BAC Constitution

ARTICLE I – NAME

Section 1:

The name of the organization shall be the African Club at Berklee.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The general objective of this club, as outlined in the mission statement, shall be:

a. To highlight and celebrate the diverse African culture at Berklee.
b. To be a place of learning, discovery, re-discovery, empowerment and expression.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Active Members

Active membership is open to all Berklee College of Music students with the right to vote and hold office.

Section 2: Associate Members

Associate membership is open to faculty and interested people outside the College setting. For example, students from Boston Architectural Center, Boston Conservatory, Emerson College, Massachusetts College of Art, and School of the Museum of Fine Arts. They may not vote or hold office.

Section 3: Alumni Members

Alumni membership is open to former Berklee students, of both member and non-member standing who profess interest in the activities of the club and are in agreement with the values thereof; they may not vote or hold office.

Section 4: Membership Rules of Order

4.1 Berklee College of Music student clubs shall not deny membership to any student on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, veteran status or disability.

4.2 It is requisite that members of this club duly show fellow members respect by being aware of the following:

a. Punctuality
b. Open-mindedness
c. Enthusiasm
d. Professionalism
e. Respect of Opinion

Section 5: Duties of Members

The duties of club members are as follows:

a. The foremost duty of members is to conduct themselves in a manner that is congruent to the vision of the club as outlined in the mission statement.
b. A minimum attendance of five meetings per semester.
c. A tangible level of interestedness and participation.
d. A tangible amount of contribution to club activities. This shall be measured at the discretion of the executive board.

Section 6: Dues

Dues shall not be required of members in this organization.

Section 7: Removal of Members

7.1 The following shall be considered an offence and can subject members to expulsion:

a. Failure to maintain minimum attendance requirement without adequate written notice as to excuse oneself.
b. Non-Participation. This shall be measured at the discretion of the executive board.

7.2 Upon the board's decision to take disciplinary measures against members in violation of club conduct, adequate written notice will be dispensed fourteen days before official removal.

7.3 All disciplinary cases shall be resolved by the executive board by a majority vote of 5-3.

7.3 Unless a written appeal is made to the Executive Board within fourteen days of notice, any offence committed shall subject members to removal.

ARTICLE IV. - ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 1: Officers

1.1 This organization shall have a president, a general secretary, a treasurer, a musical director, a show coordinator, a media director, an inter-college club liaison, and an intra-college club liaison.

1.2 Upon removal or resignation of the president, the general secretary shall assume that role pending by-election.
Section 2: Duties of Officers

See Appendix A

Section 3: Election of Officers

3.1 The election of officers shall be held once a year at the close of the spring semester.

3.2 Following a collective nomination process, with a quorum of 2/3 of members, all votes will be cast by secret ballot. A majority vote, of the greater number, is required.

3.3 The length of office shall be equal to two semesters (specifically fall to spring).

3.4 The following shall be requirements for nomination:
   a. A 12-week membership standing for nomination
   b. Commitment to the club and its values.

Section 4: Removal of Officers

4.1 An officer can be impeached for cause. The executive board, with a majority vote of 4-3, shall ratify the impeachment of an officer.

4.2 Upon impeachment, the executive board shall give written notice of this decision to the officer.

4.3 Upon first notice a written appeal may be made to the executive board within 5 days of receipt of notice.

4.4 A second offence subjects the officer to probation (pending removal). Probation shall last 6 weeks.

4.5 Violation of conduct under probation is grounds for removal.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1: Business/General Meetings

The club shall meet once a week on Fridays at a time and location determined by the general secretary.

Section 2: Executive Board Meetings

The executive board shall meet once every other week. The general secretary shall schedule this meeting.
ARTICLE VI – ADVISER

Section 1: Election

The executive board shall nominate the club adviser with a required majority of 5-3. The vote shall take place by show of hands.

Section 2: Qualifications

2.1 The adviser must be a Berklee faculty/staff member who has an interest in serving as an adviser. Both the faculty/staff member and the club members can mutually determine the level of involvement of the adviser.

2.2 The interests of the adviser shall be deemed, by the executive board, congruent to those of the club.

Section 3: Duties

3.1 The adviser may not vote but can offer advice to the club.

3.2 Upon adequate notice of two weeks the adviser may attend two general meetings per year (one per semester).

3.3 Upon adequate notice of two weeks the adviser may attend two executive board meetings per year (one per semester).

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any regular business/general meeting of the club by two-thirds vote of active membership, provided that the amendment has been submitted to the membership in writing at least one week prior to the business meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

1.1 The club treasurer shall administer all club finances and retain records of receipts.
1.2 All receipt of payments must be kept in the receipt file and all transactions recorded in the club logbook.
1.3 The logbook shall be reviewed at the beginning and end of every semester.

ARTICLE VI – BYLAWS

Section 1: Executive powers

1.1 In the case of a hung vote, the president may exercise his/her executive authority in resolving matters so long as they constitute “urgent business”.

1.2 Matters that do not constitute “urgent business” will be dispensed to the club for voting.
Section 2: Removal of President

The removal of the president shall be at the discretion of the entire club.

ARTICLE X – COMMITTEES

The standing committees are:

- The Music Committee, headed by the music director.