

# Thompson Middle School

## Tri-M Music Honor Society Chapter 5097

### Constitution

#### **PREAMBLE**

We the members of the Thompson Middle School music department, in order to foster a greater continued interest and a desire for the excellence in our music performance, to encourage appreciation and awareness in listening to music; to promote wider opportunities for sharing joy through music both within our school and within our community, to advance the spirit of good music and musical knowledge; and to enhance the reputation of our school as a center for musical enrichment; establish and accept this constitution for the establishment of a music honor society.

#### **ARTICLE I - CHAPTER NAME AND LOCATION**

The name of this chapter will be known as: Tri-M Music Honor Society Chapter 5097 at Thompson Middle School.

#### **ARTICLE II - DIVISIONS**

This chapter will be a junior chapter of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Members will be junior division members of this chapter.

#### **ARTICLE III - PURPOSE**

- A. Provide an appropriate method of recognizing musical achievement of our members.
- B. Strengthen our schools music program.
- C. Help members reach their full musical potential.
- D. Motivate and recognize members' musical and personal achievement beyond the incentives of credits and grades.
- E. Encourage members to work together towards the same goal.
- F. Present an inspiration and challenge to members.
- G. Focus public attention on our school's music program in the community.
- H. Be liaison between middle school and high school.

#### **ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

##### **Section One - Classes**

The four classes of membership are: new student, continuing student, alumni, and honorary.

##### **Section Two - New Student Members**

##### **2A. Requirements for Selection**

Candidates for student membership shall be chosen from those students enrolled in the music department at Thompson Middle School, and at the time of their selection meet the following requirements:

- They must be in the 7th or 8th grade.
- They must be enrolled in a music class for at least one semester at Thompson Middle School.
- They must have excellent character, exhibit a good attitude towards teachers and fellow students, and be cooperative and helpful in their classes; and
- They must maintain an "A" grade in music with at least a "B" average grade in other academic subjects.

## **2B. Selection of Candidates for Student Membership**

The sponsor of this chapter shall select candidates for student membership who meet the above requirements. The officers may assist the chapter sponsor in the selection.

## **2C. Requirements for Membership**

Candidates who accept membership are required to fulfill one of the following assignments:

1. Perform an approved vocal or instrumental solo, duet, or in a larger ensemble before fellow chapter members; or
2. Prepare an approved written report of 3-5 pages on a musical topic in lieu of performance, which will then be presented orally before fellow chapter members.

## **2D. New Student Membership Materials**

Candidates who fulfill the requirements for the membership and have completed an assignment may be inducted as new members of Chapter 5097 of the Tri-M Music Honor Society at the next membership presentation ceremony, at which time the membership certificates will be presented.

## **Section Three - Continuing Student Members**

### **3A. Requirements**

All continuing student members of the Tri-M Music Honor Society must meet the following requirements:

- They must continue participation in the regularly scheduled performing group or music class in the music department at Thompson Middle School.
- They must have excellent character, exhibit a good attitude towards teachers and fellow students, and be cooperative and helpful in their classes.
- They must maintain an "A" grade in music with at least a "B" average grade in other academic subjects.
- They must attend at least 1 of the New Member Induction Ceremonies each school year.

### **3B. Junior Division Transfer Members**

Students who have been members of a junior division chapter are eligible to continue their membership in this chapter provided they meet the following requirements:

- They must meet all the requirements for continuing student membership; and
- They must become members of this chapter in the first year entering Thompson Middle School.

## **Section Four - Alumni Membership**

Graduating seniors of this chapter will receive alumni membership in the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Alumni members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

## **Section Five - Honorary membership**

Honorary memberships may be awarded to guest clinicians, school officials, principals, teachers, Tri-M advisors, adults, or students with disabilities who are unable to fully meet the active member criteria. Other students are not eligible for honorary membership. Honorary members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

## **ARTICLE V - SUSPENSION AND DISMISSAL**

### **Section One - Suspension**

Members and their eligibility for Tri-M membership shall be reviewed each semester to consider their continued participation in the Tri-M program. These reviews shall be done at the 2nd progress reports of each semester by the advisor.

If a current member does not or cannot meet the academic or music criteria necessary to be considered a Tri-M member, his or her membership will be suspended until the music and academic criteria are once again met.

