

Fine Arts Council By-Laws

Revision History:

April 1, 2009
Fall 2012
Winter 2013
October 16, 2013
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October 15, 2014
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November 8, 2017

BACKGROUND

These bylaws serve as the terms of reference for the Fine Arts Council and govern the distribution of the Fine Arts fund.

Article 1 – Establishment

1.1 The Fine Arts Council, hereinafter the FAC, is an internal entity of the AUS and shall be governed by these bylaws.

Article 2 – Mission

2.1 The mission of the FAC is to create a community of fine arts at McGill where none existed before.

2.2 It shall work to harness the collective energies of Fine Arts programs at McGill to share resources and support.

2.3 It shall work to create more opportunities for McGill students to express themselves through the Fine Arts.

2.4 It shall support new endeavours and help to expand existing ones.

Article 3 – Finances

3.1 The annual funding allocated to the FAC is determined in the AUIF bylaws as a percentage of the AUIF.

3.2 Additional funding can be sought out from external sources or from the AUS.

3.3 Affiliates must submit their budgets to the FAC once per semester for approval, no later than November 10 for the Fall Semester and no later than February 15 for the Winter Semester.

3.4 The FAC will submit their total projected budget to the AUS by October 15th (for the fall semester) and by February 15th (for the Winter semester).

3.5 The finances shall be maintained as consistent with other internal entities of the AUS.

3.6 At least 10% of the FAC's budget shall be reserved for funding new or one-time Fine Arts projects. This amount shall be labelled the New Projects Fund.

3.6.1 After December 1st the FAC may decide to allocate any undesignated by the end of first semester funds from the New Projects Fund towards Fine Arts projects that do not qualify under article 3.6

Article 4 – Powers and Duties of the FAC

4.1 The FAC shall recognize the supremacy of the AUS Constitution and be bound by it.

4.2 The FAC shall work to realize their mission as stated in these bylaws

4.3 The FAC may review applications for funding projects that are

aligned with the FAC's mission.

4.4 The FAC may direct their own events or projects to fulfill their mission if it deems necessary either by itself or by striking ad hoc committee.

4.5 The FAC shall promote its Fine Arts funding opportunities.

4.6 The FAC shall work to support its affiliate(s) as defined in Article 9 and project(s) that it funds.

Article 5 – Membership

5.1 The Committee shall consist of ten (10) members:

5.1.1 The two (2) Fine Arts commissioners

5.1.2 The Vice-President Finance of the AUS;

5.1.3 The Vice-President Communications of the AUS;

5.1.4 A representative of each of the following fine arts disciplines:

5.1.4.1 Dance FAC Representative

5.1.4.2 Literary FAC Representative

5.1.4.3 Music FAC Representative

5.1.4.4 Theatre FAC Representative

5.1.4.5 Visual Arts FAC Representative

5.1.5 The FAC Representatives outlined in Article 5.1.4 will be selected by the AUS VP Communications, with advice of the Fine Arts Commissioners.

5.1.6 The remaining members, referred to as Independent Members, shall be from the McGill Fine Arts community.

5.1.6.1 These members will be by application and approved by the others members of the Committee

5.1.6.2 These members will undertake the responsibilities of sponsorship, advertising, organizing any FAC events and acting as an informational resource

5.1.6.3 These seats may be forfeited if new affiliates are granted seats.

5.1.6.4 The Independent Member(s) may be chosen during the application and interview process for the two (2) Fine Arts Commissioners.

5.2 The Fine Arts Commissioners shall share the following responsibilities:

5.2.1 Liaise with applicants for funding.

5.2.2 Liaise with McGill and other AUS entities;

5.2.3 Prepare regular reports for ratification for AUS Council;

5.2.4 Liaise with Fine Arts Groups;

5.2.5 Update FAC every week on general progress;

5.2.6 Be responsible for the public image of the FAC.

Article 6 – Meetings of FAC

- 6.1 Quorum shall be six of ten members of the FAC.
- 6.2 Meetings shall be chaired by the AUS VP Communications.
- 6.3 Meetings shall be held at the discretion of the AUS VP Communications.
- 6.4 The FAC may invite funding applicants to prepare a presentation for the FAC.

Article 7 – Applicants for Funding and affiliate budgets

- 7.1 Applications for funding and affiliate budgets must be passed by a majority vote of FAC.
 - 7.1.1 Members who are involved in the project or budget must declare conflict of interest and refrain from voting.
- 7.2 To be considered, an applicant must fill out the application for funding in full.
- 7.3 The FAC may award funding in full, in part or deny funding entirely.
- 7.4 The FAC is encouraged to give feedback and support on applications.
- 7.5 All decisions of the FAC shall be brought to the AUS Legislative Council for ratification.
 - 7.5.1 No funding regarding an application shall be distributed until such time that the AUS Legislative Council ratifies the allocation, if it should choose to do so.
- 7.6 The FAC shall allocate funding to the projects it deems worthy in considering the reach of project, qualification of applicant, viability of project, contribution to the annual Nuit Blanche event, and any other criteria the FAC deems relevant.
- 7.7 The FAC shall give priority for funding to applicants internal to, or affiliated with the AUS.
 - 7.7.1 Second priority shall be given to applicants primarily serving Arts students.
 - 7.7.2 All other applications shall be considered only after prioritized applicants.
 - 7.7.3 Allocations to any applicant without a primary focus on Arts students shall not exceed ten percent of the Fine Arts Council's funding budget.
- 7.8 The affiliates' allocations shall be as follows:
 - 7.8.1 STEPS will be funded \$550 per issue for 2 magazines of the FAC's budget each year.
 - 7.8.2 AUTS will receive \$500 of the FAC's budget each year.
 - 7.8.3 The Fridge Door Gallery will receive \$750 of the FAC's budget each year.
 - 7.8.4. The VEG will receive \$550 per issue for 2 magazines of the

FAC's budget each year.

7.8.5 Leacock's will receive \$750 of the FAC's budget each year.

7.9 This funding will be guaranteed provided that it does not create a surplus in the Affiliate Member's budget.

Article 8 – Selection of Commissioners

8.1 The Fine Arts Commissioners for the following year shall be selected by the incoming and outgoing VP Communications and any current Fine Arts Commissioners who are not applying for the position.

8.2 Any member of the AUS is eligible to apply.

8.3 The appointments shall be ratified by AUS Council.

Article 9 – Affiliates of the FAC

9.1 The FAC shall officially recognize and finance these Fine Arts endeavours as official FAC affiliates:

9.1.1 Steps Magazine

9.1.2 Arts Undergraduate Theatre Society (AUTS)

9.1.3 Fridge Door Gallery

9.1.4 The VEG

9.1.5 Leacock's

9.2 The FAC shall adopt the budgets of the affiliates on a per-semester basis and amend them if they deem necessary.

9.3 Any affiliate will receive additional funding at the discretion of the FAC.

9.4 Groups will be invited to become affiliate members of the Committee based on, but not limited to, the following criteria:

Involvement in the arts community outside of the group's interests

Acting as an informational resource for others

Distinct contribution to the Fine Arts Council

Cooperation and involvement with FAC

Demonstration of fiscal responsibility

Beneficial to at large AUS Members at large

Showing interest in maintaining long-term viability