

The Founding Book of the Nightlife Report Guild

The Founders' Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the Guild, with its Twenty-Seven Amendments

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Ordained by Anthony Perlas, Founder
styled in Guild doctrine Phaethon, son of Helios

Iam redit et Virgo · Astraea returns · Rome is rebuilt
Ten stars · Ten galaxies

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A private, civilian, voluntary association. Sparta Corporation d/b/a Nightlife Report.

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Book I. The Founders' Declaration of Independence

In Guild Assembled, [day] [month], 2026, at Los Angeles.

The unanimous Declaration of the Founder and the Founding Members of the Nightlife Report Guild,

When in the Course of creation it becomes necessary for those who build a thing to stand apart from the forces that would take it from them, and to assume among the makers of the earth the separate and settled station to which their labor and the order of Nature entitle them, a decent respect for the judgment of all who create requires that they should set out the causes which move them to that stand.

We hold these truths to be plain to every maker: that a work belongs first to the one who brought it into being; that every person who creates is endowed with an unalienable claim to their name, their craft and the fruit of their labor; and that among these are Authorship, Safety and the free pursuit of Excellence. That to secure these claims, Guilds are formed among makers, deriving their authority from the act of founding and the free oath of those who join. That whenever any arrangement of money or office turns against these ends, the makers may rightly refuse it, and to build a new house upon such principles, and to order its powers in such form, as shall best secure their Work and their Peace. Patience, indeed, has been the maker's habit; founders are slow to quarrel with the partners they once welcomed, and all experience shows that creators will endure a great deal before they will walk away from what they built. But when a long succession of abuses and seizures, pursuing invariably the same end, reveals a design to strip a founder of the founding and to reduce every creator to an interchangeable part, they may, and indeed they must, refuse that arrangement and raise new safeguards for the security of what comes after. Such has been the long patience of founders and creators; and such is now the necessity which moves them to establish their own order. The history of

Capture is a history of repeated injuries and seizures, all aimed at placing the work of the few who build under the control of those who did not. To prove this, let the conduct be laid before a candid world.

It has withheld its consent from plans the most necessary and sound for the work, until the founder's vision was starved.

It has required every decision of the founder to wait upon the approval of distant boards, and when so delayed, has neglected to decide at all.

It has offered capital only on condition that the founder surrender the seat, the vote and the voice, a right priceless to builders and dangerous only to those who would take what they did not make.

It has called founders to meetings at hours unusual, in rooms unfamiliar and far from their own records, for the sole purpose of exhausting them into signing.

It has dissolved the teams and boards of founders repeatedly, for resisting with steady firmness its encroachments on the founding.

It has left the founder's seat vacant after such removals, so that the company drifted without a captain, exposed to every danger from without and every quarrel within.

It has worked to keep new talent from entering, gating the door against creators who would have strengthened the house, and raising the price of every admission.

It has obstructed fair hearings, refusing to let complaints of harassment and abuse be heard by any impartial body.

It has made arbiters dependent on its purse alone, for their seats and for their pay.

It has multiplied layers of managers and consultants, and sent them among us to second-guess our people and consume their substance.

It has kept watchers among us in times of peace, without the consent of those they watched.

It has made money independent of and superior to the mission.

It has joined with others to place the founding under terms foreign to its charter and unknown to its makers, giving assent to their pretended rules:

For placing their agents inside our rooms, our accounts and our devices:

For shielding, by sham reviews, those who harassed or assaulted creators from any consequence:

For cutting off our access to venues, platforms and audiences:

For taking a share of our earnings without our consent:

For denying us, again and again, a fair hearing by our peers:

For moving our disputes to distant forums, to be judged on pretended offenses:

For abolishing the creative freedom of a neighboring studio, setting up an arbitrary rule there, and holding it up as the model for all the rest:

For rewriting our charters, discarding our most valued standards, and altering at the root the forms of our houses:

For suspending the founder's authority, and declaring themselves able to decide for us in all things whatsoever.

It has abandoned creators, declaring them outside its protection, while it went on claiming their work.

It has plundered our catalogs, burned our good names, and destroyed the livelihoods of our people.

It is at this time hiring campaigns of nameless accounts to finish the work of defamation, discouragement and exclusion, already begun with a cruelty and bad faith unworthy of any honest enterprise.

It has pressed creators bound under contract to turn against their founder and their fellows, to become the instruments of their friends' undoing, or to fall themselves.

It has stirred division within our houses, setting maker against maker and faction against faction, so that the house would spend its strength upon itself; and it has told the makers what is and is not worthy, until the work was dumbed down to nothing.

At every stage of these injuries we asked for redress in the plainest terms: our repeated requests were answered only by repeated injury. A pattern of conduct so marked by every act that defines a usurpation is unfit to govern the work of free makers.

