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THE OFFICIAL CONSTITUTION OF THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY “THE GENESIS MODELS”

PREAMBLE

We, as Howard University students, being aware of the dissonance within the global black world, committed to advancing the unity, individuality and inclusivity of our African community domestically and abroad, convinced that the black diaspora has an integral role to play in the development of peace internationally, and recognizing the necessity of forming an organization for the purpose of solving such issues, do hereby establish this constitution and organize The Genesis Models in order to structurally engage in efforts of progressive pan Africanism through means of fellowship, service, and creative expression.

Mission Statement

GENESIS is an urban modeling organization geared towards creatives of all types and meant to create a platform for the students of Howard University to display their talents in designing, make-up, hairstyling, photography, graphic design, and other art forms. Our focus as an organization is to celebrate our roots and acknowledge that we are all connected to the Motherland, hence the name GENESIS.

ARTICLE I:

The organization shall be known as The Genesis Models of Howard University, hereinafter referred to as the “Genesis Models,” “GM,” or “GENESIS.”

ARTICLE II:

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- To unite all students of the African diaspora at Howard University and instill confidence and professional discipline in our African student leaders of today and tomorrow;
- To promote individuality and inclusion amongst students of the African diaspora by serving as a creative hub of expression for students from intersectional/marginalized communities;
- To cooperate with fellow student organizations with like-minded intent; 2
- To promote continental consciousness and unity amongst all students of Howard University.

ARTICLE III: HISTORY

The Genesis Models was founded September 1, 2021, on the campus of Howard University. The campus charter members are Mariam Badejo of class of 2023, Israel Olu of class of 2022, and Victoria Mensa-Wood of class of 2022. The GENESIS management team begun with the three founding members, and its first generation of members includes twenty-one models and six creatives. GENESIS was originally established through the African Students' Association (ASA) and is recorded in their constitution. Since The Genesis Models conception, the organization has hosted a commencement fashion show, been featured in various ASA events, and collaborated with the COAS Student Council on their Fall 2022 midnight brunch event.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. Positions

The following officers shall constitute the Executive (subject to amendment):

- President
- Vice-President
- Chief of Staff
- Treasurer
- Membership Liaison
- Head of Modeling
- Model Coach
- Head of Public Relations
- Head of Creative Direction
- Head of Styling
- Head of Hairstyling
- Head of Photography
- Head of Makeup
- Head of Graphic Design

The executive board shall consist of all the officers of the organization. Meetings of the executive board shall be held before each general body meeting and any other time the President deems necessary. The executive board may establish committees as well as create and omit positions as deemed necessary at the discretion of the President. The outgoing executive board shall present a comprehensive annual report of the state of the organization at the end of the academic year of approval. A copy is to be kept by the office of Student Affairs and by the Secretary. Each officer of the executive board shall be required to hand over notes, documents, and other necessary work to the GM (Genesis Models) at the expiration of their tenure of office, or in the event of resignation or impeachment.

Any executive officer who misses three consecutive general meetings in a semester without any reasonable excuse shall be removed from office, as 3 determined by the President and/or Founders. Additionally, any executive officer who is deemed by a majority of GM members to have failed in the performance of the duties of his/her/their office shall be promptly removed with a new appointment to that office within two weeks. Replacement of the executive board member is at the discretion of the President and/or Founders. All officers of the executive board shall be prepared to answer any questions relating to his/her/their own office.

2. Role of each Officer:

President

- Overseeing staff and executives and evaluating the success of the organization. ● Meeting with board members and other executives to assess the direction of the organization, develop short and long-term goals, plans, and strategies, and ensure the organization's compliance with the stated mission.
- Direct operation of the organization and ensuring all organizational goals are met
- Listening to the viewpoints and reports of the organizations Vice Presidents or directors and making the final decisions.
- Maintaining awareness and knowledge of the organization's daily finances by analyzing budgets and financial reports to ensure accuracy throughout the year ● Creating and maintaining relationships with the Howard community. ● Preside over and create an agenda for all Meetings.
- Producing and ensuring necessary tasks are completed by all committees and Executive Board members in order to maintain and enhance GENESIS ● Serve as GENESIS main contact between the African Student Association Executive board.

