

# **The Constitution for**

## **The Student Writers' Assembled Guild (SWAG)**

### **Article I- Name of Organization**

The name of the organization shall be the Student Writers' Assembled Guild (SWAG).

### **Article II- Purpose of Club**

SWAG exists to encourage learning and growth among students in the area of writing. The procedure for this is twofold:

- SWAG will present writing prompts, host workshops, and coordinate other events which involve actively generating new content by its members in order to put writing into practice.
- The club will also regularly critique members' works written both in- and outside SWAG meetings in the interest of identifying ways to improve previously generated content.

The club will be open to any member's needs or limitations and will not ever force a member to share their work. SWAG exists to promote each member's unique interests and abilities and grow his or her love of writing.

### **Article III- Membership**

#### *Section A: Membership*

- Membership will be open to any CPCC student who has an interest in creative writing. There are no requirements for membership besides ongoing attendance of club meetings.
- Any CPCC student, member or non-member, may attend club meetings and request to receive emails regarding club activities and announcements.

#### *Section B: Rescission*

- Membership may be rescinded from any member through a unanimous vote by the officers of SWAG. All officer positions must be filled in order to enact rescission.
- An official Declaration of Rescission shall be issued to former members for recordkeeping purposes, outlining the reason for dismissal from the club in keeping with Constitutional details.

### **Article IV- Statement of Non-Discrimination and Free Speech**

- The Student Writers' Assembled Guild does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, nationality, gender, sexuality, pre-existing health condition, or any other premise.
- Members of the club are also free to write in club or submit outside writing about their political opinions, held beliefs, etc. so long as they are not

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demeaning, hurtful, or a direct attack on other members of the club. Such offenses are grounds for rescission of membership.

### **Article VI- Officers**

#### *Section A: Candidacy*

- Any member of SWAG who wishes to run for office must nominate themselves for the position. Candidates may be expected to present their reasoning before the fully assembled club on a designated “voting day.”
- Positions will be decided by the fully assembled club in a blind vote on voting day. Each member may only vote one time, and candidates may resign at any time. Candidates may run for multiple positions at once, but officers may only hold one position.

#### *A-1: Officer Veto*

Following the blind vote on voting day, officers may adjourn to confirm results at the following officer meeting. Officers may confirm a candidate who did not win the majority vote.

In the event that confirmation of a candidate is not unanimous, a vote among officers may decide the result by simple majority. *The club’s advisor gets two votes.*

#### *Section B: Succession*

- An officer’s term limit is 2 semesters or one year. However, there is no limit on the number of terms they may serve, provided they run for office successfully each year.
- In the event of sudden resignation or impeachment of the club’s president, the vice president must succeed that office for the remainder of the term. The secretary must then succeed the vice president, and general elections may be held to replace the office of secretary (likewise, for the vice president, the secretary must succeed, and general elections be held for that office).

#### *Section C: Responsibilities*

The following are general guidelines outlining responsibilities for officers of SWAG. These are not hard-and-fast rules, and will vary with each iteration of SWAG administration. Not performing one or more of these duties is not necessarily grounds for immediate impeachment of an officer; however, severe neglect of said officer's duties may be.

#### *C-1: The President*

The president is the face of the Student Writers' Assembled Guild, and primarily handles networking, PR, and recruitment for the club. The president must have strong connections to CPCC faculty and staff. He or she will

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moderate regular club meetings, coordinate events such as Sensoria and other opportunities with Student Life, and handle most online communications.

### *C-2: The Vice President*

The vice president acts as a foil to the president, providing quality control and general assistance. In the event of the president's absence, the vice president must be capable of handling everything in his or her place for the duration. He or she is also in charge of the calendar of events on the club's website, and handles all collection and distribution of club funds.

### *C-3: The Secretary*

The secretary handles the selection and organization of submissions for the SWAG Mag., a publication produced by club members annually. He or she is the point person for formatting and printing of this publication through CPCC. The secretary will also take minutes during officer meetings, and communicate event dates and reminders to the assembled members of the club.

## **Article VII- Procedure for conducting meetings and activities**

*Section A:* Meeting times shall be decided by the incoming administration at the end of the preceding semester so that advance notice may be provided for club members.

*Section B:* In keeping with the twofold purpose of SWAG, meetings shall be broken into two parts:

1. A writing prompt, poetry or prose, which challenges the club's members and grows their appreciation and understanding of writing.
2. Critique, or workshopping of a member's previously submitted writing, with the aim of improving his or her abilities as a writer.

Normal procedure may be interrupted by announcements, special events, etc. with the express purpose of furthering SWAG's goals through another method or medium.

## **Article VIII- Resolving Disputes**

Any member in disagreement with any policy, methodology, or other actions condoned by SWAG shall be encouraged to speak with the club officers. Issues which pertain to the entire group may be discussed during regular meetings, if appropriate. Officers must hear all concerns or complaints without bias and carefully consider ways to improve the club.

If, however, such improvements would conflict with the methodology outlined in the Constitution, no action may be taken short of amendment to the document itself.

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## **Article IX- Amendment**

- Any officer or member of SWAG may propose amendments to the Constitution. Officers may first decide by simple majority whether the legislation shall be brought before the club. *The club's advisor gets two votes.*
- Proposed legislation must succeed in a vote by the fully assembled club by at least two-thirds majority. Each member may receive only one vote.

## **Article XI- Removal of an Officer**

### *Section A: Impeachment*

- Any member of SWAG who feels the need to impeach an officer may request to designate an "impeachment day." If at least three members request an impeachment, officers *must* entertain this request. Impeachment day *must* be announced to the fully assembled club at least one week in advance.

### *Section B: Procedure*

- Both the member or members who submitted the request and the officer being impeached may be granted an opportunity to defend their case before the fully assembled club on impeachment day.
- Impeachment will be decided by simple majority. The officer being impeached may not vote. Each member may receive only one vote or may decline to vote. The officer being impeached may resign at any time.

In the event of a successful impeachment, procedures must be followed to elect a new officer according to article VI. Impeachment day and voting day may *not* be the same day. Procedures for rescission of membership must also be followed according to article III, section B.

## **Article XII- Article V**

There is no Article V.