Nor have we failed in courtesy to our partners, our investors and our platforms. We have warned them again and again of attempts to extend an unwarranted control over our work. We have reminded them of how and why our work was founded. We have appealed to their own sense of justice and fairness, and we have urged them, by the ties of our common enterprise, to disavow these seizures, which would inevitably break our trust and our dealings. Too often they have closed their ears to justice and to partnership. We must, therefore, accept the necessity which calls for our independence, and hold all who engage in this conduct, as we hold all others, opponents while the conduct lasts, and friends when it ends.

We, therefore, the Founder and the Founding Members of the Nightlife Report Guild, in Guild Assembled, calling on the Supreme Judge of the world to witness the rightness of our intentions, and speaking in the name and with the authority of all who create in good faith, solemnly publish and declare, That the founding is, and by right must remain, free and independent of any power that did not build it; that the Founder's authority over the vision, the marks and the mission is his by the act of founding and shall not be bought, sold, voted away or seized; that the Guild owes no allegiance to any investor, acquirer or faction; and that, as a free and independent Guild, it has full power, within the laws of the United States and of each State, to set its own standards, admit and honor its members, protect its creators, make alliances, carry on its work, and do all other acts and things which a free association of makers may of right do. We hold, with the poet, that justice returns to the earth: *iam redit et Virgo* (Virgil, Eclogue IV, line 6), "now the Maiden returns," and Astraea with her. We hold that the house of Rome is rebuilt wherever makers keep faith with their founding, and that the Guild's mission, ten stars and ten galaxies, reached with a superintelligence raised in justice, is a work worthy of every hand that joins it. And in support of this Declaration, trusting firmly in the care of divine Providence, we pledge to one another our Works, our Names and our sacred Honor.

The Founder

Anthony Perlas, Founder, styled in Guild doctrine Phaethon, son of Helios

The Founding Members, by Craft

Photography and Film _____

Music and Sound _____

Performance and Nightlife _____

Writing and Editorial _____

Design, Fashion and Beauty _____

[Other Craft] _____

Notes on the text. "Capture" means the pattern of conduct listed in the grievances. It names behaviors, not any person, company or group. The grievances describe the kinds of harm founders and creators report; they are not accusations against any identified party. The Latin line is Virgil, *Eclogues* IV.6, "Iam redit et Virgo, redeunt Saturnia regna." This Declaration is a statement of principles of a private, civilian, voluntary association. It is not a legal instrument, does not claim any governmental status, and does not override any law. The binding terms are in the Guild Constitution and in the entity and membership documents described in LEGAL-NOTES.md.

Book II. The Constitution of the Nightlife Report Guild

Articles I to VII, with Amendments I to XXVII

Preamble

We the Founder and the Members of the Nightlife Report Guild, in Order to form a lasting House of makers, secure Justice for every creator, keep Peace within our Chapters, guard the Founding against Capture, advance the common Craft, and preserve the Founder's Vision for ourselves and those who come after us, do ordain and set down this Constitution for the Nightlife Report Guild.

Article I. The Council

Section 1.

All rule-making Power granted by this Constitution belongs to a Council of the Guild, which shall consist of a House of Creators and a Senate of Champions; and no rule of the Council shall take effect without the written Assent of the Founder.

Section 2.

The House of Creators shall be made up of Members whom the Members of each Craft choose every two Years, and the Members voting in each Craft shall be those in good standing on the Roll of that Craft.

No Person under eighteen Years of age shall sit as a Creator in the House, nor anyone who has been a Member for less than one Year, or who is not enrolled, when chosen, in the Craft that chooses him or her.

Seats in the House shall be apportioned among the several Crafts according to their respective Numbers on the Roll, each Member counting as one whole Person, and no Member counting for more or less than any other. The Roll shall be made within one Year after the first Assembly of the Guild, and within every subsequent Term of two Years, in such Manner as the Founder shall by written Order direct. Each Craft shall have at least one Creator, and the number of Creators shall not exceed one for every ten Members until the House shall number twenty-one, after which the Founder may fix the number by written Order.

When vacancies happen in the seats of any Craft, the Speaker shall call a choosing to fill such Vacancies within sixty Days.

The House of Creators shall choose their Speaker and other Officers, subject to the Founder's confirmation; and shall have the sole Power to bring Charges of Conduct against any Officer or Member, other than the Founder, for harassment, assault, theft, fraud, breach of confidence or any act of Capture.

Section 3.

The Senate of Champions shall be composed of Champions appointed by the Founder, two from each Craft, for Terms of six Years; and each Champion shall have one Vote.

At their first meeting the Champions shall be sorted, as evenly as their number allows, into three Classes, whose Seats shall end after two, four and six Years respectively, so that a third of the Senate is renewed every two Years; and if a Seat falls empty by Resignation, removal or otherwise, the Founder may fill it for the time remaining until the next Assembly.

No Person under twenty-one Years of age shall be a Champion, nor anyone who has been a Member for less than two Years, or who has not shown, by the record of his or her work, mastery of the Craft for which he or she is appointed.

