

Taneycomo Festival Orchestra  
Bylaws as written by Larkin Sanders  
January 2017

**Article I: Name**

Taneycomo Festival Orchestra Incorporated

**Article II: Mission**

The Taneycomo Festival Orchestra is a new nonprofit organization that provides a free two-week concert series of classical music in Branson, Missouri. We seek to break the 19th century tradition that attending a symphony concert is a formal and elitist event by providing an accessible and casual concert series while continuing to preserve these great works of art in our destination city. Come as you are and enjoy the beautiful music!

**Article III: Diversity and Equity**

At the TFO, we believe that all people, their culture, and their art contribute to the meaning and understanding of our humanity and should be honored and celebrated. As musicians, we play a unique role in witnessing, demonstrating, and providing inspiration to resolve societal inequity and injustice. As Henry Wadsworth Longfellow said, "music is the universal language of mankind," and we are afforded the opportunity of communicating across social differences with our music.

One of my favorite things about the Taneycomo Festival Orchestra is the deeply bonded and diverse community it has created. Our love for each other and the music we make is fierce and isn't something that can be shattered as long as we continue to love and support each other. The TFO will always strive to be a safe place for musicians and artists regardless of race, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion, and other differences. We are a family, a group of people with something beautiful in common.

In consideration of these sentiments, any form of discrimination (spoken, violent, or otherwise) towards musicians, board members, staff, or volunteers (hosts, meal providers, etc.) for their race, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion, or other social differences will not be tolerated. Any person who engages in such behaviors will be removed from his/her position with the TFO and not permitted to attend any future TFO events.

## **Article IV: Officers**

- I. President
  - A. Responsible for delegating duties to other board members
  - B. Supervises other board members' duties to ensure that adequate host families and meals are recruited.
- II. Secretary
  - A. Records board meeting activities by taking minutes.
- III. Treasurer
  - A. Ensures that board members are adequately contributing to the organization by providing housing, meals, or funds.

## **Article V: Meetings**

- I. Meetings will occur twice per year
  - A. Once in January (on or near January 3) before fundraising and orchestra recruiting begins.
    1. Will discuss the following:
      - a) Strategies for fundraising (i.e., grants, sponsorships), recruiting host families and meal hosts, and securing in-kind donations such as food and venue spaces
      - b) Brainstorm for creative approaches to marketing
  - B. Once in July (on or around July 7) following the conclusion of the Festival
    1. Will discuss the following:
      - a) Festival reflections
      - b) Strategies for the following year
  - C. Officers should discuss matters as need be throughout the year in order to make meetings more efficient.

## **Article VI: Board of Directors**

- I. The purpose of the board is to maintain the TFO's sustainability.
  - A. Duties include but are not limited to:
    1. Recruiting Host Families
    2. Recruiting Meal Providers
    3. Collecting In-Kind Donations
  - B. Each board member is required to recruit at least 5 beds/host families and 1 meal for the Festival.
- II. The board members are:
  - A. Bob Abbott

- B. Amanda Miles
  - C. Pete Marcellus
  - D. Joe Peters
  - E. Jamie Whitmarsh
  - F. Steve James
  - G. Nate Bliton
- III. Remote board members are not required to attend board meetings in person but are encouraged to attend digitally (via Skype or Google Hangs). Consequently, their votes are not necessary when electing and appointing new officers.
- IV. Board members are not paid. They serve on a volunteer basis and are required to make substantial contributions to the Festival. These contributions may include but are not limited to:
- A. \$1,000 donation
  - B. Serve as host family
  - C. Serve as meal provider and/or dinner host
- V. Board members are elected yearly at January meetings.
- A. Potential board members are required to submit the following to the board President and the Executive-Artistic Director:
    - 1. A letter of intent
    - 2. A resume
  - B. Original board members are appointed by the Executive-Artistic Director.
- VI. Officers are nominated by board members when a vacancy occurs.
- A. If an officer is satisfied with his/her office and no other member is nominated or wishes to run for the office, then an election is not necessary.

### **Article VII: Committees**

- I. Committees may form as needed, and each committee must have two or more members unless otherwise noted. Committees can be but are not limited to:
- A. Community Ambassadors
    - 1. Responsible for aiding the Development Director accrue in-kind donations and to recruit host families and meal providers.
  - B. Artistic Advising
    - 1. Subcommittee: Composition Competition Adjudicator Panel

### **Article VIII: Parliamentary Authority**

Meetings will not be conducted using Robert's Rules of Order.

## **Article IX: Bylaws**

The Bylaws committee will meet before the January meeting to determine if the bylaws require reform. If reform is required, then a new draft must be presented at the January meeting and approved with a majority vote of approval.