

CONSTITUTION UGANDAN COMMUNITY IN ILLINOIS

PREAMBLE

While we, the original members of the Ugandan Community in Illinois, affirm the following conditions as fundamental to the existence and continuity our community, do hereby establish this constitution with the belief that all present and future members will carry out its intentions to the best of their ability, in the conduct of the affairs of the community:

Section 1: The right to membership in the Ugandan Community in Illinois arises with personhood and residency. Consequently, membership in UCI will be based on the establishment and maintenance of permanent residence in the community, as defined and stipulated in the bylaws adjoined to this constitution. Members and their families shall be entitled to all benefits of the community and assume the responsibility of developing, supporting, and maintaining the community, including making financial contributions to fund and support its activities.

Section 2: The supreme authority of UCI is vested and inheres solely in the General Meeting of Members of the Uganda Community in Illinois (UCI), and shall be exercised via a decision of the majority of the members present at such a meeting.

Section 3: All leaders deemed necessary in UCI shall be singly and directly elected by the members at a General Meeting Convened for the purpose. Any such leaders, including a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, publicity secretary, sports secretary, entertainment secretary, Catering, Youth Affairs, children affairs, UWI and UMI representatives who may severally be referred to as the Executive Committee; and any Community elders to serve on an oversight Board, shall be answerable directly to the General meeting of members.

Section 4: The General meeting of UCI will be held at least twice a year, in April and October, with the October meeting being designated as the Annual General Meeting, for purposes of setting policy, and approving an annual plan of action, and a budget to implement the plan. The executive committee shall submit a written general report regarding the affairs of the community, a written treasurer's report and certified financial statements and Balance Sheet.

Section 5: At least one third of the registered membership may petition the relevant person or persons, as in a Board or Executive Committee to convene a Special General meeting to discuss matters of concern to or grievances of members of the community. The executive committee shall be permitted to convene a Special General Meeting whenever there are urgent matters that need the community's attention and resolution.

Section 6: UCII shall be incorporated as a Not-for-Profit Corporation and operated as a Section 501(c) (3) Federal Tax Exempt Organization.

ARTICLE I NAME

This organization shall be known as the UGANDAN COMMUNITY IN ILLINOIS, NFP

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The primary purpose of UCII is to provide a structured setting for persons of Ugandan descent, their spouses, descendants, and associates residing in Illinois, to preserve, develop and celebrate their heritage; and collaborate on causes to promote, charitable, scientific, literary, cultural, religious, educational and research purposes, including the promotion and support of projects and operations for the needy, vulnerable and disadvantaged .

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Full membership shall be open and free to all persons of Ugandan descent residing in Illinois, their spouses and descendants. Associate membership shall be open to adult persons connected to Uganda by a legitimate cause or circumstance who fulfilled the qualifications of, and are admitted in accordance with the By-laws of this organization

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

The officers of this organization shall consist of: (list offices to be filled) all of whom shall be active members in good standing with the community.

- (a) President,
- (b) Vice president,
- (c) Secretary,
- (d) Treasurer,

- (e) Publicity secretary,
- (f) Sports secretary,
- (g) Entertainment secretary
- (h) Committee members- at- large Etc.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be two types of meetings:

- A. Regular
- B. Special

Section 2. All meetings will be held as provided for in the By-laws.

ARTICLE VI DISCRIMINATION POLICY

There shall be no discrimination in either the admission of members or in the conduct of any business because of an individual's race, creed, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, and non-disqualifying handicap. There shall be no conduct on the part of any member which could be considered to be physically or psychologically detrimental to any individual (s), including character assassination, such as slander, libel, or defamation.

ARTICLE VII BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1. UCII shall have a Board of Trustees to act as custodians of this constitution and protect the common interest and democracy within the community, including making sure that no actions or activities shall be conducted which would be considered to be at variance with the purpose of the community as expressed in this constitution.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees shall ensure that a legitimately elected executive body is in place at all times, certify elections, arbitrate conflicts between the elected executive body and the general membership, and certify that the affairs of the community, including its financial affairs, are conducted as provided for in the By-laws.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the registered members of the community, at a meeting convened for that purpose as provided for in the bylaws.

Section 2. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be distributed, in writing, to all registered members in the community at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting (Section 1, above) at which they will be discussed.

Section 3. All amendments to the Constitution and the By-laws must be certified by the Board of Trustees as having been adopted in accordance with the constitution and bylaws, before becoming effective.

ARTICLE IX

BY-LAWS

UCI will adhere to a set of by-laws, which will be its governing document, when not in conflict with this constitution.

The Ugandan Community in Illinois
6710 Desert Drive
Plainfield, Illinois