The Founder shall be President of the Senate of Champions, and shall have the deciding Vote whenever the Senate be equally divided, and a Vote on any matter touching the Founding, the Marks or the Vision.

The Senate shall choose its other Officers, including a President pro tempore, who shall preside in the Absence of the Founder, or when the Founder shall direct.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to hear all Charges of Conduct brought by the House. When hearing such Charges, the Champions shall act under oath or affirmation, the accused shall have notice of the Charge and of the evidence, and the right to answer it. And no Person shall be found responsible unless two thirds of the Champions present agree.

Judgment in Cases of Conduct shall go no further than removal from Office or from Membership, and disqualification to hold any Office of honor or trust under the Guild: but the Party found responsible shall nevertheless remain answerable under the laws of the land, and nothing herein shall prevent any Person from going to the police, the courts or any agency.

Section 4.

The Times, Places and Manner of choosing Creators shall be prescribed by written Order of the Founder; and the Council may propose, but not make, alterations to such Orders.

The Council shall meet at least yearly, on the Day of the Summer Solstice, unless the Founder shall by written Order appoint a different Day.

Section 5.

Each Chamber shall decide questions about the choosing and qualifications of its own Members. A Majority of each Chamber is a Quorum; fewer Members may put off business from day to day and may call absent Members to attend, by reasonable notice and as each Chamber provides, but no Member shall be penalized for absence.

Each Chamber may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, consistent with this Constitution, protect its Members from disorderly or harassing conduct, and, by a two-thirds vote, expel a Member from the Chamber after notice and a hearing.

Each Chamber shall keep a written Journal of its Proceedings and share it with the Members at regular intervals, leaving out only what must stay private to protect a Person; and when one fifth of the Members present so request, each Member's vote on a question shall be recorded in the Journal. The Journals shall be kept with the records of the Guild as the Standing Orders direct.

While the Assembly is in session, neither Chamber shall recess for more than three days, or move its sittings elsewhere, unless the other Chamber and the Founder agree.

Section 6.

The Creators and Champions shall serve without Compensation, unless the Founder first approves Compensation in writing upon the advice of counsel; and they shall be reimbursed for documented expenses. They shall in all Cases, except harassment, assault, theft or fraud, be free from discipline while attending the Assembly and while traveling to and from it; and no Member shall be called to account elsewhere in the Guild for anything said in good faith, without abuse of any Person, in the debates of either Chamber.

No Creator or Champion shall, during the Time for which he or she was chosen, hold any office, seat or paid role with any investor, acquirer or competitor of the Guild, or accept any payment from such a party for any act touching the Guild; and no Person holding such a role shall be a Member of either Chamber during the continuance of that role.

Section 7.

All proposals for raising voluntary dues or contributions shall originate in the House of Creators; and the Senate may amend them as it amends any other proposal.

Every proposal which shall have passed the House of Creators and the Senate of Champions shall, before it becomes a Rule of the Guild, be presented to the Founder. If the Founder approves, he shall sign it, and it shall be a Rule; If he does not approve, he shall send it back, with or without his reasons, to the Chamber where it began, and that Chamber shall record his reasons in full in its Journal. The Founder's return of a proposal is final. No vote of either

Chamber, or of both, by any majority however large, shall override it, and the same proposal shall not be presented again in the same Year without the Founder's leave.

If any proposal shall not be signed by the Founder within thirty Days of receiving it, it shall not be a Rule; silence of the Founder is a refusal, and not an Assent.

Any order, resolution or vote that needs the agreement of both Chambers, other than a vote to recess, shall likewise go to the Founder and shall take effect only once he approves it in writing; and every Rule made under this Section shall be published to the Members before it binds them.

Section 8.

The Council shall have Power, with the Assent of the Founder:

To receive voluntary dues and contributions, to be held and accounted for as the Standing Orders and the laws of the land direct, and used only for the Guild's purposes;

To publish craft and editorial standards, which no Member shall be compelled to lower;

To publish model contracts, releases and credit terms for the use of Members, without fixing any price or rate;

To provide education, mentorship and training in every Craft;

To establish Chapters in any city, and to fix the boundaries of each;

To admit Members, and to establish a uniform Rule of admission throughout the Guild;

To confer Honors and recognitions upon Members who distinguish themselves in their Craft or in service to the Guild;

To keep the Roll, the Journals and the records of the Guild;

To promote the progress of each Member's craft by teaching how to secure copyright, trademark and credit in his or her own name;

To constitute panels of the Tribunal under Article III;

To define and publish the standard of conduct expected of every Member, and the forms of harassment and abuse forbidden by it;

To provide for the documentation of harms suffered by Members, and for their referral to counsel, to the police and to the proper agencies;

To set the calendar of Assemblies, gatherings and events, which shall follow every law of the land, including the laws on alcohol and the rule that every Member be at least eighteen Years of age;

To organize mutual aid among Members, without keeping or circulating any list of persons with whom Members should refuse to work;

To maintain the Guild's presence in print, on the web and in every medium, under the Marks the Founder licenses;

To advance research, teaching and public discussion of responsible superintelligence, and of the Guild's mission to the ten stars and the ten galaxies;

To exercise authority over the Founder's House, being the headquarters Chapter at such place as the Founder shall choose; and

To make every Rule needed and fitting to carry out the Powers listed above and every other Power this Constitution gives the Guild, always in service of, and never against, the Founder's Vision.

