# ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF SINGING MEN OF ARKANSAS

# Article I Name and Organization

The name of this association is SINGING MEN OF ARKANSAS, Fayetteville, Arkansas and is designated an unincorporated nonprofit association under the laws of the State of Arkansas.

# Article II Intent and Purpose

SECTION A: SINGING MEN OF ARKANSAS is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

SECTION B: It is the intent of SINGING MEN OF ARKANSAS to provide an organization for adult men of all ages and from all walks of life who mutually desire to be part of a singing group and become a member of the organization. All members will be volunteers who mutually have a common interest to make the organization a disciplined and successfully professional sounding and recognized quality group of men singers who enjoy singing and fellowship and presenting concerts and programs that promote the community and charitable causes. The Association will be dedicated to providing entertainment to local, state and national groups who seek our performances in concert, special appearances for community and charitable events and churches who seek our vocal uniqueness in choral presentation and performance.

# Article III Office and Duration

The street address of SINGING MEN OF ARKANSAS shall be its initial registered office of 2452 Pin Oak Street, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 72701-0547, or at such place as Singing Men of Arkansas may from time to time determine. The duration of the organization shall be perpetual. The death, removal or resignation of any member of Singing Men of Arkansas shall not result in the dissolution of Singing Men of Arkansas.

### Article IV Structure and Membership

SECTION A: SINGING MEN OF ARKANSAS consists of individuals who apply for volunteer membership and successfully conclude an audition conducted by its Musical Director. They will be among those who will be similarly dedicated to promote and advance the highest quality of choral presentations in any venues it accepts. Continual

education in musical abilities of all members will be ongoing by the Musical Director as he deems necessary. Minimal annual dues will be required to help sustain music supply and accompanist. A common dress code for musical presentations will be used and at the expense of the volunteer members.

Traditional parts will be assigned by the Musical Director to assure proper balance and voice placement for the overall benefit of the Association. There will be no discrimination on the basis of race, color, religious affiliation, handicap, national origin or any factors other than those necessary to best insure continued musical excellence and fellowship within the organization. As a men's choral group, it will be confined to membership from adult men who otherwise qualify for membership. Membership may be denied or revoked with any act or acts of misconduct unbefitting to Singing Men of Arkansas or for any felony or misdemeanor acts or criminal convictions found against any member.

SECTION B: No part of the net earnings of Singing Men of Arkansas shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that Singing Men of Arkansas shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of Singing Men of Arkansas shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and Singing Men of Arkansas shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, Singing Men of Arkansas shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

#### Article V Association Leadership

SINGING MEN OF ARKANSAS will be governed by a Governing Council consisting of the Musical Director/CEO, Business Manager/COO, Webmaster, Public Affairs Director, Public Relations/Publicity Director, Music Counselor/Consultant, General Advisor/Consultant and a Membership Coordinator, with a total of eight members. This number may be amended as the Musical Director deems necessary and by agreement of a majority of Association Membership. Initially there are no terms assigned to the members of the Governing Council. Additional leadership roles of Section Leaders and Operational Directors may be added as the Musical Director, with Governing Council consent, agrees. Five members of the Governing Council shall constitute a quorum for any official meetings of that group. Governing Council vacancies may be filled by a majority vote of the recorded membership, upon the recommendation of the remaining Governing Council members.

# Article VI Sponsorship Aspects

As a non-profit Association, it would be difficult to succeed without the support of sponsors at various levels of interest and generosity of patrons from all areas of the community and state. Therefore, various levels of financial support will be established to maintain the Association's ability to perform at a quality level at whatever venues it may be invited. Various levels of support will reward sponsors for various benefits as will be outlined in our Sponsorship and Support programs.

# Article VII Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of Singing Men of Arkansas, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of Singing Men of Arkansas is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** for the purpose of forming SINGING MEN OF ARKANSAS as an unincorporated nonprofit Association of a mutually interested group of men who enjoy singing and performing in public, we the undersigned, constituting a majority of the initial Governing Council, have executed these Articles of Association on this the 13th day of March, 2008.

## SIGNED AND NOTARIZED:

Jeff Gaddy, Steve Gray, F.D. Krodell, Jerry Newman, Jim Paul, Wilford R. Pruett, and Johnny Tittle

NOTEWORTHY: As of September 25, 2008, the Internal Revenue Service, P. O. Box 2508, Cincinnati, OH 45201, informed the Business Manager, Wilford R. "Will" Pruett, of it's approval of the application for tax exempt status for Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, declaring Singing Men of Arkansas as a public charity, effective March 13, 2008.