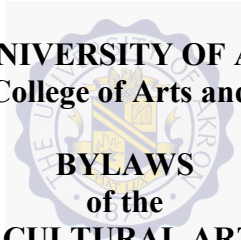


THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences



**BYLAWS
of the**

PERFORMING, VISUAL, AND CULTURAL ARTS ADVANCEMENT COUNCIL

Article I. Name, Purpose, and Need

1. *Name:* This organization shall be known as the Performing, Visual, and Cultural Arts Advancement Council of The University of Akron and shall be commonly known as the Arts Advancement Council.
2. *Purpose:* The purpose of the Arts Advancement Council is to bring together local, regional, and national leaders and patrons of the performing, visual, and cultural arts community to advocate on behalf of UA and its students; promote academic programs of the performing, visual, and cultural arts; and cultivate philanthropic resources to support these efforts. In this capacity, council members shall assist with:
 - a. *Community Advocacy:* Making connections, both internal and external, between UA and relevant individuals/organizations/foundations to create and advance opportunities for arts students, such as internships and employment opportunities.
 - b. *Philanthropy:* Assisting in the identification and cultivation of relevant individuals/organizations/foundations to provide financial support of scholarship and programming needs that benefit UA's arts students. Further, council members are asked to support the Performing, Visual, and Cultural Arts Advancement Council annually with a financial charitable gift on an annual basis according to its membership levels starting at \$500.
 - c. *Recruitment and Retention:* Working with the schools and departments to identify and plan opportunities that increase student enrollment and retention in the performing, visual, and cultural arts at UA.
3. *Need:* The University of Akron is a major force in urban higher education and contributes significantly to the diverse cultural environment and community life of Northeast Ohio. The University is recognized for its programs in visual arts, music, arts administration, and dance. To ensure the continued quality of these programs, it is essential the University establish close working relationships with arts leaders, alumni, friends, and community leaders.

Article II. Office and Term

1. The address of the council is: Arts Advancement Council, Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, Akron, OH 44325-1901

2. The term of existence of the Council shall be in perpetuity unless otherwise determined by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, University Advancement, and a two-thirds majority vote of the council.

Article III. Membership

1. Membership will be granted to individuals and organizations that agree to support the objectives of the Council and actively participate in Council activities. Any member may nominate a new member. Invitations for membership to the Arts Advancement Council will be extended by the Chair of the Council or his/her designee and the assigned Development Officer liaison.

2. *Types of Membership:*

- a. General Membership: A general member is a current member of the Council who is entitled to vote on all issues coming before the Council and to enjoy all other rights and privileges available to Council members without limitation.
- b. Emeritus Membership: A person who has served as a general member of the Council for at least three years is eligible for emeritus status. Emeritus membership shall be awarded by the Council to general members who have left active involvement with the Arts Advancement Council and who by their interest, service, and support have demonstrated continuing dedication over several years to the visual and performing arts at UA or for the University as an institution. Any member of the Arts Advancement Council may nominate a past general member to the Council for emeritus status. After reviewing the recommendations, the Council shall approve nominees by majority vote.

Emeritus status may, in some circumstances, be based on service to the University or to the arts in a variety of ways. Exemplary active service or a major financial commitment would be important considerations in awarding emeritus status to a past member of the Council.

- c. Ex-officio: Ex-officio members may attend and participate with Council and Committees; however, they do not have voting privileges. Within the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, the Dean, school directors, department chairs of the visual and performing arts or their direct designees, the Development Officer liaison, and others invited as such shall serve as ex-officio members.
3. Removal: Any member may be brought up for removal by the Council whenever, in the Council's judgment, the best interests of the Council will be served thereby. A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall be required for such action.

Article IV. Financial Commitment

1. *Financial Commitment:* The annual charitable gift requested of Arts Advancement Council members shall be in accordance with established membership levels. This gift may be personal or corporate.
 - a. Council members may designate their gifts to benefit any of the schools/departments of the performing, visual, and cultural arts at The University of Akron, including gifts to existing scholarships and endowments.
 - b. Specific annual gift amounts shall entitle Council members to certain benefits as described by the UA Development Office. Membership levels are:
 - i. Member's Circle: \$500
 - ii. Supporter's Circle: \$1,000
 - iii. Patron's Circle: \$2,500
 - iv. Ambassador's Circle: \$4,000
 - v. Artist's Circle: \$6,500+
2. *Fiscal Year:* The fiscal year of the Arts Advancement Council shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30. The annual gift shall be due July 1 and payable between July 1 and December 15 each fiscal year.
3. *Records:* All contributions shall be entered upon the books of The University of Akron on behalf of the Arts Advancement Council and are not refundable.
4. *Expenses:* Expenses incurred by members of the Arts Advancement Council, including travel and out-of-pocket expenses, shall be paid by each individual member or organization and is neither tax deductible nor refundable.

Article V. Meetings

1. *Regular:* The Council shall normally hold a regular meeting each academic semester and not less than two times annually, on dates selected by the Council Chairperson in partnership with the Executive Committee. Regular meetings shall be called with a minimum of four weeks' notice. Council members are required to attend a minimum of one regular meeting annually to be considered an active member and eligible to vote on issues before the Council.
2. *Special:* A special meeting may be called by the Council Chairperson or by a simple majority of the members of the Executive Committee. Special meetings shall be called with a minimum of two weeks' notice.
3. *Working Committees:* A working committee meeting shall be held each academic semester and not less than two times per year, with a minimum of four weeks' notice. These meetings are intended to discuss the needs and opportunities of the schools/departments through the lens of the committee's respective focus. These meetings will include time to decide and plan initiatives that will be undertaken to fulfill the purpose of each working committee.
4. *Executive Committee:* Members shall meet from time to time as they deem necessary and no less than once per fiscal year.