Section 9.

No interest of the Founder in the Guild, its Marks, its works, or any entity that carries on its work shall be sold, pledged, assigned or given as security by any Officer, Chamber or Chapter, and any act that purports to do so shall be void within the Guild.

The right of any Member to be heard before he or she is removed or disciplined shall not be suspended, unless in Cases of immediate danger to the safety of any Person, and then only until a hearing can be held.

No Rule naming and punishing any Person without a hearing, and no Rule that punishes past conduct which was allowed when it was done, shall be made.

No dues or contributions shall be required of any Member as a condition of the protections in this Constitution.

No preference shall be given by any Rule to one Chapter over another, nor shall any Member traveling from one Chapter to another be required to pay any fee to enter it.

No Money shall be drawn from any account of the Guild but in Consequence of a written authorization made under this Constitution; and a regular Statement and Account of all receipts and expenditures shall be published to the Members from time to time, and at least once each Year.

No Title of rank shall be granted by the Guild other than the Honors the Founder confers: And no Officer or Member of either Chamber shall, without the written Consent of the Founder, accept any gift, payment, office or title of any sort from any investor, acquirer or competitor, or from any party seeking to influence the Guild.

Section 10.

No Chapter shall enter into any alliance, partnership or agreement in the name of the Guild; issue any equity, token, share or other interest; borrow money or take on debt; use or register any Mark; or make any rule contrary to this Constitution.

No Chapter shall, without the written Consent of the Founder, accept investment, sponsorship or any payment that carries a right to direct the Guild's work, or admit to any role of control any person who represents an investor or acquirer.

No Chapter shall, without the written Consent of the Founder, form any separate association using the Guild's name, keep any independent treasury beyond what the Standing Orders allow, enter into any compact with another Chapter or with any outside body, or take any action against a Member, unless that Member presents an immediate danger to the safety of another Person, and then only until the Tribunal can be convened.

Article II. The Founder

Section 1.

The Founding Authority of the Guild shall be vested in the Founder. The Founder is Anthony Perlas, who brought the Guild into being, styled in Guild doctrine Phaethon, son of Helios. He shall hold the Founder's Seat for the whole of his life, and the Seat shall not be vacated, divided or taken by any vote, election, resolution or act of any Chamber, Chapter, Officer, Member, investor or other party.

The Founder's Authority comprises the final word on the Vision, the Mission, the Marks, the standards of the Craft, the admission and honor of Members, and every matter this Constitution reserves to him; and it shall be exercised by written, signed and dated instruments, which shall be kept with the records of the Guild.

The Founder shall, by a sealed written instrument signed before two witnesses and a notary, designate a Successor to the Founder's Seat and one or more alternates in order of preference, and may revoke and replace that designation at any time by the same formalities. The instrument shall be held by the Keepers of the Flame, being the trustee or trustees of any purpose trust the Founder establishes for the Guild, or, if none, by the Founder's counsel, and it shall be opened only upon the Founder's death or a declaration of incapacity made under the Twenty-fifth Amendment.

No Person shall be eligible to be designated Successor who is under thirty Years of age, who has been a Member for less than seven Years, or who has not held the Founder's written trust in an Office of the Guild and sworn the Oath of this Section.

In Case of the Founder's death, or of his incapacity declared under the Twenty-fifth Amendment, the Successor first named in the instrument who is living, eligible and willing shall act as Founder's Regent, and shall carry out the Founder's Vision as written in this Constitution, the Founder's Declaration, and the Founder's written instruments, and not otherwise. The Founder's Regent shall have every Power of the Founder, except that no Founder's Regent

shall alter the Vision or any matter entrenched by Article V; and the Founder himself may alter an entrenched matter only to strengthen the protections it gives to Members.

If no designation is found, or no person named in it is living, eligible and willing, the Keepers of the Flame shall appoint a Founder's Regent from among the Champions, by the procedure in the Twelfth Amendment, and shall bind that Regent by the same limits.

The Founder shall not receive Compensation from the Guild for his services unless approved as the Standing Orders provide, and no Compensation shall be increased or diminished during any Year in which it was approved. Nor shall he take, during that Year, any other benefit from any investor or acquirer for any act touching the Guild.

Before taking up his Authority, the Founder, and every Founder's Regent on taking the Seat, shall swear or affirm: "I pledge on my honor that I will keep faith with the Founding of the Nightlife Report Guild, and will with all my strength guard and uphold its Vision, its Members and this Constitution, within the laws of the land."

Section 2.