Vice President

- Assist and support President in their role of up keeping the organization ● Direct operation of the organization and ensuring all organizational goals are met
- Meeting with board members and other executives to assess the direction of the organization, develop short and long-term goals, plans, and strategies, and ensure the organization's compliance with the stated mission.
- Ensure that all committees and Executive Board members complete necessary tasks that maintain and improve GENESIS
- Methodical assessment of the modeling team to ensure they are on track with checkpoints and expectations
- Oversees daily workflow of departments
- Performs or delegates duties as assigned
- Serve as GENESIS main contact between the African Student Association Executive board.

Chief of Staff

- Provide personal administrative support to President, Vice President and GENESIS by preparing and managing correspondence (Email), organizing and documenting meetings (meeting notes) and lastly by organizing files and paperwork (Google Drive)
- Upkeep & recurrent emphasis of GENESIS 2023-2024 calendar
- Point of contact for department heads for settling matters and resolving conflicts
- Planning of INTERNAL events/get-togethers to build team camaraderie
- Close correspondence with Membership Liaisons to manage duties assigned by President/Vice President

Treasurer

- Responsible for managing the finances of the organization, including budgeting, accounting, and financial reporting. This includes keeping an accurate record of all financial transactions related to the organization's operations
- Create a budget listing the tentative expenditures for the school year with the help of the President
- Document all financial transactions made in reference to GENESIS including but not limited to, members who have paid dues, money made from fundraisers, money made from intake, money spent on items necessary for programs
- Developing and implementing fundraising strategies to support the organization's financial goals. This may include planning fundraising events, soliciting sponsorships, and donations from individuals and organization
- Managing the revenue generated by the organization's modeling events, such as fashion shows. This may include tracking ticket sales, managing merchandise sales, and overseeing any other revenue streams
- Providing regular reports to the organization's executive board

Membership Liaison

- Provide personal administrative support to President, Vice President and GENESIS by preparing and managing correspondence (Direct messages), organizing and coordinating meetings (external) and organizing files and paperwork (Google Drive)
- Review and upkeep of membership from application, to intake, to attendance
- Persistent strategizing to foster public engagement (ASA GBMs, social media plans, etc.)
- Record and distribute meeting notes to staff members seeking the information
- Point of contact for department heads, general body members, and future generations regarding concerns and critical information
- Serve as the liaison between GENESIS and external entities by ensuring the flow of information
- Planning of EXTERNAL events to build campus interest & impact

- Close correspondence with Chief of Staff to manage duties assigned by President/Vice President

Head of Modeling

- Prepare models in accordance with Genesis standards to meet requirements for performances, shows, projects, etc
- Train and focus on basic to advance runway skills such as techniques and poses, current runway trends with an emphasis on ability to walk in platform heels/hard bottoms
- Devising formations and choreography to implement in urban modeling training and forthcoming fashion shows
- Persistent self-improvement as a model to provide a good example the next generation of models
- Correspondence with Membership Liaison in regards to attendance habits
- Delegate task and oversee model coaches
- Oversees the dance team

Model Coach

- Prepare models in accordance with Genesis standards to meet requirements for performances, shows, projects, etc
- Train and focus on basic to advanced runway skills such as techniques and poses as well as current runway trends with an emphasis on ability to walk in platform heels/hard bottoms
- Devising formations and choreography to implement in urban modeling training and forthcoming fashion shows
- Persistent self-improvement as a model to provide a good example to future models
- Correspondence with Membership Liaison in regard to prospective members' attendance habits

Head of Creative Direction

- Oversee respective department to ensure that they meet the goals and objectives of GENESIS
- Final “YES/NO” on published projects (with approval from Pres & VP)
- Point of contact for moments of discordance amongst department heads
- Lead manager of social media page(s)
- Director of organization’s fashion shows (cues, timing, placements) ensuring 100% preparation and accordance amongst all departments
- Creating assignments for creative direction team and offering constructive feedback
- Coordination with Chief Creative Directors to inform CD team on subjects, concepts, themes, etc that can bring their vision to life

Head of Public Relations

- Responsible for creating and implementing a comprehensive public relations plan for the organization, which includes developing media outreach tactics to promote the organization's events and activities
- Communicate verbally and in writing to answer inquiries and provide information
- Oversee social media and manage all the organization's social media accounts, ensuring that they are up-to-date and engaging for followers. This may include creating and curating content, responding to comments and messages, and monitoring analytics to track engagement and reach
- Works closely with the Head of Creative Direction to promote upcoming events to the public
- Responsible for developing and implementing a crisis communication plan for the organization. This includes identifying potential issues or negative publicity, and developing strategies for addressing them in a timely and effective manner

