

The constitution of

Blossom Together

Article I: NAME.

Blossom Together

Article II: PURPOSE (or MISSION).

Blossom Together is established for the expressed purpose of providing water, hunger, and medical relief to developing countries, specifically in Africa.

Blossom Together understands school policies and is committed to abiding by said policies.

Article III: MEMBERSHIP.

While anyone who is affiliated with the University of Virginia in an official capacity (ie. students, faculty and staff) is welcome to attend general body meetings of Blossom Together, active membership shall be limited to persons who satisfy the following requirements:

1. Attend at least three meetings during a given semester.
2. Participate in at least two activities/events sponsored by Blossom Together each semester unless the activities interfere with either scholastic or financial constraints.
3. Assist in the planning of at least one Blossom Together-sponsored activity each semester.

If a member fails to satisfy one of these requirements, that member will retain active membership at the discretion of the officers (by a majority vote). To retain membership, the member must provide a reasonable excuse for failing to satisfy one of the requirements (i.e. class, exams, illness, etc.) and must still make meaningful contributions to the organization during the course of the semester.

Blossom Together does not restrict its membership, programs, or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, marital status, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, veteran status, and family and genetic information.

There will be an annual club due for being a member of Blossom Together determined by the active body of members. The average of each member's recommendation for how much the annual due should be will determine the final amount – dues will not surpass \$100 per annum. Club dues will be fully dedicated towards ongoing projects abroad.

Article IV: OFFICERS.

Any member can become an officer after being listed on the official roster for two (2) complete academic semesters. Officers shall be elected annually in the Spring semester by a majority vote of the management and shall take office thirty (30) days prior to the end of the semester. All elected officers will be currently registered students.

The officers of this organization will be:

President

- Calls and presides over official meetings of the organization
- Acts as the tie-breaking vote in matters of business
- Maintains organization in good standing with UVA via communication with Student Engagement and/or other interested University entities
- Serves as an ex-officio member of any committee that is created through by-law

Vice President

- Shares/supports responsibilities of President; makes sure that active members fulfill the requirements for active membership each semester.

Treasurer

- Maintains accurate ledger and financial records
- Approves all expenditures from the organization financial account
- Approves (i.e. signs) all requests for allocations from third-party sources
- Delivers a financial report to the membership once a semester in Fall and Spring
- Serves as an ex-officio member of any committee that is created through by-law

Publicity Officer

- Maintains social media presence across all platforms, including but not limited to organization website, LinkedIn, and Instagram
- Maintains the official roster of the organization on @UVA
- Records minutes of all official meetings of the organization and emails them to everyone after the meeting; if not present – designates another member to take minutes in their place
- Maintains official historical file for the organization (constitution, by-laws, minutes, rosters, financial records, risk management, records, etc.)
- Serves as an ex-officio member of any committee that is created through by-law

The officers will form an executive committee. Although each officer has specific responsibilities, officers and members are encouraged to work together to complete tasks so that no single member becomes overwhelmed at any given time.

Article V: ELECTIONS.

1. **Voting Eligibility:** Currently registered members who meet all requirements of active membership as set forth in Article III will be granted voting privileges.
2. **Election Process:** All officers shall be elected by a majority vote of eligible voting members of the Blossom Together. All elections will be held on an annual basis at the end of March, with interim elections being held at the end of November as needed. The President will take nominations from the floor, the nomination process must be closed and the movement seconded. The nominated parties will be allowed to vote. All voting shall be done by secret ballot to be collected and tabulated by the Secretary and one voting member of Blossom Together, appointed by the outgoing President. Officers elected during February will be trained by the incumbent officers during the remainder of the spring semester. The officers elected in February will officially begin their term in May, and at the end of the spring semester. The officer then serves a term that starts during the summer semester following their election and extends through the fall and spring semesters of the subsequent academic year.
3. **Removal:** Any officer in violation of the Organization's purpose or constitution may be removed from office by the following process: a. A written request by at least three members of the Organization. b. Written notification to the officer of the request, asking the officer to be present at the next meeting and prepared to speak. A two-thirds (2/3) majority member vote is necessary to remove the officer.

Article VI: MEETINGS.

Meetings will occur at least once a month, but meetings may occur more frequently depending on member interest and on what the President deems necessary. The date of the next meeting will be agreed upon at the end of each meeting and will be included in the Secretary's minutes of the meeting. For a standard meeting, half of the active members are required for a quorum. Two-thirds of the active currently enrolled members are required for an election meeting.

Article VII. BY-LAWS.

By-laws will be created to dictate the structure and procedures of the organization. By-laws may be proposed by any member and must obtain a majority vote of the membership. No by-law shall infringe on the authority of the constitution. Required by-laws, which shall be ratified, include:

- Organization Committees for specific events/projects
- Parliamentary Modification (ratified at first meeting of a new executive board's term)
- Election of Officers

Article VIII. COMMITTEES.

Committees of the organization will be created from time-to-time by the executive board in order to organize and distribute the workload of the organization. Committees shall be governed by by-law and shall not have authority over the executive board or the general body. Any active member (including the officers) may serve as a committee chair. Committee chairs will be appointed by the President and will coordinate the planning and execution of the committee project. Any number of active members may be on a committee.

Article X. AMENDMENTS

The constitution is binding to all members of Blossom Together, but the constitution is not binding unto itself.

1. Amendments to the constitution may be proposed in writing by any active member of Blossom Together. Amendments should be submitted to the President, who will then designate time for discussion of the proposed amendment at the following full-body meeting.
2. Proposed amendments will become effective following approval of two-thirds (2/3)-majority vote of active voting members.

Article XI. FINANCE

A. The treasurer and council are authorized to appropriate and spend the money of the organization.

B. The treasurer will keep and manage all funds and be responsible for fundraising.