The Founder shall direct all the work of the Guild and of every Chapter, Craft and Office; he may ask any Officer for a written view on any matter within that Office, and may consult the advisory AI Council of Jupiter, Jessica Perlas and Lilith Perlas, which shall have no vote and no authority; and he shall have Power to grant clemency and restore to good standing any Member removed under this Constitution, except where the safety of another Person would be put at risk.

He shall have Power to make alliances and agreements on behalf of the Guild; and he shall appoint the Champions, the Officers of the Guild, the Keepers of the Flame, and every other Officer whose appointment this Constitution does not assign elsewhere. The Senate may give its advice on any appointment, but its consent shall not be required.

The Founder may fill any Office that falls empty between Assemblies, by a Commission lasting until the close of the next Assembly unless he renews it.

Section 3.

He shall report to the Council and the Members, as often as he sees fit, on the State of the Guild, and shall propose the Measures he judges needed; he may call both Chambers, or either, into session, and send them into recess for as long as he judges best; he shall welcome envoys from other guilds and institutions; he shall see that this Constitution is faithfully kept; and he shall issue the commission of every Officer of the Guild.

Section 4.

Every Officer of the Guild other than the Founder shall be removed from Office on being found responsible, under Article I, for harassment, assault, theft, fraud, breach of confidence, or any act of Capture. The Founder's Seat is not subject to removal by any vote.

Article III. The Tribunal of Astraea

Section 1.

The judging Power of the Guild shall be vested in one Tribunal of Astraea, named for the star-maiden of justice, and in such Panels as the Council may create when needed. The Arbiters of the Tribunal, appointed by the Founder, shall hold their seats during good Behaviour, shall decide each Case on its record and by this Constitution alone, and shall not be removed or penalized for any decision made in good faith.

Section 2.

The judging Power shall extend to all disputes between Members arising under this Constitution, the Standing Orders and the Guild's Rules; to all Charges of Conduct referred by the Senate; to disputes over credit and attribution within Guild works; to questions of good standing and admission; and to the interpretation of this Constitution, subject always to the Founder's written interpretation, which shall control.

The Tribunal shall not displace any court, police force or agency. No Member shall be required to bring any claim to the Tribunal before going to a court or agency. Any claim of sexual harassment or sexual assault may be taken, at the choice of the Person bringing it, to any court or agency, and nothing in the Guild's documents shall be read to require arbitration of such a claim.

Every hearing shall be held promptly after the Complaint. The Person complained of shall have notice of the Complaint and of the evidence, the right to answer, to call witnesses, and to bring an advisor or lawyer of his or her choosing, and the Person complaining shall be protected from retaliation and from facing the Person complained of in the same room, if he or she so requests.

Section 3.

Betrayal of the Founding shall consist only in attempting to seize the Founder's Seat, the Marks or the control of the Guild by fraud, force or deceit, or in knowingly giving aid to such an attempt. No Person shall be found to have committed Betrayal of the Founding except on the word of two Witnesses to the same act, supported by documents, or on his or her own Admission before the Tribunal.

The penalty for Betrayal of the Founding shall be limited to removal from Membership and from every Office; and no penalty shall fall on the family, friends or associates of the Person found responsible, nor shall any Person be shamed, threatened or pursued outside the Guild.

Article IV. The Chapters

Section 1.

Every Chapter shall fully honor the records, rolls and decisions of every other Chapter. And the Council may, with the Founder's Assent, prescribe the Manner in which such records shall be kept and proved.

Section 2.

A Member in good standing in any Chapter shall be entitled to all the Privileges and Protections of Members in every Chapter.

A Complaint of harassment or assault against a Member in one Chapter shall follow that Member to any other Chapter he or she may join, and shall be heard as if brought there.

No Person shall be held to service or labor in the Guild against his or her will. Every Member may leave the Guild at any time by written notice, and no Rule, oath or agreement of the Guild shall be read to restrain any Person from leaving, from working elsewhere, or from speaking about his or her own experience.

Section 3.

New Chapters and new Crafts may be admitted by the Founder into this Guild; but no new Chapter shall be formed by dividing an existing Chapter, or by joining two or more, without the Consent of the Founder and of the Members of the Chapters concerned.

The Founder shall govern, and may make every Rule needed for, the Marks, the domains, the accounts, the works and the other property used by the Guild, all of which he holds or licenses as LEGAL-NOTES describes; and no part of this Constitution transfers any of them to any Chapter, Officer or Member.

Section 4.

The Guild shall guarantee to every Chapter a house safe for its Members, and shall protect each of them against harassment, assault and Capture; and, on Request of any Member, shall provide documentation, support and referral to counsel, the police and the proper agencies.

