BYLAWS OF THE
GREATER SHREVEPORT MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
affiliated with
LOUISIANA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
and with
MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
(Revised August 2023)

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Greater Shreveport Music Teachers Association, referred to as GSMTA affiliated with Louisiana Music Teachers Association (LMTA) and with Music Teachers National Association, Inc. (MTNA), Cincinnati, Ohio, a Code Section 501(c)(3) organization.

ARTICLE II- PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of this organization shall be to unite the teachers of music in Shreveport and vicinity, to protect their interests, to improve teaching methods, encourage participation in the MTNA and LMTA Certification programs, develop higher degrees of musical education and culture in the community, and broaden social relationships among the members.

Section 2. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of any individual. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 3. In the event of the dissolution of this organization, any funds remaining in the treasury after the payment of any outstanding debts shall be contributed to the Music Teachers National Association or another nonprofit organization, which qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

Section 1. Membership. There shall be three (3) classes of membership: Active, Retired, and Student.

A. Active membership shall be open to all persons professionally engaged in any field of music activity who are members of an affiliated state association and MTNA. Such membership provides the privileges of voting, holding office, and participating in the activities of the Association.

B. Retired Membership is open to those who have been active members for at least 20 continuous years, are age 65 or greater and are essentially retired from teaching. A member must send written notice to the MTNA executive director for this class of membership to be activated. Retired members may vote but cannot hold elective office at the division or national levels or enter students in MTNA competitions. A retired member must also be a member of a state affiliated association.

C. Student membership is open to any music student through the age of twenty-six (26) currently involved in regular music study with a member of LMTA. Student members may attend programs of the Association upon payment of the registration fee, but do not have the right to vote, to hold office, to enter students in MTNA Auditions or Competitions beyond the State level, or to apply for Certification.

Section 2. Membership Procedure. A person desiring membership in GSMTA shall also become a member of LMTA and MTNA. New Member Applications are available directly from MTNA, Carew Tower, 441 Vine Street, Suite 3100, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-3004, phone (513) 421-1420 or MTNA website-- http://www.mtna.org. When application is completed with payment of National, State and Local dues, MTNA then notifies GSMTA of the new member.

Section 3. Dues. Annual dues for Active, Retired, and Student membership in GSMTA shall be set by the Executive Board. The membership year coincides with the fiscal year of MTNA and LMTA: July 1 to June 30 for active and retired members and October 1 to September 30 for the collegiate membership. ***Members whose dues are paid by August 1st will be listed in the GSMTA Yearbook.***

ARTICLE IV- OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1. Elected Officers. The elected officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice-President, Recording/Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. Election of Officers. A nominating Committee of three members shall be elected by the members or Executive Board or appointed by the president (in March) before the last meeting of each fiscal year to serve for the ensuing year. The nominating committee shall elect a

Chairman of the Committee. At the regular meeting in May this committee shall present a slate of officers to be elected by the membership. Before the election of officers at the annual meeting, additional nominations may also be made from the floor with the prior consent of the nominee. Officers shall be elected by ballot, except in the event of only one nominee for an office in which case the presiding officer may declare the nominee elected by acclamation.
A vacancy in any office, except that of President, shall be filled for the unexpired term by presidential appointment and approval by the Executive Board. A President-elect, appointed in this manner, cannot assume the office of President unless elected to the office in the same manner as the other officers. Any officer shall cease to hold office upon termination of membership or may be removed from office by two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a regularly scheduled meeting. Such action may be taken when it appears evident that an officer has been or is unable to serve or is otherwise unqualified.

Section 3. Appointed Officers. The officers appointed by the President are: District Rally Chairman, Certification Chairman, and Historian.

Section 4. Term of Office. The usual term of office shall be for one (1) year or until a successor is elected and shall begin at the close of the May meeting. No officer shall hold more than one office at a time. No member shall be eligible to serve in the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms. (Exception can be made for the Treasurer upon recommendation of the Executive Board and vote of the membership.)

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of the Greater Shreveport Music Teachers Association shall be held at the discretion of the executive board.
Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Executive Board or upon the written request of ten (10) active members of the Association. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call, and no other business may be transacted at that meeting.
Section 3. Quorum. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VI-DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section l. The Executive Board. The Executive Board consists of the elected and appointed officers and chairmen, and the immediate Past President. The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association between regular meetings. A quorum of the Executive Board shall be one more than half the members. Minutes of the Executive Board meeting shall be read at the next regular meeting of the Association. Action taken by unanimous written consent of the Executive Board members via mail, or electronic transmission, shall be a

valid action of the Board. Such actions of the Board shall be preserved and reported in the minutes.

Section 2. Elected officers.

(A) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board, appoint special committees as authorized by the Executive Board, represent the Association at State, Division and National levels, and serve as ex-officio member of all Association Committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee. The President shall also appoint the Historian, District Rally Chairman and Certification Chairman.

The President-elect shall assume all duties of the President in the absence of that officer and shall perform such other duties as may be designated by the President and/or Executive Board or prescribed by the parliamentary authority of the association.

(B) The Vice-President shall be Program Chairman and assistant to the President, presiding at meetings during his absence, or representing the president in any capacity designated by the President and/or Executive Board or prescribed by the parliamentary authority of the association.

(C) The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings through the Minutes, furnishing a copy to the President. The Recording Secretary shall maintain attendance records and keep on file a copy of current Bylaws. The Recording Secretary shall also assist the President to prepare each Agenda.

(D) The Treasurer is custodian of all Association funds and keeps the Financial Statement up to date at all times, making it available upon request. The Treasurer shall also prepare a written report to be filed with the Minutes at each business meeting and is ex-officio chairman of the Finance Committee.

ARTICLE VII - STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Standing Committees shall be:

(A) Year Book
(B) Program/ Social
(C) Student Activities
(D) Communications/Telephone
(E) Finance

Section 2. The Budget/Finance Committee, composed of the Treasurer and two other members elected in March after nominations from the floor, shall present a budget for approval at the April meeting of the Executive Board. Amendments to the current budget may be proposed upon recommendation of the Finance Committee.

Section 3. Duties and responsibilities of Committee chairmen and their committees are described in the Handbook of GSMTA Operating Procedures which will be provided for each Officer and Committee Chairman.

ARTICLE VIII- AFFILIATIONS

The Greater Shreveport Music Teachers Association shall maintain affiliation with the Music Teachers National Association and the Louisiana Music Teachers Association.

ARTICLE IX- DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of this organization, any funds remaining in the treasury after the payment of any outstanding debts shall be contributed to the Music Teachers National Association or another nonprofit organization, which qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE X - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

ARTICLE XI- AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association or at any special meeting called for that purpose, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at a previous regular or special meeting. A two-thirds vote is required for adoption.