

The Constitution of the MIT Asian Dance Team (MITADT)

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Article I: Purpose

The MIT Asian Dance Team (MITADT) is designed to spread the culture of East Asian dance, both traditional and modern, to the greater community of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and surrounding area. MITADT members will be able to learn and improve new skills in dance through rehearsals and performance showcases, to be held twice a year.

Article II: Eligibility for Membership

Any member of the MIT community and beyond is eligible to become a member of this organization, provided that he or she:

1. Demonstrates a willingness and dedication to learn the art of East Asian dance, as assessed via a required audition that will test prior knowledge of dance skills and flexibility
2. Pays the required entry fee of \$15 for new members or \$10 for returning members (unless in the extreme case where he/she cannot afford to pay, in which case an appropriate exception will be made), which will be dedicated to costs of costuming and props. A returning member is any individual that has previously participated in the organization for an entire semester.

MITADT's membership will at all times consist of at least 5 individuals, half of which must be MIT students. One is considered a member of this organization in any given academic term if he/she:

1. Attends at least three-quarters of mandatory rehearsals
2. Participates in the showcase performance at the end of the term and at least one other side performance except under extreme circumstances

Article III: Induction of Membership

MIDADT does not discriminate based on any characteristic listed in MIT's Nondiscrimination Statement. All members of the MIT community and surrounding area are welcome to join the organization regardless of prior experience. The audition process is detailed below:

1. General auditions will be held once at the beginning of the school year.
2. If one wishes to join at any time during the course of the year, he or she will be given a special arranged audition at both parties' convenience. Note that the entrance of a member in the middle of the term may mean that he or she may not be able to participate in all of the dances.
3. All members who audition are guaranteed a spot in the organization. Auditions are held for the purpose of grouping members into dances based on level (see "article IV: structure of group" below for further detail).
4. The audition process will consist of two parts, both in which the auditionee must participate:
 - i. Auditionees will be led through a series of technical exercises in order to assess previous skill, flexibility, and learning style

- ii. Auditionees to then learn two short dance sequences in the course of an hour and perform them for the choreographers. Their skills in memory, expression, and flexibility will be appropriately assessed. The first dance segment shall be a modern piece (hiphop, pop, etc.) while the second shall be a traditional or classical piece.

Article IV: Structure of Group

MITADT, while one cohesive organization, is further split into dances depending on the experience level and flexibility of the members. Members may belong to as many dances as they wish, provided they demonstrate proper skill and dedication.

If at any point during the course of the term, a member requests to change, add, or drop dances, he or she must consult the officers, who ultimately have the right to grant or refuse the transition.

Choreographers, who are responsible for designing and teaching the dances for the grand showcases at the end of each term, must have approval of the captain.

Article V: Officers

This organization will have a team of 7 officers. All officers of this organization must be distinct persons and MIT students *unless* one of their positions is co-held with another distinct individual. Their corresponding duties and obligations are detailed below:

Director of Executive Planning/Captain (president)

1. The Director of Executive Planning shall be the official representative of the group to any other organization and MIT.
2. He or she will be responsible for scheduling rehearsals or officer meetings (and presiding over them) and publicizing this to the appropriate members of the group.
3. The Director of Executive Planning is responsible for delegating tasks to other members of the officer team.
4. It is suggested that there be two Directors of Executive Planning to ensure objective decision-making and appropriate delegation of workload, though this is not required.

Director of Finance

1. The Director of Finance shall be responsible for the finances of the group.
2. He or she will work closely with the Director of Executive Planning in order to organize and send out payments for any materials needed for the group's function and performances.
3. The Director of Finance is also required to sign all checks/vouchers of the group.

Director of External Relations

1. The Director of External Relations shall maintain contact with guest groups that perform at the semesterly showcases.
2. He/she will work with the Director of Publicity to actively seek out venues for performance.
3. The Director of External Relations shall also oversee the Sponsorship Team.

Director of Internal Relations

1. The Director of Internal Relations shall be responsible for organizing events and activities for the members of the group to socialize and learn more about their fellow dancers and cultures.
2. Should any personal conflicts arise within the group, it is the duty of the Director of Internal Relations to bring it to the attention of the executive board and assist in handling the situation.

