

Constitution of <Harmonies for Healing>

Updated as of <NOVEMBER 29 2025>

Article I: Name and Purpose

1.1 The official name of the Campus Group will be <Harmonies for Healing>. **NOTE: Where a group applying for recognition wishes to use “University of Toronto”, “University of Toronto Mississauga”, “University of Toronto Scarborough”, “U of T”, “UTM”, “UTSC”, or similar, in their name, it shall be clear in their name and all related representations that it is a Student Group.**

1.2 The campus group may be referred to by the acronym <H4H>

1.3 The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of the organization is to < bring together students to share the joy that comes from playing live music with seniors in our community. Grounded in research that demonstrates the positive effects of musical interventions on both mental and physical health, this initiative seeks to create meaningful opportunities for engagement and improvement for the elderly.

This initiative is inspired by a study that observed the impact of musical intervention on the social behaviours of elderly patients with dementia. With dementia serving as an umbrella term for symptoms of neurological disorders, it's important to recognize cognitive decline as a hallmark feature that significantly impairs functions like memory and emotion. Furthermore, the challenges of witnessing loved ones undergoing such changes can feel quite stressful on the part of caregivers, which is an aspect that is often overlooked, but is also integral. Therefore, this research offers crucial insight into how musical intervention can help maintain, if not improve the social connections for those experiencing cognitive decline, including with loved ones and caregivers.

The Harmonies for Healing Initiative uses this knowledge as a foundational basis in its objective to connect the UTSC student and alumni community with opportunities to actively engage in creating positive, music-based experiences for the elderly. While the inspiration for this initiative stems from research focused on dementia patients, the program is designed for the elderly in general, recognizing the benefits of musical intervention for improving social engagement and well-being across this broader group. Through this initiative, we aim to support seniors in senior care homes by inviting students to share and extend their joy of performing music with a community that truly deserves much care and love.

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Article II: Membership

2.1 The group shall maintain a list of group members.

- 2.2 Voting membership is open to all registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 2.3 Voting membership is open only to registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 2.4 Non-voting membership is open to University of Toronto staff, faculty, alumni, and to persons from outside the University. Unless otherwise stated, non-voting members do not hold any rights awarded to voting members.
- 2.5 The membership fee will be \$ <0> per year.

Article III: Rights of Members

- 3.1 All members may apply for a full refund of their membership fee within one (1) month of becoming a member.
- 3.2 All voting members have a right to attend all general meetings of members.
- 3.3 All voting members have a right to cast votes at all general meetings of members.
- 3.4 All voting members have a right to stand for election unless otherwise stated in this document.
- 3.5 All voting members have a right to cast votes in all group elections and referenda.
- 3.6 All voting members have a right to propose and vote on amendments to this constitution. The rights prescribed in Article Three are not awarded to non-voting members as described in Article Two.

Article IV: Executive Committee

- 4.1 The term for all positions on the Executive Committee shall be from May 1st to April 30th.
- 4.2 The Executive Committee shall be comprised of <4> voting members.
- 4.3 All voting members of the Executive Committee must be currently registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 4.4 Non-voting members may hold only non-voting positions on the Executive Committee.
- 4.5 The maximum amount of non-voting positions on the Executive Committee shall be one (1) position or ten per cent (10%) of the positions on the Executive Committee, whichever is greatest.
- 4.6 Persons holding non-voting positions on the Executive Committee cannot serve as an officer, financial authority, signing authority, primary contact, or secondary contact.
- 4.7 No person may serve as a financial authority or signing authority for the group if they are currently serving as a financial authority or signing authority for another recognized student group at the University of Toronto.
- 4.8 The Executive may appoint Directors or Coordinators for various committees who do not hold executive decision-making authority and are not eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee.

Article V: Elections

- 5.1 All voting positions on the Executive Committee shall be filled through an annual election.

5.2 All voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination to and cast a ballot for each voting position.

5.3 All non-voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination only for non-voting positions on the Executive Committee.

5.4 Non-voting group members shall not be eligible to cast a ballot for any elected position.

5.5 The nominee winning the plurality of votes cast in the election for each position shall be deemed the winner.

5.6 On the condition that multiple candidates are to be elected for a single position, the nominees winning the largest share of the votes cast shall be deemed the winners until all positions are filled.

5.7 The elections must be held in a nonbiased manner. No individual who is seeking election may participate in planning or administering the election.

5.8 For all unfilled positions, the remaining officers will share the duties and responsibilities until someone can be found to fulfill the position(s) through a by-election and vote of simple majority (50% + 1)

Article VI: Termination of Membership

6.1 The Executive Committee may revoke the membership of any member of the club who commits an act negatively affecting the interests of the club and its members, including non-disclosure of a significant or continuing conflict of interest.

6.2 A vote to revoke membership must be held at a meeting of the Executive Committee.

6.3 A two-thirds majority of the Executive Committee is required to approve any motion to revoke membership.

6.4 Any member facing removal shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Executive Committee to the general membership.

6.5 In the case of an appeal, a simple majority vote at a meeting of the general membership shall be required to sustain the revocation of membership.

6.6 Following a termination of membership, the member will be removed from the club's membership and will lose any privileges associated with being a member of the club.

6.7 Executive Committee members are subject to the same termination of membership process as general members.

Article VII – Amendments

7.1 All constitutional amendments shall require a 2/3 majority vote to be passed at a general meeting.

7.2 All voting members may propose and vote on amendments to the constitution.

7.3 The Executive Committee shall submit the revised constitution to staff in the Student Life programs office at the University of Toronto Scarborough within two (2) weeks.

7.4 Amendments to the constitution shall take effect only once the revised constitution has been approved by staff in the Student Life programs office at the University of Toronto Scarborough.

< If club wants to add any additional policies regarding to clubs processes please add them in this section. Please note that it must be compliant with Student Groups, Policy on the Recognition of [June 25, 2020], Student Organizations, Policy on Open, Accessible and Democratic Autonomous [July 1, 2016] and Tri-Campus Guidelines on the Recognition of Campus Groups October 1, 2024, and be transferrable from year to year.