

ASOCIACIÓN NACIONAL DE GRUPOS FOLKLÓRICOS



CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the Asociación Nacional de Grupos Folklóricos have formed as a united international association to serve as a voice for the promotion and preservation of Mexican folklore traditions. We aim to actively pursue the research, education, and artistic representation of the rich dance, music, and folk art traditions of Mexico. We also aim to promote and generate a greater understanding of interrelated folk cultural traditions through our organization. We are here to serve our communities through our distinct culture, educational goals, and outreach endeavors. We acknowledge that it is through collective dialogue and communal practices that we can maintain alive the histories and traditions of our people, and for this reason we hereby establish such an organization and bind ourselves to abide by the provisions of the following Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE I—NAME

The name of the organization shall be Asociación Nacional de Grupos Folklóricos (ANGF), herein referred to as ANGF.

ARTICLE II—PURPOSE

ANGF is dedicated to the research of, preservation of, presentation of, and education of indigenous and *mestizo* culture as well as other related folklore within the realm of dance, music, and thevisual arts.

ARTICLE III—PRIMARY OFFICE

The primary office of ANGF shall be located in Los Angeles, California until such time as $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Board of Directors votes to designate another location.

- a. The Board of Directors shall have authority to establish temporary satellite and or permanent offices throughout its recognized geographic regions for the purpose of its organizational operations.

ARTICLE IV—POWER & SCOPE OF AUTHORITY

Section 1

The scope of authority for ANGF shall be legislative, administrative, judicial, and advisory. By virtue of authority invested in it by this Constitution and Bylaws, ANGF shall have power to regulate all matters of member interest.

Section 2

All policies and activities of ANGF and its members shall be in compliance with the ANGF Constitution and Bylaws and any applicable local, State, and Federal laws.

ARTICLE V—STRUCTURE

Section 1

There shall be a general membership consisting of those individuals that have paid annual membership dues to ANGF. The individuals will be assigned to one of the recognized geographic regions as deemed by the ANGF Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2

There shall be a Board of Directors, herein referred to as the Board. The Board will be composed of one representative from each recognized geographic region, the Executive Board, and the National Directors. This body shall have final authority on all matters related to the organization in accordance with all policies and guidelines.

Section 3

There shall be an Executive Board, subject in all respects to the Board.

ARTICLE VI—MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Eligibility for membership is open to any individual upon the payment of annual membership dues as set by the Board.

Section 2

All individuals who have paid annual membership dues to the organization are considered members of the organization and are entitled to member privileges as deemed by this Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 3

In order to remain an active member of the organization, each member must be in good standing financially with the Board and be approved for membership upon the Board's annual membership review.

Section 4

All new members must be approved by the Board by a simple majority vote.

- a. New members will be brought up to a vote by the Director of Membership biannually during the Board of Director meetings.
- b. Until formally granted membership through Board vote, new members will be considered Associate Members of ANGF but will be entitled to all membership privileges contingent upon their payment of annual membership dues.

Section 5

Membership into ANGF shall not be denied to any individual or group on the basis of age, gender, race, nationality, creed, religion, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or physical handicap.

ARTICLE VII—REPRESENTATION

Section 1

Representation of the general membership in the Board will be organized by geographical region. There shall be one representative elected from every Board-recognized geographic region.

Section 2

The following are the geographic regions recognized by the Board:

1. Golden Pacific Region (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA)
2. Southern Region (AR, LA, MS, TX)
3. Southwest Region (AZ, CO, NM, NV, OK, UT)
4. Northwest Region (ID, MT, WY)
5. Midwest Region (MN, MO, NE ND, SD)
6. Great Lakes Region (KS, IL, IN, IA, MI, OH, WI)
7. Southeast Region (AL, FL, GA, KY, NC, SC, TN)
8. Northeast Region (CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV, District of Columbia)
8. Mexico & International Territories (Puerto Rico, Caribbean, Canada, Spain)

Section 3

The Board will assign new states, territories, or countries to the recognized geographic regions through a simple majority vote.

Section 4

The Board can restructure its geographic regions as needed in order to maintain organizational structure. All proposed changes to regional representation structure must be approved by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the Board.

ARTICLE VIII—NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1—Executive Board

The elected Executive Board of the Board will be composed of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Finance Officer, and Secretary.

Section 2—National Directors

The elected National Directors of the Board will be: Director of Membership, Director of Programming, Director of Cultural & Educational Affairs, Director of Communications, and Director of Special Events.

Section 3—Regional Representatives

The general membership of the Board will be represented by one elected regional representative from each recognized geographic region.

Section 4—Auxiliary Officers

There shall be up to three Auxiliary Officers appointed by the Chair who will serve on the Board in an ad-hoc capacity and have no voting rights. These three auxiliary officers shall be the Sergeant at Arms, the National Parliamentarian, and the National Archivist.

ARTICLE IX—COMMITTEES

Section 1

The standing committees of ANGF shall be: Policies & Guidelines, Programming, Finance, Public Relations, Conference, and the Judicial Board.

- a. The following Executive Board Members, National Directors, and Auxiliary Officers shall oversee the standing committees: Chair (Policies & Guidelines); Director of Programming (Programming); Finance Officer (Finance); Director of Communications (Public Relations); Director of Special Events (Conference); Sergeant at Arms (Judicial Board).
- b. Each respective overseeing Executive Board Member, National Director, and Auxiliary Officer shall nominate up to five individuals to sit on their respective standing committee. The Board must approve these committee appointments by simple majority.
 - i. Selected committee members must be ANGF members in good standing.

Section 2

The Chair shall establish any committees to carry out the programs and operation of ANGF.

ARTICLE X—MEETINGS

Section 1

The meetings of the Board at minimum shall be held biannually.

Section 2

A quorum to convene and transact business shall consist of 2/3 of the voting members of the Board.

- a. Voting members shall be the Regional Representatives, the National Directors, and the Executive Board with the exception of the Vice-Chair.

Section 3

The Chair can call special and/or emergency meetings. All board members must receive a two weeks notice of the scheduled meeting.

- a. Special and/or emergency meetings may be done through conference call or other means of communications as deemed convenient by the Board.

ARTICLE XI—FUNDS AND OBLIGATIONS

Section 1

The Board shall establish membership dues.

Section 2

All monies collected or raised for ANGF shall be deposited and disbursed through established accounts for this organization. All funds must be deposited within 10 business days after collection.

- a. There shall be a one week grace period for depositing funds to accommodate for international conferences and transactions.

Section 3

The Finance Officer shall be responsible for all fiscal management of the organization.

ARTICLE XII—AMENDMENTS

Section 1

Proposals for amendments to this Constitution and/or Bylaws can be made by all voting members of the Board.

Section 2

The amendment proposals shall go through the Amendment Review Process.

- a. Amendment Review Process
 1. Amendment proposals must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Board no later than thirty days prior to the Board's next scheduled meeting.
 2. The Secretary of the Board shall distribute amendment proposals to the Board no later than two weeks prior to the Board's next scheduled meeting.
 3. Board members must review amendment proposals and must vote on proposed changes at the next scheduled meeting. Votes on amendment proposals cannot be tabled to a following Board meeting.

Section 3

Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be considered adopted by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of approval by all Board voting members.