The chapter advisor will determine when a suspended member is reinstated based upon proof that membership criteria have once again been met. All membership fees paid to the national office and fees paid to this chapter are forfeited.

### **Section Two - Dismissal**

Dismissal is a permanent revocation of Tri-M membership without the option of reinstatement unless overturned by an appeal. Dismissal is warranted by flagrant violation of school rules or criminal law. A member may be dismissed without warning. A written documentation of the dismissal procedure shall be available to interested parties. All membership fees paid to the national office and fees paid to this chapter are forfeited.

## **ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **Section One - Content**

The executive committee of this chapter will consist of a chapter sponsor and student officers.

### **Section Two - Chapter Sponsor**

The chapter sponsor of this chapter must be a teacher in the music department at Thompson Middle School. This chapter may have co-sponsors appointed by the sponsor to assist with the chapter operations.

### **Section Three - Officers**

The student officers of this chapter will include a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and historian.

### **Section Four - Quorum Requirement**

A majority of the officers and the chapter sponsor constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE VII - DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **Section One - Chapter Sponsor**

The sponsor of this chapter will act as a supervisor, advisor, guide, and counselor in all matters pertaining to chapter operations. The sponsor will attend all executive committee and chapter meetings and will help officers fulfill their respective duties, including maintaining chapter records and submitting chapter and member fee with the proper forms.

### **Section Two - President**

The president of this chapter will preside at all meetings of the chapter and of the executive committee. He/She and the other officers will conduct the membership presentation ceremony to induct new members, and will hold an election to appoint new officers to preside the following year.

### **Section Three - Vice President**

The vice president of this chapter will preside at all meetings of the chapter in absence of the president, and it will be his/her duty to assist the president. If programs, special projects, and activities are planned in addition to the membership presentation ceremony, he/she will also serve as program chairperson.

### **Section Four - Secretary**

The secretary of this chapter will be responsible for all correspondence of the chapter and will keep an accurate record of attendance, minute, and all transactions and meetings of the chapter. The secretary will also serve as social chairperson.

### **Section Five - Treasurer**

The treasurer of this chapter will keep an accurate record of all monies received and disbursed, all membership fees paid to the society, and all membership pin emblems, cards, and certificates secured from the national office. He/She will report at each meeting the receipts, disbursements, and cash balance on hand. An audit should be made of the treasurer's records by the chapter sponsor at the end of each semester. The treasurer will also serve as membership chairperson.

### **Section Six - Historian**

The historian of this chapter will be custodian of the chapter scrapbook, in which he/she will keep an accurate record of all programs given by or any of its members during the year, the historian will report chapter activity to the national office and serve as publicity chairperson. The historian will assist in keeping the webpage current.

## **ARTICLE VIII - NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

During a spring meeting, the president will appoint a nominating committee of three who will propose a slate of officers for the coming year and present it at the following executive committee's meeting. The candidates will be elected by a majority ballot vote. New officers for the coming year will be installed before the close of the school year in which the election takes place.

## **ARTICLE IX - VACANCIES ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Vacancies occurring on the executive committee during the school year will be fulfilled by the chapter sponsor and are valid only until the next meeting of the chapter, when an election will be held to fill such vacancies.

## **ARTICLE X - MEETINGS**

### **Section One - Planning**

The executive committee will meet in advance to outline scheduled meetings.

### **Section Two - Frequency**

There will be at least two scheduled meetings of this chapter per year as determined by the chapter sponsor.

### **Section Three - Voting**

All members and apprentices may attend scheduled meetings. No meeting may be held unless the chapter sponsor is present. Only chapter sponsors and current student members have the power to vote.

### **Section Four - Special Meetings**

The chapter sponsor may call a special meeting at any time.

## **ARTICLE XI - MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATION CEREMONY**

This chapter will hold at least two public membership presentation ceremony/ceremonies each school year as planned by the executive committee. All membership presentation ceremonies will be held after school hours with parents, friends, school officials, faculty members, and other students in the music department invited.

## **ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS**

This chapter may create amendments and bylaws to amplify sections of its constitution as long as the amendments and bylaws are not in conflict with the Tri-M Music Honor Society Constitution and Bylaws. Amendments must be approved by the chapter sponsor and receive a majority vote from chapter members.