5. *Voting*: Each Advancement Council general member shall be entitled to one vote at all meetings at which they are present, except as may be otherwise provided by these bylaws. All questions shall be decided by the majority vote of the Arts Advancement Council general members present, except those specific issues which may be otherwise provided for in these bylaws.
6. *Absentee Voting*: The Executive Committee may, according to its judgment, approve and arrange for any ballot to be taken by mail/online platform. The Executive Committee may also approve the acceptance of absentee ballots on any issue, providing that the membership is given notice of their decision to do so within the notice of the meeting at which such ballot will take place.

Article VI. Officers

1. *Elected Officers*: The elected officers shall be a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, and a Secretary. The UA Development Office, in consultation with the Dean of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, shall select the inaugural officers of the Council. Subsequent Council officers shall be nominated and elected by majority vote of Council membership at the annual spring meeting and will hold office for a one-year renewable term, commencing on July 1 and ending on June 30.
2. *Other Officers*: The Council may elect other officers as it deems necessary for the transaction of the business of the council, each of whom shall have such authority, shall perform such duties, and shall hold office for such term as may be prescribed by the Council from time to time.
3. *Vacancies*: Vacancies in the Elected Officer positions may be filled by a majority vote of the Executive Committee, and any person so elected shall hold office for the remainder of the applicable term.
4. *Officer Removal*: Any Elected Officer may be removed by the Council whenever, in its judgment, the best interests of the Council will be served thereby. A majority vote of the Council shall be required for such action.

Article VII. Duties

1. *Chairperson*: The Chairperson of the Council shall be responsible for general supervision of its affairs and shall be subject to the control of the Council. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Council, and the Executive Committee shall carry out the policies established by the Executive Committee and Council. In questions of procedure during meetings, the Chairperson shall follow Robert's Rules of Order. The Chairperson shall act as the official Arts Advancement Council spokesperson, appoint Committee Officers in consultation with the Dean and executive committee, appoint committees in consultations with the appropriate Committee Officers and the Dean, and call meetings of

the Executive Committee and the Council. The Chairperson is an ex-officio member of all standing, working, and special committees.

2. *Vice Chairperson*: The Vice Chairperson shall perform and discharge the duties of the Chairperson in case of his/her absence. The Vice Chairperson shall have general responsibility for programs at regular meetings and shall also perform such other duties as the Council or Chairperson may prescribe. The Vice Chairperson is considered the successor of the Chairperson should the Chairperson step down, be removed, or otherwise be unable to fulfill his/her duties.
3. *Secretary*: The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings or cause the same to be done, where notice may be required. He/she shall keep a record of the proceedings of all such meetings, conduct correspondence, and perform duties incidental to the office of the Secretary and such other duties as the Council or Chairperson may prescribe. The Secretary shall maintain a record of Arts Advancement Council membership and shall provide every new member, upon acceptance, with a copy of the bylaws and any rules or regulations that may have been adopted. The Secretary is considered the successor of the Vice Chairperson should the Vice Chairperson step down, be removed, or otherwise be unable to fulfill his/her duties.
4. *Responsibilities of the Schools/Departments to the Council*: The Schools/Departments of the performing, visual, and cultural arts at UA will assume responsibility for informing Council membership about the curricular and special events hosted by the Schools/Departments. The school directors will provide opportunities for involvement and interaction as appropriate.
 - a. The Development Officer liaison will provide updates on fundraising performance and gift opportunities to the Council. Further, the Development Officer liaison will work with the Chair to notify members of annual gift commitments and provide instruction for fulfilling gifts associated with Council membership.

Article VIII. Committees

1. *Executive Committee*: The Executive Committee shall serve as an advisory group to the Chairperson of the Arts Advancement Council. Duties will include: (1) recommending to the Chairperson appropriate programs and activities to advance the arts at UA, (2) serving as an advisory group for the Chairperson in the appointment of the committees and other assignments, and (3) acting for the Committee on matters delegated to it by the Council.

Arts Advancement Council members serving as officers, the Dean of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, and the Directors/Chairs of the Schools and Departments of the performing, visual, and cultural arts at UA shall constitute the Executive Committee. Other members may be added by appointment of the Chairperson and approved by a majority vote of the Arts Advancement Council.

2. Working Committees:

- a. The Committee for Community Advocacy: Shall make connections, both internal and external, between UA and relevant individuals/organizations to create and advance art student opportunities such as internships and employment opportunities.
- b. The Committee for Philanthropy: Shall assist in the identification and cultivation of relevant individuals/organizations to provide financial support of scholarship and programming needs that benefit UA's art students.
- c. The Committee for increased Student Recruitment and Retention: Shall work with the schools and departments to identify and plan recruitment opportunities that increase student enrollment in the performing, visual, and cultural arts at UA.

Article IX. Amendments

The bylaws of the Arts Advancement Council may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the general membership.

Article X. Ratification

The bylaws of the Performing, Visual, and Cultural Arts Advancement Council of The University of Akron have been voted on and adopted by the general membership of the Arts Advancement Council as of the 25th day of April in the year 2022.