Head of Hairstyling

- Oversee respective department to ensure that they meet the goals and objectives of GENESIS
- Final "YES/NO" on hairstyling themes/projects for photoshoots and fashion shows (with approval from Head of CD)
- Coordination & long-term planning of hairstyles that correspond with Head of CD and fellow department heads concept choices of impending fashion showcase
- Informing hair team of techniques, tips, and trends that can help bring their visions to life
- Punctual preparation of models for any forthcoming projects requiring hairstyling
- Exhibition of leadership skills such as patience as well as determination

Head of Styling

- Oversee respective department to ensure that they meet the goals and objectives of GENESIS
- Final "YES/NO" on styling themes/projects for photoshoots and fashion shows (with approval from Head of CD)
- Coordination & long-term planning of styles that correspond with Head of CD and fellow department heads concept choices of impending fashion showcase
- Informing styling team of techniques, tips, trends and sources that can help bring their visions to life
- Punctual preparation of models for any forthcoming projects requiring individual inclusive styling
- Exhibition of leadership skills such as patience as well as determination

Head of Photography

- Oversee respective department to ensure that they meet the goals and objectives of GENESIS

- Final “YES/NO” on photo choices for photoshoots and fashion shows (with approval from Head of CD)
- Coordination & long-term planning of concepts alongside Head of CD and fellow department heads for impending photoshoots fashion showcase
- Informing photography team of techniques, tips, trends and sources that can help bring their visions to life
- Innovation of techniques to provide the most modern and finest results for project execution
- Operation of editing software that the department head is most proficient with
- Exhibition of leadership skills such as patience as well as determination

Head of Makeup

- Responsible for leading the makeup team and overseeing all aspects of makeup
- Collaborate with other creative departments to develop and execute makeup strategies that align with the organization goals
- Oversee all aspects of makeup production, including scheduling, product selection, application techniques, and makeup boards
- Ensure that makeup work adheres to the organization’s brand guidelines and standards
- Continuously seek opportunities to improve makeup operations and the abilities of the makeup team

Head of Graphic Design

- Responsible for leading the graphic design team and overseeing all aspects of graphic design
 - Create and design visual materials for the organization, including event flyers, social media graphics, and other visual content
 - Use creativity and innovation to design visually appealing materials that adhere to the organization’s brand guidelines
 - Collaborate with other creative departments to produce high-quality visual content
- Continuously stay up to date with current trends and best practices in graphic design

3. Student Advisors

All former GENESIS Presidents shall be advisors to the newly promoted executives. They shall not have a vote nor say on the nomination committee unless deemed by the current President and Founders, but shall advise on decisions made by the Executives.

ARTICLE V:

ADVISORS

The advisor of this organization, The Genesis Models, shall be Dr. Maru

Etta-Nkwelle. Dr. Etta will adhere to the terms constituted to the organization & will serve with university policy in active practice.

ARTICLE VI: MEMBERSHIP

- Membership is open to and encouraged for all Africans of the diaspora enrolled at Howard University who are committed to achieving the objectives of the Genesis Models and promoting diasporic culture and interests.
- Official membership will be based solely upon commitment and participation of organizational events, activities, and preparations as determined by the Founders and latest Executive Board.
- Members will be issued membership status upon payment of membership dues.
- One's membership may be revoked due to negligence of due payment, violation of the Code of Conduct, and/or an absence of the terms stated above.

ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS

1. Eligibility

All candidates for GM's President and Vice President positions shall be an enrolled student at Howard University with good academic standing (2.5.) Candidates must have served at least one year on the executive board prior to their campaign. In the event of a vacancy, the chain of command will shift up to fill the position. The vacant Membership Liaison or Chief of Staff role will then be appointed by the current President (with a member of the current or previous executive board) via interviews within a two-week span.

2. Candidates

Candidates for GENESIS President and Vice President shall not run on a slate. Interested individuals seeking the positions of President and Vice President must submit an application to the executive board for review. Applications will be distributed at the end of March, allowing applicants a two-week period to complete and submit their applications. Following the executive board's discretion, selected candidates will be placed on the ballot for their desired positions, and will participate in a speak-out where they will present their plans if given the position to the general body, and the general body will then vote to elect the new Executes.

3. Time

Elections will be held once a year in the month of April. General body members and executive board will be made aware of election season by the first week of March via email and the designated organizational direct messaging channel. Candidates may campaign as early as the third week of April.