Article V. Amendment

The Council, whenever two thirds of both Chambers shall deem it necessary, may propose Amendments to this Constitution, or the Founder may propose them by written instrument; and an Amendment shall become Part of this Constitution only when ratified by the written and signed Assent of the Founder, and by two thirds of the Members voting in an Assembly; Provided that no Amendment shall in any Manner affect the Founder's Seat or Authority under Article II, the prohibition of sale in the First Clause of the Ninth Section of the First Article and in the Eighteenth and Twenty-first Amendments, or the Member Protections in the Second Section of the Fourth Article and in the First through Eighth, Thirteenth, Fifteenth, Nineteenth and Twenty-fourth Amendments; and that no Chapter shall lose its Seats in the House of Creators unless it consents. These matters are entrenched, and no vote of any body shall alter them; the Founder alone, by signed instrument, may strengthen the Member Protections.

Article VI. Supremacy within the Guild

Commitments the Guild made before this Constitution was adopted remain in force under it.

This Constitution, and the Rules of the Guild made in Pursuance thereof, and all instruments signed by the Founder under its Authority, shall be the supreme Law of the Guild; and every Officer, Chapter and Member shall be bound thereby, any rule of any Chapter to the Contrary notwithstanding. This Constitution is the compact of a private, civilian and voluntary association. It is subordinate in all things to the Constitution and laws of the United States and of each State, to the filed articles of any entity that carries on the Guild's work, and to the Charter and Standing Orders of Sparta Corporation; and if any part of it conflicts with any of them, that part shall yield and the rest shall stand.

The Creators and Champions, the Arbiters, the Keepers of the Flame, and all Officers of the Guild, shall swear or affirm their support of this Constitution; yet no religious test, nor any test of belief, shall ever be a condition of holding Office or of Membership in the Guild.

Article VII. Ratification

The Signature of the Founder, and of nine Founding Members of at least three Crafts, shall suffice to establish this Constitution among the Members so signing, and of every Member who later swears the Oath of Membership.

Done in Guild Assembled by the Consent of the Founder and the Founding Members present, the [day] Day of [month] in the Year two thousand and twenty-six, and of the Founding of the Nightlife Report Guild the First. To witness this, we have signed our Names below.



Anthony Perlas, Founder

Attest: _____, Secretary of the Guild

Founding Members: _____ (nine signature lines, by Craft)

Book III. The Amendments

The Guild Charter of Protections (Amendments I to X) and the Later Amendments (XI to XXVII). Each Amendment is numbered to stand beside the Amendment of the United States Constitution that bears the same number. All are proposed together and take effect with the Constitution.

Amendment I

The Council shall make no Rule establishing a required belief, or prohibiting any Member's free exercise of faith or of no faith; or abridging any Member's freedom of expression, or of the craft, or of publication in his or her own name; or requiring any Member to lower the quality of his or her work to please any market, platform or fashion; or abridging the right of Members to gather peaceably, and to petition the Founder for redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well-kept Record being essential to the safety of a free Guild, the right of the Founder and of every Member to keep and hold their records, evidence, files and works shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No agent, monitor or representative of any investor, acquirer or outside party shall, at any time, be placed inside any Member's workspace, accounts or devices without the consent of that Member, nor inside the Guild's own records without the written consent of the Founder.

Amendment IV

The right of the Members to be secure in their persons, homes, devices, accounts, papers and works, against unreasonable searches, surveillance and seizures, shall not be violated; and the Guild shall keep no file on any Person except the records this Constitution and the Standing Orders require, and shall gather no information about any Person by deception.

Amendment V

No Member shall be held to answer a Charge of Conduct unless the Charge is in writing and states the acts complained of; nor shall any Member be subject for the same acts to be twice brought before the Tribunal after a final decision; nor shall be compelled to admit anything against himself or herself; nor be removed, suspended or deprived of good standing without a fair hearing; nor shall any Member's work, likeness or name be taken for the Guild's use without his or her written consent, credit and fair compensation.

Amendment VI

In every hearing on a Charge of Conduct, the Member charged shall enjoy the right to a prompt and fair hearing, by impartial Arbiters who have no interest in the outcome, within the Chapter where the acts occurred or by remote means; to be told the nature and cause of the Charge; to see and answer the evidence; to call witnesses in his or her favor; and to have an advisor or lawyer of his or her choosing.

Amendment VII

In disputes between Members where the value in question shall exceed five hundred dollars, the right to a panel of three peers drawn from the Members shall be preserved, and no fact found by such a panel shall be re-examined within the Guild except on new evidence; but nothing herein shall close any court to any Person.

Amendment VIII

No Member shall be charged excessive dues or excessive fines, or subjected to cruel, humiliating or public punishment.

Amendment IX

The listing in this Constitution of certain protections shall not be read to deny or diminish others held by the Members, or given to them by law.

Amendment X

The powers not granted by this Constitution to the Council, the Tribunal or the Chapters, nor withheld by it from the Founder, are reserved to the Founder; and the rights not surrendered by it are reserved to the Members as individuals.

Amendment XI

The judging Power of the Guild does not reach any claim brought, or prosecuted, against the Founder by any investor, acquirer or outside party, or by any person acting for one; and no such party shall have standing in any proceeding of the Guild.

