**CONSTITUTION**

**“Crane School of Music Student Chapter American String Teachers Association”**

We, students at The Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam are interested in string and orchestra playing and teaching. In order to form a more efficient and energetic student organization for the promotion of string and orchestra playing and teaching in New York, and provide a means of organizing activities for the students and the community, we establish this constitution.

**Article I – Name and Purpose**

Sections:

1. Name: This organization shall be known by the title The Crane School of Music Student Chapter of the American String Teachers Association.

2. Purpose: The purpose of this organization shall be:

∙ To promote a greater interest and participation in string and orchestra performing at the elementary, middle, high school and collegiate levels.

∙ To promote the highest standards in string and orchestra performing, teaching and string and orchestra teacher education.

∙ To provide additional opportunities for community involvement in string and orchestra playing.

∙ To serve as a coordinating agency for the activities and interests of this group.

**Article II - Governance**

This Association shall be governed by the articles and bylaws of this Constitution and the Constitution of the national American String Teachers Association where applicable. The National Constitution shall be the final authority if this Constitution is deemed to conflict.

**Article III - Membership**

Membership in The Crane School of Music Student Chapter of ASTA shall be open to all students:1) interested in string and/or orchestra playing and teaching, at or below the graduate level, who paid national dues and any local dues as stated in the bylaws, Membership shall be open also to secondary string and orchestra students. 2) who are an SGA fee paying students attending the State University of New York (SUNY) Potsdam. Membership shall be open also to secondary string and orchestra students.

**Article IV – Executive Board, Elections, Vacancies, and Removals**

1. The officers of this chapter shall be:

∙ Chapter President

∙ Chapter Vice-President

∙ Secretary

∙ Treasurer

∙ Membership Chairman/Public Relations Officer

2. All officers shall serve for as long as they are students of the Crane School of Music, impeached, or abdicate. Officers will be elected in November of the Fall semester or April of the Spring Semester. All officers must not be on academic probation or judicial probation.

3. Duties of the officers shall be outlined in the bylaws.

4. Election shall be by a simple majority.

5. In the event of a vacancy in any office, except President, the Executive Board shall appoint a successor to fill the remainder of the term.

6. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, a general election shall be held. The Vice President shall serve as President Pro-tem until such an election may be held.

7. Impeachment of an officer may take place at any general meeting for which at least two weeks’ notice has been given to all members by a two-third vote of the membership. The officer in question shall be allowed to make a case in his or her defense if he or she chooses. A petition must be presented, signed by at least one-fifth of the membership, for impeachment proceedings to be placed on the agenda of a meeting.

8. The Chapter Advisor shall be appointed by the Dean of the School of Music, Head of the Department of Music, or the state ASTA President.

9. The Executive Board shall comprise the Officers and the Faculty Advisor.

10. All members of the Executive Board will be paying members of ASTA National.

**Article V - Meetings**

The Crane School of Music Student Chapter of ASTA shall meet at least twice a month for every month of the academic year. Meetings shall be called by the Chapter President of the Executive Board. The Crane School of Music Student Chapter of ASTA’s Executive Board shall meet at least thrice a month for every month of the academic year.

**Article VI - Amendments**

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any member and are to be supported by a petition of one-fifth of the membership. Following at least a two-week publicity period, amendments may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the chapter membership.

**Article VII – Acceptance of Constitution**

This Constitution shall go into effect when ratified by two-thirds of the chapter membership and approved by the national ASTA leadership.

**BYLAWS**

**Article I – Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Crane School of Music Student Chapter of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA).

**Article II – Purpose**

The purpose of this organization shall be set forth in the Constitution.

**Article** **III – Membership Sections**:

1. Membership shall be set forth in the Constitution.

2. Local dues shall be voted at the first meeting of each academic year.

**Article IV – Officers Sections:**

1. The officers of the organization shall be provided for in the Constitution.

2. The duties of the Chapter President shall be as follows:

∙ To preside at general membership and Executive Board meetings.

