

**CONSTITUTION
AND
BY-LAWS
OF
ALPHA PSI OMEGA
THE NATIONAL THEATRE
HONOR SOCIETY**

Its Aims and Purpose

ALPHA PSI OMEGA was organized as a theatre honor society for the purpose of providing acknowledgement to those demonstrating a high standard of accomplishment in theatre and, through the expansion of ALPHA PSI OMEGA among colleges and universities, providing a wider fellowship for those interested in theatre. The society is not intended to take the place of any regular theatre clubs or producing groups, but as students qualify they may be rewarded by election to membership in this society.

This booklet is intended to serve as a source of information for members of the society. Secondly, it will place before those interested in theatre the goals of ALPHA PSI OMEGA and demonstrate what can be accomplished to stimulate interest in college and university theatre by an honor society whose goal is fellowship and service.

Founded August 12, 1925

Revised August 1997

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**THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE ALPHA PSI OMEGA NATIONAL THEATRE HONOR SOCIETY**

P R E A M B L E

We, the members of ALPHA PSI OMEGA, in order to develop talents in all aspects of theatre, to foster the cultural values we believe theatre develops, and to encourage cooperation and collaboration among member chapters, do hereby form and establish this constitution of THE ALPHA PSI OMEGA NATIONAL THEATRE HONOR SOCIETY.

**Article I
Name and Classification**

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be THE ALPHA PSI OMEGA NATIONAL THEATRE HONOR SOCIETY.

Article II Membership

Section 1. Colleges and universities of recognized standing, having an established theatre program or theatre club for the purpose of producing plays, will be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Qualification for individual membership may be determined by individual chapters, but should include active participation in theatre work on a variety of levels. Chapters must adopt a set of local standards based on the following:

(a) Participation in theatre work for a minimum of two semesters.

(b) Participation in a variety of production tasks (acting, directing, playwriting, front-of-house management, technical theatre, dramaturgy, production research, and other appropriate theatrical responsibilities). A point system has proven to be an effective means of fairly determining membership eligibility.

A Recommended Point System

A total of 75 points from at least two of the following categories (excluding category 5) is necessary to be eligible for admission into ALPHA PSI OMEGA.

Category 1. Performance

Acting (15-25 pts.)

Directing (25-40 pts.)

Dance (15-25 pts.)

Choreography (20-30 pts.)

Category 2. Production

Design (20-30 pts.)

Producing (20-30 pts.)

Stage Management (20-30 pts.)

Crew Chiefs (10-20 pts.)

Construction Crews (10-20 pts.)

Running Crews (5-15 pts.)

Front-of-House (1-15 pts.)

Production Coach/Other (5-15 pts.)

Category 3. Dramaturgy: 20-30 pts.

Category 4. Playwriting

Full Length-20-30 pts.

One-Act- 10-15 pts.)

Musical Composition for Theatre Performance (20-30 pts.)

Category 5. Special: Officer in Drama/Theatre Organization/Club (5-10 pts.)

(c) A minimum G.P.A. of 2.5 or better.

(d) The local chapter may not allow standards to fall below these guidelines.

(e) Honorary and faculty membership may be conferred after securing permission from the National Officers.

(f) Membership in Delta Psi Omega is worth 50 pts. toward membership in Alpha Psi Omega.

Article III National Organization

Section 1. The organization will consist of the following bodies: The National Officers and various chapters located at colleges and universities.

Section 2. The National Officers will consist of a President, Vice-President, and Business Manager.

Section 3. The National Officers are the supreme governing body of the society and are supported by regional officers. The society and the delegates from the chapters will conduct the business of the society at the annual National Meeting. During the interim between National Meetings, the National Officers will conduct the business of the society.

Section 4. No person will be eligible for election to a national office except graduates or faculty members of the society actively engaged in theatre activities.

Article IV Legislative

Section 1. The National Officers will conduct the business of the society.

Section 2. There will be an annual National Meeting open to all chapters at a location designated by the National Officers.

Section 3. Elections will be held every five years for the posts of President, Vice-President, and Business Manager.

Section 4. Regional representatives will be appointed by the National Officers for terms of three years.

Section 5. The actions of the National Meetings are not subject to ratification by individual chapters except through amendment to the constitution as herein provided.

Article V Powers and Duties

Section 1. Executive, Administrative, and Judicial duties will be vested in the National Officers.

Section 2. When a chapter of ALPHA PSI OMEGA is installed, former students and graduates of the college who qualify are eligible for election to membership in THE ALPHA PSI OMEGA NATIONAL THEATRE HONOR SOCIETY.

Section 3. The duties of the President are: (a) upholding the standards and guidelines of the society, (b) presiding at all National Meetings, (c) appointing national committees. The President may, on extraordinary occasions, call a special meeting.

Section 4. The Vice-President will succeed to the duties and office of President in cases where the President is unable to fulfill the term of office. It is the Vice-President's duty to be cognizant of all the affairs and policies of the society.

Section 5. The Business Manager will conduct the business and correspondence of society, keep an account of all receipts and expenditures, and edit the annual society publication, *Playbill*.

Section 6. Any expenditures beyond typical operational costs must be approved by the National Officers.

Article VI New Chapters

Section 1. New chapters will be admitted to the society by petition to the National Officers.

Section 2. When a college or university applies for a chapter, a Faculty Sponsor will submit an application to the National Office, containing the names of at least five students qualified for membership and such other information as the National Business Manager may require.

Section 3. The charter fee is designated by the National Office.

Section 4. When chapters are established, ceremony guidelines will be sent to the Faculty Sponsor who will represent the National Officers and conduct the installation of the new chapter.

Section 5. Chapters will be named by the National Office from the Greek alphabet in order of their establishment.

Article VII Dues and Fees

Section 1. There will be an initiation fee for each new member as designated by the National Office.

Section 2. Failure to remit initiation fees for each new member will result in the suspension of the chapter.

Article VIII Insignia

Section 1. There will be colors, coat of arms, and a banner according to designs and specifications in the hands of the National Business Manager as have been adopted by THE ALPHA PSI OMEGA NATIONAL THEATRE HONOR SOCIETY.

Section 2. The official insignia pin is blue and gold with a monogram of the society's logos. These can be ordered from the National Office.

Section 3. The coat of arms is a small crest representing the stage of a traditional Greek theatre.

Article IX
National Publications

Section 1. There will be an official magazine of ALPHA PSI OMEGA entitled *Playbill* and copies will be distributed to each chapter annually at the time of its publication.

Section 2. The ceremonies, charters, and other printed materials for the transaction of official business will be prepared and issued by the National Officers.

Article X
Amendments

Section 1. This constitution is subject to amendment at National Meetings if amendments are submitted to the National Officers at least one full month before the National Meeting. An amendment is approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the membership present at the National Meeting.