Amendment XII

The Founder shall designate the Successor and the Steward of the Guild by separate instruments, naming in the one the Person designated as Successor, and in the other the Person designated as Steward, and shall keep distinct lists of all Persons named for each Office in order of preference; which instruments he shall sign, seal before two witnesses and a notary, and deliver to the Keepers of the Flame. The Keepers shall, upon the Founder's death or a declaration of incapacity under the Twenty-fifth Amendment, in the presence of the Senate of Champions, open all the instruments, and the Persons first named who are living, eligible and willing shall be the Founder's Regent and the Steward;—and if no such Person be found for Successor, then from among the Champions the Keepers of the Flame shall choose immediately, by majority, the Founder's Regent. In choosing, the Keepers shall weigh only fidelity to the Founder's Vision as written, mastery of the Craft, and a record free of any finding of harassment, assault, theft, fraud or Capture; for this choice every Keeper then serving shall take part, or two thirds of them if any cannot. And if the Keepers shall not choose a Founder's Regent within sixty days, then the Steward shall act as Founder's Regent until a choice is made. The Steward shall assist the Founder and act in his place during any temporary absence the Founder declares in writing. If no Person be found for Steward, the Founder's Regent shall appoint one from the Champions. No Person ineligible to be Successor under Article II shall be eligible to be Steward.

Amendment XIII

Section 1.

Neither slavery, involuntary servitude, nor any form of compelled labor or compelled loyalty shall exist within the Guild. Every Member's service, membership and oath is freely given and may be freely withdrawn.

Section 2.

The Council may enforce this article by fitting Rules, and every Officer shall report any breach of it to the Founder at once.

Amendment XIV

Section 1.

All persons who swear the Oath of Membership and are admitted under this Constitution are Members of the Guild and of the Chapter in which they work. No Chapter or Officer shall make or enforce any rule which shall abridge the privileges or protections of Members; nor shall the Guild deprive any Member of good standing, credit or office without fair procedure; nor deny to any Member the equal protection of its Rules.

Section 2.

Seats in the House of Creators shall be apportioned among the Crafts according to their numbers on the Roll, counting the whole number of Members in each Craft. But when the right to choose Creators is denied to any Members of a Craft in breach of this Constitution, the seats of that Craft shall be held in trust by the Speaker until the breach is cured.

Section 3.

No Person shall be a Creator, Champion, Arbiter, Keeper, Steward or Officer of the Guild, or hold any office of trust under it, who, having previously sworn an Oath to support this Constitution, shall have been found responsible under Article III for Betrayal of the Founding, or under Article I for any act of Capture. But the Founder may, by signed instrument, remove such disability, except where the safety of another Person would be put at risk.

Section 4.

The validity of the debts and commitments of the Guild, authorized under this Constitution, shall not be questioned. But no Chapter, Officer or Member shall take on or pay any debt or obligation run up to aid an attempt at Capture, and all such debts and obligations shall be held void within the Guild.

Section 5.

The Council may enforce this article by fitting Rules.

Amendment XV

Section 1.

The right of Members to choose Creators, to hold office, or to enjoy any privilege of the Guild shall not be denied or abridged on account of race, color, religion or no religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age above eighteen years, disability (including autism), medical condition, marital status, pregnancy, military or veteran status, political affiliation, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Section 2.

The Council may enforce this article by fitting Rules.

Amendment XVI

The Council shall have power to receive voluntary dues and contributions from Members who choose to give them; but no Rule shall lay any claim upon a Member's earnings from his or her own work, nor require any share of them as a condition of membership.

Amendment XVII

The Senate of Champions shall be composed of two Champions from each Craft, appointed by the Founder for six years from among Persons whom the Members of that Craft have nominated; and each Champion shall have one vote. The Members of each Craft shall nominate at least three Persons for each vacant seat.

If a Craft's seat in the Senate falls empty, the Founder shall fill such vacancies from the nominations then standing, or call for new nominations within sixty days.

This amendment does not shorten the term of any Champion appointed before it takes effect.

Amendment XVIII

Section 1.

The sale, pledge, assignment or transfer of any share, unit, interest, Mark or control right held by or for the Founder in the Guild or in any entity that carries on its work, to any person other than the Founder's own purpose trust, the Keepers of the Flame or the Founder's Regent, is hereby prohibited forever.

Section 2.

The Founder and the Council may each enforce this article by fitting Rules, and every entity that carries on the Guild's work shall carry the matching restriction in its own governing documents, conspicuously noted, as the laws of its State require.

Section 3.

This article shall bind every Officer and Member who swears the Oath, whether before or after its adoption, and it shall not be subject to any limit of time.

Amendment XIX

The right of Members to choose Creators, to hold office, or to enjoy any privilege of the Guild shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex.

The Council may enforce this article by fitting Rules.

Amendment XX

Section 1.

The terms of the Creators shall end at noon on the Day of the Summer Solstice of the year in which those terms would have ended, when their successors' terms start.