∙ To appoint members of all committees, temporary and standing.

∙ To work closely with the Faculty Advisor and other officers in planning activities of the chapter.

∙ To supervise and coordinate all activities of the Crane School of Music Student Chapter.

3. The duties of the Chapter Vice-President shall be as follows:

∙ To be available to the President at all times and to perform such duties as the President deems necessary.

∙ To officiate in the place of the President in event of absence.

∙ To serve as co-chairman of all committees.

4. The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:

∙ To keep an accurate record of the proceedings of all Executive Board and general membership meetings.

∙ To arrange those records for permanent, efficient reference.

∙ To be responsible for all correspondence of the chapter and the Executive Board.

4. The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:

∙ To keep an accurate record of all money received or paid out.

∙ To accurately budget events both on and off campus

∙ To actively participate in all development efforts set forth by the Treasurer or President

∙ To inform members periodically, at their discretion, of current and/or balances, budgets, and spending and allowances.

5. The duties of the Membership Chairperson shall be to:

∙ Organize a membership drive on campus.

∙ Plan and organize meeting programs and special programs.

∙ Work to fulfill the goals of the chapter.

∙ Assist the other officers in carrying out their duties.

∙ To collect dues and deliver them to the Treasurer

* Update and expand social media coverage

6. No Executive Board members shall be subject to attend SGA meetings, as recognition from SGA is solely to procure campus resources and occupy campus facilities.

**Article V – Meetings Sections:**

1. Meetings shall be of two types—regular and special.

2. Regular meetings shall be arranged as stated in the Constitution. These meetings shall be held at least twice a month for each month in the academic year.

3. Special meetings may be called by any member of the Executive Board or by petition of one-fifth of the general membership.

4. One-third of the general membership shall constitute a quorum.

5. The general membership shall include students enrolled in school and on-campus for that marking period.

**Article VI – Executive Board Sections:**

1. The Chapter president shall be chairman of the Executive Board.

2. All expenditures of money shall be approved by at least two members of the Executive Board and shall be made by the treasurer.

3. The Executive Board shall meet at least twice a month for each month of the academic year.

4. The Chapter Advisor shall be a member of ASTA in good standing.

**Article VII – Committees Sections:**

1. The committees of this Chapter shall be of two types, standing and temporary.

2. It shall be the duty of the President to appoint such committees as necessary to carry out the activities of the chapter. The President shall also appoint the committee chairs.

3. The Vice-President shall serve as the co-chair of all committees.

4. The standing committees of this chapter shall be:

∙ The Membership Committee

∙ The Programs Committee

5. Standing Committees shall continue as long as there is a need for their services or until they are dissolved by the Executive Board.

**Article VIII – Amendments**

Any member at any regular or special business meeting may propose amendments to these bylaws. Amendments may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of a quorum at such meetings.

**Article IX – Non-Discrimination Clause**

There shall be no discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, political affiliation, material status, veteran’s status, or religious affiliation within this organization.

**Article X – Supremacy Clause**

This Constitution shall be subsidiary to the Constitution of the SGA of the State University of New York at Potsdam, and shall operate in accordance with the SGA Constitution, the Student Code of Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct, and in other ways determined by the committee itself. This Constitution, shall be subsidiary to the Constitution of ASTA National, and shall operate in accordance with the ASTA National Constitution. If deemed that the SGA Constitution conflicts with ASTA National Constitution, the ASTA National Constitution shall prevail.

**Article XI – Hazing Clause**

Hazing in any form is strictly prohibited. Hazing is considered an interference with personal liberty, and include s any act of domination by any students over others with may lead to physical or emotional injury and discomfort. Hazing involving forced consumption of alcohol or drugs for the purpose of intonation or affiliation with any organization is specifically prohibited by this organization, SGA, and SUNY Potsdam.