Director of Publicity

1. The Director of Publicity shall be responsible for advertising upcoming performances of the group, in addition to overseeing poster design.
2. The Director of Publicity will work closely with the Director of Sales & Media as semesterly showcase nears to handle promotions and ticket sales.

Director of Sales & Media

1. The Director of Sales & Media is responsible for: ticket creation and sales, promotional photoshoots and videos, logo and t-shirt design.
 2. He/she will work closely with the Director of Publicity to ensure the created media is properly publicized to the intended audience.
- *Note: Director of Sales & Media is solely responsible for **creation** of media; Director of Publicity is responsible for the **spread** of said media.*

Director of Logistics

1. The Director of Logistics shall be responsible for the lighting and sound during any performance.
2. The Director of Logistics may not participate in any of the dances, as he/she will be working light/sound during each of the respective performances.
3. He/she will be responsible for booking facilities and ensuring that said facilities are suitable for the use of the group.

Article VI: Committees

There are a total of three committees in the organization. Any member is welcome to sit on these committees provided the executive board believes they have displayed the necessary responsibility.

- **Sponsorship Committee:** the Director of External Relations oversees this committee, which is responsible for contacting companies and groups in the Boston area for sponsorship requests
- **Technical Committee:** the Director of Logistics oversees this committee, which assists with technical and stage setup for performances
- **Sales & Publicity Committee:** the Directors of Publicity and Sales & Media lead this committee, which is responsible for ticket sales and postering for the semesterly showcases

Article VII: Elections and Removals from Office

Elections of officers shall occur at the start of each term, on a date determined by the previous term's executive board.

Any member of MITADT is eligible to run for any of the offices with the exception of Captain(s)/Director(s) of Executive Planning.

The captain(s) and his/her successor(s):

1. The captain of the previous term is responsible for consulting with the members of his/her executive board and will ultimately choose his/her successor.
2. If no suitable candidate is decided upon after discussion with the other officers, the captain may re-instigate him/herself as the leader of the group.
3. This is to ensure that the captain has the highest level of skill in order to enhance the overall performance of the group.

The procedures for election are detailed below:

1. Quorum for elections is two-thirds of the group.
2. Each candidate will give an appropriate speech, stating clearly the position for which they are running and why he/she deserves the position.
3. Non-running members are given a ballot upon which they may vote. The ballots are kept secret; only the executive board may view them.
4. Any member is elected if he or she wins a majority of the voting members.
5. If more than two people are running and no one wins a majority, then the person with the fewest votes is dropped from the ballot and votes are recast.

The term of office runs from the moment of election until the beginning of the subsequent term.

If an officer is not performing his/her duties to the satisfaction of the group, he/she may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members should the executive board decide to provide this option. The officer will be notified of his/her removal at least 48 hours in advance.

Article VIII: Rehearsals and Officer Meetings

Rehearsals shall be held at least once a week. The total amount of rehearsals *per dance* must be at least 1 hour and no more than 6. It is up to the choreographers to determine if extra rehearsals beyond the required hours are needed in order to perfect the dances.

The format that governs a “rehearsal” is detailed below:

1. Rehearsals will be led by the corresponding choreographer (unless she is absent, in which case she may name a substitute) of the dance.
2. Rehearsals will focus on learning and perfecting the group's repertoire such that they may perform smoothly during each term's grand showcase.
3. If at any time during a rehearsal, a member must leave due to discomfort or pain, the officers present will allow dismissal and follow-up to ensure the member is alright.
4. All required attendants of any rehearsal must be informed at least 24 hours before the occurrence.

Officer meetings shall be held at least twice a month. The objective of officer meetings is to plan and discuss issues to improve the well-being and quality of the group.

Quorum for a meeting shall be the attendance of either of the captains and at least 3 other officers. During officer meetings, all decisions shall be made by a majority vote of those present.

Article IX: Amendments

Amendments shall be presented by any member of the organization.

The proposing member(s) must be present for the meeting in which their amendments shall be voted on.

Amendments shall be passed by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

Quorum for amending this constitution shall be one-third of all members of the organization.

Article X: ASA Governance Clause

The MIT Asian Dance Team agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of the Association of Student Activities, and its executive board. This constitution, amendments to it, and the by-laws of this organization shall be subject to review by the ASA Executive Board to insure that they are in accordance with the aforementioned rules and regulations.