Development Council (CDC) for Georgia State University (unless this appointment is delegated to another member of the organization), attend its monthly meetings, and inform SCI of its conclusions.
- e. Exercise other powers as designated and approved by the organization to perform the duties of the office.

***Section 5:***     Powers and Duties of the Webmaster:

- a. Maintain the SCI websites including updating all records and calendars.
- b. Attend a student organization orientation meeting presented each fall by the Office of Student Life and Leadership at Georgia State University.

***Section 6:***     Powers and Duties of the Faculty Advisor:

- a. Provide direction, counsel, and advice to the organization as deemed necessary.
- b. Be given full voice at all meetings.
- c. Have access to any and all records of SCI.

## **Article V – Elections**

### ***Section 1:***     Time and Method:

- a. New officers shall be elected at the end of each spring semester for the following school year.
- b. Candidates shall be nominated from the floor at the final meeting of the spring semester and shall be elected by a simple majority of the members present.
- c. In the event of a vacant seat, the acting President may appoint officers as necessary to fulfill obligations of the organization; otherwise, an election will be held to fill the office. The board reserves the right to nominate an individual to fill a vacant office.
- d. The Faculty Advisor shall be chosen by the members concurrently with the elections of officers at the end of the spring semester. This Faculty Advisor shall be a member of the composition faculty within the Georgia State University School of Music.

### ***Section 2:***     Offices:

- a. The offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Webmaster must be filled for each term.
- b. If necessary, the responsibilities of these offices may be combined or additional offices may be created to satisfy the needs of the organization.

### ***Section 3:***     Terms of Office:

- a. The term of all elected offices shall be for one year.

## **Article VI – Initiative, Referendum, and Amendments**

Initiatives and Amendments may be submitted in writing by any member of SCI and will become law upon passage by a 3/4 majority vote of the members.

## **Article VII – Ratification**

This constitution shall become effective upon approval by a 3/4 majority vote of the members of SCI.