

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

The Florida School Music Association, Incorporated was organized and filed March 23, 1998 providing oversight for interscholastic music activities. Prior to that time, music activities had functioned under the supervision of the Florida High School Activities Association. In 1997, the legislature restructured FHSAA and mandated that group, now known as the Florida High School Athletics Association, would serve only athletics. The leadership of the Florida Music Education Association, the Florida Bandmasters Association, the Florida Orchestra Association, and the Florida Vocal Association understood that interscholastic music activities would need oversight provided by a designated state organization, and preferred to create an organization that would function in the best interests of music education.

Article I - Name

The name of this Association will be the Florida School Music Association, Incorporated, hereinafter designated as FSMA or as the Association.

Article II - Purpose

The purpose for which the Association is organized and operated is exclusively as a charitable organization, as defined in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and now exists or may hereafter be amended. The purpose of the Association will be the oversight of interscholastic co-curricular music activities.

Article III - Membership

The membership of this Association will be open to any school (public, public charter, private, or home education music cooperative) in the state of Florida that meets the qualifications of membership as specified in the Bylaws.

Article IV – Governance

Section 1. Geographical Districts

The Association will be organized into two Regions - North and South, and each Region will be divided into two contiguous Sections containing an equal or nearly equal number of schools. The boundaries of these Regions and Sections will be specified in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Constitutional Authority

The Association will be governed by its Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies.

Section 3. Board of Directors

The Board of Directors, the constituency of which will be specified in the Bylaws, will be the legal representative of the Association and as such will have, hold, and administer all the property, funds, and affairs of the Association. Provisions for the governance of the Association will be provided in the Bylaws.

Section 4. Officers

The officers of the Association will be elected as specified in the Bylaws.

Article V - Amendments

Section 1. Constitutional Amendments

Constitutional amendments will require review and approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote in two consecutive meetings of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Amendments to the Bylaws

Provisions for amendments to the Bylaws will be contained in the Bylaws.

Section 3. Commencement of Effectiveness

All amendments and changes to the Constitution or Bylaws will take effect immediately upon adoption unless the motion to adopt specifies another time.

Amended March, 2000

Amended October, 2015

Amended February, 2024

Amended March, 2025