ARTICLE VIII: NOMINATIONS

The nomination committee shall naturally consist of the President, Vice

President, and the three Founders, unless otherwise determined by the Founders. Nominated officers will be approved by the organization's current advisor in student activities and shall reflect competence and responsibility.

- The members should not exceed 5 in number.
- The nomination committee shall consist of active paid members of the GM in previous years.
- The nomination committee shall have the authority to screen and interview all applications for GENESIS offices and assemble a prospective Executive Board.
- The committee shall certify and record the result of the process by documentation or recording device.

1. Nomination Procedures

Appointment of officers for the executive board shall be as follows:

- To vie for position, prospective candidates shall be a paid active GM member. • To vie for a position, a candidate must have had at least one full year of studies at Howard University, and at least one full year ahead of him/her. Freshmen and transfer students who do not meet these requirements are not eligible.
- In order for a candidate to run for any post, they must have been present for at least 80% of necessary organizational activities and events, as determined by the Chief of Staff.
- General members shall be made aware of the nomination process (including the application release date) by the last week of June. Once the process is completed, the organization shall be made aware of the full executive board no later than the third week of July.
- Preceding promotion into any offices, there shall be a nomination acceptance by the candidate.
- Each committee member must vote on their nominated E-Board on a ranked choice voting (RCV) scale.
- The candidate receiving a majority of the vote casts shall be declared elected.
- In cases of nomination ties, there shall be a second RCV to determine the holder of the office, only including the two prospective office holders.
- The nomination process is not to be shared outside the nomination committee. Failure to adhere to this shall result in that committee member being expelled.
- Members shall vie for office on their own merits.
- All candidates nominated for office must be in good academic standing, minimum 2.5 GPA.
- In the case of an unopposed election, if deemed competent, members are put into office with approval from the Office of Student Activities and the past Executive President and Vice President.

ARTICLE IX:

FINANCES

- There will be an annual membership fee of \$15.00 sent by all members, made payable to The GENESIS Models Square™ account.¹
- The Executive Board may propose special contributions as the need arises. A fee breakdown will be provided to all organization members as the contributions are requested.
- The Treasurer is responsible for the collection and disbursement of funds. The President, Vice President, and/or Treasurer may authorize expenditures on behalf of the organization.

¹Subject to change at the discretion of the President and Vice President

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- The GM may organize events, activities, online efforts etc. in order to raise funds.

1. Solicitation of Funds

The Genesis Models may solicit or accept funds from outside sources only on condition that such funds have no strings attached, and provided that the administration of such funds are under control of the GENESIS Constitution, by-laws and general policies.

ARTICLE X:

MEETINGS

- Executive board meetings will be held every Sunday evening during the school year to prepare for the upcoming week. General body meetings will be held bi-weekly based upon the members' availability. The meeting time will be decided by e-vote in the organization's appropriate channel of communication.
- Emergency meetings may be called in event of leadership changes, or otherwise expressed by the President. They will not be mandatory, however, it is recommended for members to review meeting notes in order to stay up-to-date.
- Official organization decisions will be made by the current executive board. All present members in each respective meeting type are eligible to vote at meetings.
- Five-out-of-nine members of the executive board are required to be present in order to constitute a quorum. In addition, sixty percent of the general body is required to be present in order to constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XI:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

- Amendments to the constitution are to be discussed amongst executive board officers in regard to the worthiness of the amendment's presentation to the general body. Worthiness is determined by a 2/3 majority vote by the executive board.
- At a general body meeting, two thirds vote of all members shall be necessary for adoption of any such amendments.
- Amendments so adopted shall immediately be incorporated by the President into the constitution, provided the provision of such amendment shall not be made retroactive. All revisions must be forwarded to the Office of Campus Life for final approval.

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ARTICLE XII:

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

In the event of parliamentary instances and affairs not covered by the Constitution or Bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order will be adopted for these matters.

ARTICLE XIII:

RATIFICATION

The official GENESIS Constitution will go into effect with $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of general members present

ARTICLE XIV:

THE GENESIS MODELS CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction:

At The Genesis Models, we are committed to fostering a positive and inclusive space where everyone is treated with respect and dignity. This Code of Conduct outlines our expectations for all members of the organization to maintain a safe space for all.

1. Respect and Inclusion:

- 1.1. Treat every individual with respect, regardless of their race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or any other protected characteristic.
- 1.2. Embrace diversity and promote an inclusive culture that values different perspectives and backgrounds.
- 1.3. Avoid discriminatory or offensive language, behavior, or actions that may harm or marginalize others.

