

CONSTITUTION OF THE VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

ARTICLE I – NAME

This name of this organization shall be Virginia Association of Museums (VAM).

ARTICLE II – MISSION

The Virginia Association of Museums is a nonprofit membership organization for museums and individuals associated with museums that serves all museum disciplines. The Association provides education, information, resource and support services, facilitates communication among its membership, fosters inclusiveness and serves as an advocate to governmental and other decision-making entities relating to museums.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

The Association shall be composed of Active and Affiliate Members. Active Membership with voting rights shall be open to nonprofit, educational agencies and institutions and individuals who are actively engaged in museum work on a professional or volunteer basis. Affiliate Membership without voting rights is open to other individuals and profit-making businesses wishing to support the activities of the Association.

ARTICLE IV – AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY

In furtherance of its purposes, the Association is authorized to purchase, acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, sell, exchange and otherwise dispose of real and personal property and to improve, protect, preserve, restore and mark by appropriate signs, historic and other places whether owned by the Association or otherwise, and to do all other lawful acts in furtherance of its purpose.

ARTICLE V – PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

No substantial part of the Association's activities shall be devoted to attempts to influence legislation. The Association shall not take part in political campaigns on behalf or in opposition to any candidate for public office, nor engage in any activity not permitted to be carried on by a corporation 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 VI – VOTING

The voting power to elect the Council and to alter this Constitution shall be vested in a quorum of the Active Members, as defined in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII – COUNCIL AND OFFICERS

The Association shall be administered by the Council, composed of the elected Officers and Directors. The number and selection of Officers and Directors and the quorum for meetings shall be fixed by Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

The power to alter this Constitution shall be vested in Active Members in good standing of the Association. The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of a quorum at any duly called meeting of the voting membership, providing that the proposed amendment has been mailed to each Active Member at least sixty (60) days before the meeting.

ARTICLE IX – DISSOLUTION

Section 1. No part of the income or assets of the Association shall inure to the benefit of or be paid to any individual, and no individual shall receive any monetary benefit from the operation of the Association, other than reasonable remuneration for goods and services rendered.

Section 2. In the event of dissolution, the remaining assets of the Association shall be transferred to one or more organizations operating for similar purposes and exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or future amendments thereto, or to a federal, state or local unit to be used for public purposes.