

Mission

The Appassionata Music Group, abbreviated “Appassionata” (hereinafter “the Group”) seeks to promote, and make more accessible, classical music within the University of Toronto and its surrounding community. We propose to accomplish this by performing at hospitals & retirement homes, as well as faculty events (where invited), such as conference receptions and alumni meetings. Concerts shall be given free of charge, so that all members of the community have the opportunity to experience the transformative power of live music.

Membership

BASIC MEMBERSHIP

All currently registered students of the University of Toronto are eligible for basic membership in the Group. This membership entitles individuals to vote in elections & meetings, run for & hold executive office, and vote on & propose constitutional amendments.

Executive members with voting privileges shall be currently registered students of the University of Toronto. Staff, faculty, or alumni members may hold non-voting executive positions. These nonvoting executive positions shall be limited to a maximum of one (1) or ten per cent (10%) of the full executive body, whichever is greatest. Persons holding these nonvoting executive positions cannot serve as an officer (including financial signing officer) or contact person of the Student Group.

Non-voting basic membership may be extended to interested staff, faculty, and alumni, or persons from outside the University, without restriction on those grounds outlined by the Ontario Human Rights Code’s Prohibited Grounds of Discrimination. However, these members do not hold the aforementioned rights. Members must register with a designated executive by submitting their full name and a valid email address.

PERFORMING MEMBERSHIP

Individuals with basic membership in the Group may apply for a performing membership. Performing memberships shall be granted upon a satisfactory audition on their chosen instrument. The success of an audition shall be determined by the Directors. Performing membership entitles individuals to the privilege of participating in performances.

Individuals who do not belong to the University of Toronto community (as defined above) may receive a performing membership via special permission of the Directors. However, individuals who do not belong to the University of Toronto community shall not receive basic membership nor its rights and privileges, as defined above.

Executive Positions

ROLE DEFINITION

Appassionata has two executive positions of equal rank, both of which are titled “Director”. The term of office for the Directors is 12 months, beginning on May 1st, and ending on April 30th of the following year. The division of responsibilities between the two Directors shall be as follows:

- I. the creation/distribution of promotion materials, securing performance opportunities, and recruiting new members;
- II. the execution of performances (programs, logistics, etc.), chairing meetings, organizing elections, and managing the Group’s finances, including maintaining and recording all financial transactions.

ELIGIBILITY

All currently registered students of the University of Toronto are eligible to run for an executive position. However, due to the nature of the Group, it is *preferred* that:

- I. candidates hold an ARCT diploma, or equivalent/higher (e.g. LRCM, Dip.ABRSM, A/L/FTCL) in their instrument of choice;
- II. candidates have performed at the group for at least 1 concert prior to running for election.

Termination

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, may be given notice of removal. The member up for removal shall have the right to defend his/her actions. A vote will be held at an executive meeting, and both of the current directors present in favor of removal is required.

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

Executive members are subject to the same termination or impeachment process. The executive member will have the right to an appeal before the general membership, and the majority vote of the basic membership will have the final say on the matter. As determined by the vote, the executive member may lose his/her executive position along with his/her membership to the group.

Elections

NOMINATION

Elections for the two executive positions shall take place in March. The Directors shall select three (3) election dates before March 30th for the voting period. These dates will be announced in a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to elections dates and must fall on weekdays. All members who are eligible to participate (as candidate and/or voter) shall be notified at least ten (10) days before the election date that nominations for executive positions are open.

Nominators shall notify the outgoing Directors of their nomination no later than five (5) days before the election date. Self-nomination is permitted. A candidate list shall be made available to members with voting privileges three (3) days before the election date.

VOTING

On the election dates, each nominee shall be given up to three minutes to present their platform. Voting shall take place immediately after, and will be closed ballot. Each voter may vote for up to two candidates, but may not vote for the same candidate twice. Voters may also abstain from voting for any candidates.

The outgoing Directors shall immediately count the ballots in the presence of a witness. The candidates with the first and second highest number of votes shall be declared the winners, and will replace the outgoing Directors, starting in May. All members of the Group shall be notified of the results within 24 hours of the election.

In the case of a tie, the outgoing Directors shall determine the winning candidate.

Finances & Meetings

FINANCES

Both Directors shall have bank signing rights. No other member shall be given bank signing rights. Detailed financial records will be made available to all members upon request.

MEETINGS

Members have the option to attend general meetings, held bimonthly, at times pre-determined at the beginning of each academic semester. Members may present questions, comments, and/or concerns regarding the policies of the Group, which will subsequently be addressed by the Directors.

Amendments

Constitutional amendments must be brought to the Directors, and circulated to the full voting membership, at least one (1) month in advance of a general meeting. They are voted on at the following general meeting. In order for an amendment to be voted on, at least 50% of the voting membership must be present and voting. Amendments may be passed by a 60% majority of those present and voting.