2. Professionalism and Integrity:

- 2.1. Maintain high standards of professionalism in all interactions, both within the organization and with external parties.
- 2.2. Uphold the highest ethical standards and act with integrity, honesty, and transparency in all external collaborations

2.3. Safeguard confidential information, choreography, and creative works belonging to the organization

3. Communication and Collaboration:

3.1. Foster open and constructive communication, promoting active listening and valuing diverse opinions.

3.2. Avoid engaging in disrespectful or harmful communication, including but not limited to bullying, harassment, or intimidation.

3.3. Collaborate effectively with colleagues, respecting their time, expertise, and contributions.

4. Practice Environment:

4.1. Maintain a safe and healthy practice environment, adhering to health and safety guidelines and regulations.

4.2. Prohibit the use of illegal substances and the consumption of alcohol or drugs that impair runway and dance performance during practices.

4.3. Foster a practice environment free from any form of violence, threats, or abusive behavior.

4.4. Be punctual to practices and communicate all absences and lateness to respective department

5. Conflict Resolution:

5.1. Resolve conflicts in a respectful and constructive manner, encouraging open dialogue and seeking mutually beneficial solutions.

5.2. Report any concerns, conflicts, or incidents promptly to the membership liaisons (members) or chief of staff (executive board).

5.3. Ensure confidentiality and protection against retaliation for individuals who report concerns or participate in investigations.

5.5 Solve problems in a mature and peaceful way, there is zero tolerance for fighting or attacks

Consequences of Non-Compliance:

Any member who violates this code of conduct may face consequences, including but not limited to, a warning, suspension, or termination of membership. The decision to impose consequences will be made by the Executive Board and will be communicated to the member in writing.

Conclusion:

By becoming a member of The Genesis Models Organization, you agree to adhere to this code of conduct. We are committed to maintaining a safe and respectful environment for all members and appreciate your cooperation in this effort.

Executive Board History

Founders: Mariam Badejo, Israel Olu, Victoria Mensa-Wood

School Year 2022-2023

President: Ivelle Tailey

Vice President: Absa Fall

Chief of Staff: Fanta Toure

Membership Liaisons: Elizabeth Bolarinwa & Caitlin Ifreke-Ukpong Model

Coaches: Priscilla Obeng, Nneka Okoro & Michael Obi

Head of Creative Direction: Elsie Fuakye

Head of Hairstyling: Abigail Abia

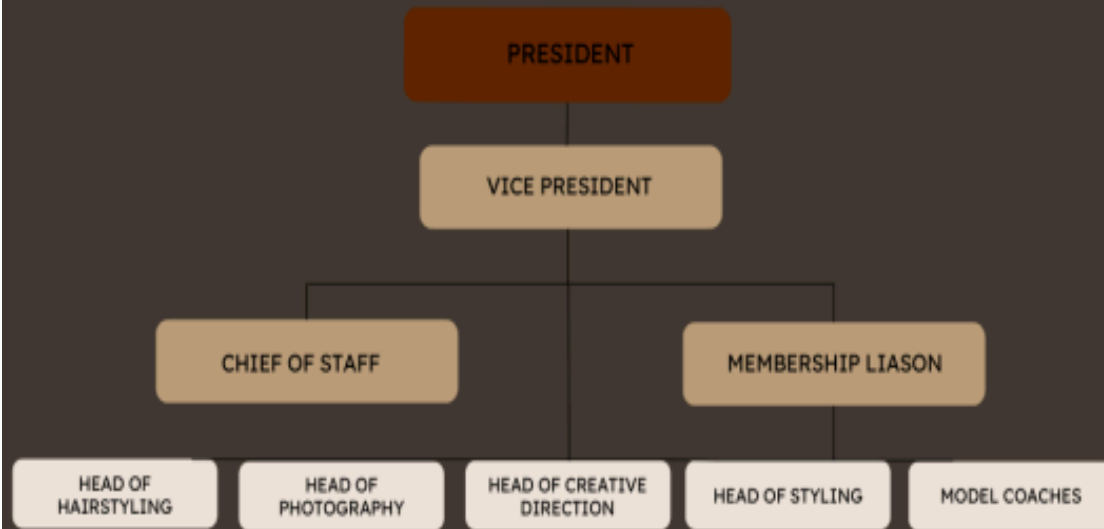
Head of Styling: Mory Diakite

Head of Photography: Wamucie Karimi

Organizational Structure

THE GENESIS MODELS

Organizational Chart



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Events and Purpose (2022-2023)

