

## **The Constitution of Miracle at UGA**

### **ARTICLE I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be Miracle at UGA, or ugaMiracle. This organization was formerly known as UGA Dance Marathon and is affiliated with the national Dance Marathon program.

### **ARTICLE II: Purpose**

Miracle at UGA strives to unite the University of Georgia community in an effort to save and better children's lives through financial contributions to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. The funds we raise go to support the Comprehensive Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit (CIRU) and Orthopedics Department for the three hospitals and seventeen outpatient clinics supported by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, for whom Miracle at UGA raises funds, is part of the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, a governing body for 170 hospitals throughout the United States and Canada.

The year concludes with a 24-hour Dance Marathon in which members pledge to stay up all night in celebration of the money raised and in honor of the lives that will be saved. Members have the option to take part in a "Standing Challenge" through this event and stand for the duration of the Dance Marathon.

### **ARTICLE III: University Compliance**

Miracle at UGA shall comply with both the University of Georgia Center for Student Organizations and Department of Greek Life rules, policies, and regulations.

Miracle at UGA shall comply with all University of Georgia rules, policies and regulations, and local, state, and federal laws, including those regarding the use of alcohol and drugs.

### **ARTICLE IV: Membership**

Participation in Miracle at UGA is open to all students regardless of age, race, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Membership in Miracle at UGA shall be open to all regularly enrolled University of Georgia students, staff, or faculty with a qualifying UGA MyID. Membership applications are available online beginning in August of each year.

Members can choose to increase involvement by being a part of one of our twelve committees. Applications for Committees are available and due in September. Selection involves a completed application and interview with the Executive Board. Selection results are posted on our website within one week of the conclusion of interviews.

### **ARTICLE V: Non-Discrimination**

Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all

students without regard to age, ethnicity, gender, disability, color, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

#### **ARTICLE VI: Dues and Payment**

Team members are required to fundraise \$200, committee members are required to raise \$300, committee leads are required to raise \$400, and executive board members are required to raise \$500 on behalf of the organization and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. We provide numerous opportunities for members to raise this money through efforts the organization plans.

To register for Miracle at UGA, there is a \$20 processing fee. All funds collected through this registration are counted towards that individual's fundraising requirements for the year spelled out above.

#### **ARTICLE VII: Executive Board Members**

The positions on the Executive Board shall be chosen within one months of the conclusion of the Marathon each spring.

The executive director is chosen first by 2/3s vote of 4 outgoing executive board members, the Graduate Advisor, and a staff member of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta if possible. The outgoing executive board members are chosen to be on the four-person selection committee for the selection of the incoming executive director and the incoming council members by an anonymous majority vote of the remainder of the executive board.

The executive council, who are the five executive board members that directly report to the executive director and are also in charge of overseeing other executive board positions, are chosen by the outgoing executive director, outgoing executive board members, the incoming executive director, and Graduate Assistant in the Greek Life Office. These members are chosen by 2/3s majority vote.

Selection of new executive board members is coordinated by the Graduate Assistant, outgoing executive director, incoming executive director, and incoming executive council members. The chairs are voted into office by a majority (51%) vote. Any member wishing to hold a position for a second year must reenter the applicant pool and not be a part of the selection process. Application for these positions includes an interview with the aforementioned members of Miracle at UGA as well as a group interview up to the discretion of the incoming Executive Director and Executive Council.

The Term is from selection after Dance Marathon of each year to the following Dance Marathon, usually held the third weekend in February. In the event of a vacancy, open applications for the position shall be made available and interviews and selection process will be done by the Graduate Assistant and the Executive Director.

The following are the positions of the twenty-five member Miracle at UGA Executive Board:

Executive Director: In charge of the overall coordination of the Executive Board and serves as primary liaison for the organization.

Internal Director: Directly responsible for all occurrences at the Marathon each spring. The Internal Director oversees the Family Relations and Entertainment Chairs.

External Director: Acts as a liaison to all organizations participating in Miracle that are not directly tied to the University of Georgia. The External Director oversees the Community Outreach and Hospital Relations chairs.

Finance Director: Oversee all the money collection--registration fees, donations, fundraisers, etc. The Finance Director oversees the Fundraising and Business Relations Chairs.

Special Events Director: Plan and promote large fundraising events before the Marathon including, but not limited to, Tour of Homes, Benefit Concert, and Miracle Auction. The Special Events Director oversees the Restaurant Relations, Media, and Public Relations Chairs.

Campus Relations Director: Serve as liaison to all organizations participating in Miracle that are tied to the University of Georgia, work with team to plan monthly Team Member meetings, and work with Campus Reservations. The Campus Relations Director oversees the Morale and Recruitment Chairs.