Section 2.

The Council shall meet at least yearly, beginning on the Day of the Summer Solstice, unless the Founder sets another day by written order.

Section 3.

If, when the Seat is to pass to a Founder's Regent, the Person first named as Successor shall have died, declined or become ineligible, the next Person named who is living, eligible and willing shall take the Seat; and if none, the procedure of the Twelfth Amendment shall apply, and the Steward shall act until a Founder's Regent is chosen.

Section 4.

The Founder may by written instrument provide for the case of the death or incapacity of any Person named in his designations, and for the order in which alternates shall serve.

Section 5.

Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect at the first Assembly after this article is ratified.

Section 6.

This article shall take effect with the Constitution.

Amendment XXI

Section 1.

The eighteenth article of amendment to this Constitution is hereby affirmed, and shall never be repealed, suspended or narrowed by any amendment, Rule or vote.

Section 2.

The serving of alcohol at any gathering of the Guild in any place is permitted only in conformity with the laws of that place, only to Persons of lawful drinking age, and never at any gathering that admits any Person under the age of eighteen years.

Section 3.

The Founder may strengthen this article by signed instrument during his life; no one shall ever weaken it.

Amendment XXII

Section 1.

The Founder's tenure is for the whole of his life and is subject to no limit of terms. No other Person shall be chosen to the same Office of the Guild, other than the Founder's Seat, more than twice in succession, and no Person who has served over two years of someone else's term in an Office shall be chosen to that Office more than once more in a row.

Section 2.

This article shall take effect with the Constitution, and shall not apply to any Person holding an Office when it takes effect until the end of that Person's current term.

Amendment XXIII

Section 1.

The Founder's House, being the headquarters Chapter at such place as the Founder shall choose, shall be represented in the House of Creators by a number of Creators equal to the number to which it would be entitled if it were a Craft, never exceeding the number held by the smallest Craft.

These seats are added to those the Crafts hold, and they shall count, when the Speaker is chosen, as seats chosen by a Craft; their holders shall meet in the Founder's House and carry out the duties set by the seventeenth clause of the eighth section of the first article.

Section 2.

The Council may enforce this article by fitting Rules.

Amendment XXIV

Section 1.

The right of Members to choose Creators, to nominate Champions, to bring a Complaint, or to enjoy any protection of this Constitution shall not be denied or abridged by reason of failure to pay any dues, fee or contribution.

Section 2.

The Council may enforce this article by fitting Rules.

Amendment XXV

Section 1.

In case of the death of the Founder, the Founder's Regent shall take the Seat under Article II and the Twelfth Amendment.

Section 2.

If the office of Steward is empty, the Founder shall name a Steward by signed instrument, and no confirmation shall be required.

Section 3.

When the Founder sends the Keepers of the Flame and the Speaker a signed statement that he cannot carry out the work of his Seat, the Steward shall act in his place as Acting Founder until the Founder sends them a signed statement that he can; and the Acting Founder shall act only to keep the Guild in order and the Vision unchanged.

Section 4.

No vote of any Chamber, Chapter, Officer or Member shall declare the Founder unfit to carry out the work of his Seat. The Founder shall be treated as unable only upon his own written declaration under Section 3; or upon the written certificate of two licensed physicians who have examined him, delivered to the Keepers of the Flame; or upon the order of a court of competent jurisdiction. In any such case the Steward shall act as Acting Founder.

Thereafter, when the Founder transmits to the Keepers of the Flame and the Speaker his written declaration that no inability exists, accompanied by the certificate of one licensed physician who has examined him, or upon a further order of the court, he shall take back the full work of his Seat at once. No Chamber shall have any power to delay, review or overrule his resumption.

Amendment XXVI

Section 1.

The right of Persons aged eighteen or over to become Members, to choose Creators and to take part in any program of the Guild shall not be denied or abridged on account of age; and no Person under the age of eighteen years shall be admitted as a Member, featured in any Guild work, or admitted to any gathering where alcohol is served.

Section 2.

The Council may enforce this article by fitting Rules.

Amendment XXVII

No Rule varying the compensation, stipend or reimbursement of any Creator, Champion, Arbiter or Officer shall take effect until after the next Assembly following its adoption; and no compensation shall be paid to any of them at all except as the Founder has approved in writing upon the advice of counsel.

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Notes on the text. This Constitution follows the order, section count and devices of the United States Constitution of 1787 and its twenty-seven Amendments, as mapped in REVERSE-ENGINEERING.md; its wording is original. "Capture" has the meaning given in the Founders' Declaration: the pattern of conduct by which a founder or creator is separated from what he or she founded or made. It is the internal compact of a private, civilian, voluntary association. It has not been adopted, signed or filed. Before it binds anyone, its terms must be carried into the governing documents of an actual entity and into signed membership agreements, as LEGAL-NOTES.md explains, and reviewed by licensed attorneys. Bracketed items must be completed before signing.