

Constitution of Association for Research in Theatre at Indiana University

Preamble

The Association of Research in Theatre at Indiana University provides a place for graduate students and advanced undergraduates to meet together and share their research in theatre and performance studies. In addition, it provides opportunities for these students to expand their professional networks and develop in other ways professionally.

Article I: Membership

Membership in ART@IU is largely limited to graduate students. Exceptions can be made, at the discretion of the executive board, to allow advanced undergraduate students and independent scholars to become members. There is no limit on the number of graduate or undergraduate students in the organization; however, no more than two (2) independent scholars may be members of ART@IU at any given time.

All members of the organization have full voting rights at membership meetings.

Enrollment in ART@IU for graduate students at Indiana University is open.

Participation in ART@IU must be without regard to arbitrary consideration of such characteristics as age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Should a member be found violating the previous clause or any other portion of this constitution, they may be removed from membership by the executive board. When a member graduates from or otherwise leaves Indiana University, their membership automatically ends. Independent scholars are admitted to the group for a period of eighteen (18) months.

Article II: University Compliance

This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state and federal laws.

Article III: Executive Officers

The executive board of ART@IU shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Historian, Treasurer, and Advisor.

The President is primarily responsible for an *optional* Graduate Symposium and/or ART@IU-sponsored events. She or he also chairs the executive board and presides at all meetings.

The Vice President is responsible for assisting the President in all duties, and presides in her or his absence.

The Secretary is responsible for taking minutes at meetings and distributing them, as well as maintaining the membership rolls. She or he also prepares meeting agendas and completes all required University paperwork (which includes annual re-registration).

The Historian is responsible for maintaining the organization's web presence and documenting events such as the annual symposium and all ART@IU-sponsored events.

The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the organization's financial account and organizing all fundraising efforts, including developing and maintaining the organization's budget.

The Advisor serves as a liaison between faculty and the organization.

Presidents and Vice Presidents serve for a period of roughly twelve (12) months. Elections will be held at a membership meeting at the end of the year. The former Vice President becomes the new President. To be eligible as Vice President, a student must have at least two (2) years remaining in an Indiana University graduate program. The Secretary, Historian, and Treasurer serve for a term of twelve (12) months. Undergraduates enrolled at Indiana University are eligible for these three positions.

Should an officer resign, an immediate election occurs to fill the vacancy. This election can be at a meeting or via electronic means. If the President resigns, the Vice President becomes President and a new election for Vice President is held. If the Advisor resigns, the executive board selects a new Advisor to take their place.

The executive board meets as often as needed, but no less than once per semester, as called by the President. All decisions of the executive board are made by majority vote; unanimity should be sought whenever possible.

Article IV: Advisor

As stated, the Advisor serves as a liaison between faculty and the organization. In addition, the advisor has final oversight of financial matters and provides valuable guidance.

Article V: Meetings

A full membership meeting is held at the end of the year, as organized by the executive board. Members will be notified of the time and location via e-mail at least one week in advance. The agenda will consist of elections for officers and other items included by the executive board. Time for input from other members of the organization must always be included. The Secretary takes attendance at these meetings. Other meetings may be called at the discretion of the executive board.

Article VI: Elections

Nominations (self or otherwise) for officer positions must be seconded by the Advisor, to ensure that candidates are in good academic standing. Elections at the final membership meeting of the year are by secret ballot, counted by the outgoing President. Online elections (for Secretary, Treasurer, or replacement officers due to resignations) will be announced at least a week in advance, and will be by signed ballot (each vote will be attached to a name that can be checked on the membership rolls).

Article VII: Non-Hazing

Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

Article VIII: Dues & Budgets

There are no dues for membership in the organization. The budget must be an item on the agenda of every executive board meeting and is the responsibility of the Treasurer.

Article IX: Finances

The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the Student Organization Account and ensuring state accordance with all office policies and procedures regarding the account. Should the group dissolve with money in the account, the money will devolve to the Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance.

Article X: Personal Gain Clause

This organization, if raising funds, shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

Article XI: Amendments

Any amendment proposed to the constitution will be distributed to membership electronically at least two weeks in advance of the membership meeting or a vote to be held on it.

If voted on at the membership meeting, $\frac{3}{4}$ of those present must vote for it. If voted on electronically at another time, $\frac{3}{4}$ of members based on current roll must vote for it.