Restaurant Relations Chair: Must help get donations of food and drink for the Marathon at little or no cost, provide food at any events before the Marathon and arrange percentage nights at local restaurants.

Community Outreach Co-chairs: Responsible for organizing and promoting Mini Marathons in both the Athens and Atlanta high schools in order to increase the awareness of Dance Marathon outside of UGA.

Business Relations Co-chairs: Solicit donations and corporate gifts from businesses and organizations in the Athens and Atlanta areas.

Fundraising Co-chairs: Assist organization members in personal fundraising totals by orchestrating the letter writing campaign as well as other fundraising opportunities throughout the year.

Entertainment Chair: Provides a variety of entertainment for the participants and serves as point of contact between the bands, student organizations, and community groups who perform at our events.

Family Relations Co-chairs: Primarily contacts and builds relationships with Miracle Families & Miracle Kids throughout the year prior to the Marathon as well as being a host to individual Miracle Kids at the marathon.

Hospital Relations Co-chairs: Primarily plans, organizes, and runs hospital visits at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and orchestrates ways for our hospital and campus to intertwine.

Media Chair: Create all organization graphics, t-shirts, and videos.

Morale Co-chairs: Keep the participants in high spirits throughout the Marathon, coordinate specific activities for registration and theme hour, try to increase the number of participants who complete the full 24 hours, and create the Morale dance showcased annually at Dance Marathon.

Public Relations Co-chairs: Promotes the Marathon and other Miracle events on local, regional, and national level as well as develops the marketing kit, program, and other materials to be disseminated. Public Relations chairs also operate organization social media pages.

Recruitment Co-chairs: Responsible for the recruitment of participation from the campus community through outreach presentations that involve high energy and spirit. Rally for involvement as a participant, committee member, or volunteer.

Directors may choose whether or not to take a committee and/or committee leads, and they may choose how many committee members to take during committee selections.

### **ARTICLE VIII: Levels of Involvement**

Students involved in Miracle at UGA have three different levels of involvement within our organization. Each level varies in time, effort, responsibilities, and fundraising goals. Which level one applies for is up to the discretion of the participants.

The most basic level is to be a Team Member. Team members are allowed to participate in all events hosted by Miracle at UGA throughout the year. In addition, they are required to attend monthly organization meetings, raise \$200, and attend Dance Marathon.

Once registered as a Team Member, members can apply to one of our twelve committees and become a committee member. To become a committee member, one must fill out an application, distributed at the organization's Kickoff event every August, as well as interview with members of the executive board. Application reviews and interviews are conducted by the executive board every year in September. If selected to a committee, committee members are required to attend committee meetings, raise \$250, and remain at Dance Marathon for all 24 hours. Members who have served on the same committee for two consecutive years do not have to go through the interview process if they fill out an application; they are automatically selected for the committee for which they have previously served.

If a member has previously served on a committee, he or she can apply the following year to be a committee lead. Committee leads help the executive board members running committees with specific tasks and help oversee committee operations. The number and role of each committee lead is determined after executive board selections each spring by the incoming executive board. To be considered for a committee lead position, members must fill out application that is distributed in the spring immediately after the selection of the executive board. If selected to serve as a committee lead, members have the same requirements as committee members but must raise \$300 for their personal fundraising total.

### **ARTICLE IX: Removal of Elected/Appointed Persons**

Members of the Executive Board should first discuss the situation as an entire board before making a final decision. An executive member may only be removed from the board by a 2/3 majority vote. Voting can be done in private and kept confidential, or in meeting; this is to the Executive Board's discretion.

The Executive Director must be replaced by a member of the Executive Council. The Executive Board will decide on a candidate, and then the Board will ratify the decision with a 2/3's majority vote.

An Executive Board member must be replaced by a student who interviewed for a committee during that academic year. All Executive Board members will decide on a candidate and ratify with a 2/3's majority vote. If a new board member is not instated within two weeks then the Executive Director will have the discretion to reassign the responsibilities to another Executive Board member.

**ARTICLE X: Meeting**

The Executive Director is in charge of overseeing all meetings of the executive board. Special Executive Board Meetings can be called by the director and approved by the Graduate Assistant.

Committee Meetings are at the discretion of each Executive Board Member. They shall call all meetings within an appropriate time, generally 48 hours notice, so that all committee members can be informed of the meeting time and location.

**ARTICLE XI: Quorum**

The only decision making body of Miracle at UGA is the Executive Board. In order for adequate decisions to be made at a meeting, at least 3/4 of the active members must be present.

**ARTICLE XII: Amendments**

Amending the Constitution of Dance Marathon can occur by a 2/3s vote of the Executive Board. Amendments can be submitted by any member of the board, and will be voted on two weeks after submission.

**ARTICLE XIII: Ratification**

Ratification requires a 2/3s vote of the Executive Board.