

Constitution for Middlebury Mchakamchaka

Article I Name: The name of this organization shall be Middlebury Mchakamchaka (MMM)

Article II. Purpose: The purpose of MMM will be to provide a group in which members of the community can sing while running. We will give performances on campus, but off campus performances will be an important part of our semesterly routine as well. We will also bring performers in the African tradition to campus and when possible, will take trips to see African performers off campus. We will be running and singing in the distinct tradition called "Mchakamchaka" in Tanzania, East Africa, which entails running and singing in a call and response manner just as students do in schools across Tanzania. The repertoire, which will include songs to be sung while stationary, will be made up of choral pieces from various African cultural groups.

Article III Membership and Form: Membership is open to any person who can be present for the weekly, required indoor practices, but may be restricted by number. Try-outs may become necessary to limit the size of the organization. MMM will be divided into male and female sub-groups. The groups will hold both joint and solo performances throughout the semester. All Middlebury students, faculty and staff are welcome to join the groups for our weekly runs. Membership in the group is contingent on an individual's willingness to be present at all indoor rehearsals.

Rules of Attendance: Once a member joins the group s/he is eligible to come to all practices. If s/he misses one half of the practices in a given semester his/her membership is up for review and it will become the decision of the group (by majority attending a special session) whether or not the member in question will remain.

Rules of Attire: Uniforms will be owned by Middlebury College and will remain at the college under the care of the equipment manager ("**shed**").

Article III Membership is open to all Middlebury College Students; try-outs may be held in order to maintain an appropriately sized group.

Article IV Officers: Officers must be Middlebury College Students. The men's and women's groups will have separate officers though these officers will work together when appropriate.

Officers for the men's group:

Kiongozi: The Director of kwaya (Swahili version of "community choir") will prepare and teach the songs, and will act as the chief lead voice on runs, selecting others for appropriate parts.

Mkulu: (The Chief of State) The role of the President is to coordinate the group, its activities and its meetings.

Mtunza fedha: (Treasurer) The Treasurer of Kwaya will act as the liaison to the SGA Finance Committee.

Katibu kata: The District Secretary of the Party will coordinate list of members, record events at meetings, and call those members who don't come to practice.

Guy/Gal On the Left: The Guy on the Left will sit to the left of Mkulu

Jangili: The Poacher will be in charge of poaching those ivories (playing piano).

Resident Zimbabwean: The RZ will advise the group on pronunciation of the Shona language.

Promotion Officer: The Promotion Officer will be in charge of all (non) Promotional activities.

Spiritual Leader: The Spiritual Leader provides guidance in times of spiritual queasiness.

Shed: The Shed will manage uniform storage and transport.

Article V Elections: These positions will be granted by majority vote of a quorum of 3/4 of the members of the group.

Article VI. Meetings: MMM will meet twice weekly (required). Singing and scheduling will occur at each meeting. J term may be more relaxed.

Article VII Committees: The Mkulu has the power to appoint temporary committees as the need arises.

Articles VIII Faculty Advisor: MMM requires no faculty advisor but one may be appointed by consensus vote of the members of MMM.

Articles IX Affiliations: There are no affiliations with local, state, national or international organizations.

Article X Ratification:
A. The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
B. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Article XI Amendment:
A. The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
B. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Approved as to Form: March 4, 2002

Re-approved: April 17, 2008