

Harlem Launch Alliance, Inc.
Bylaws
Effective



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Article I, NAME

1.01 Harlem Launch Alliance Inc

The name of this Corporation shall be Harlem Launch Alliance Inc. The business of the Corporation may be conducted as Harlem Launch Alliance or HLA.

Article II, PURPOSE AND POWERS

2.01 Purpose

Harlem Launch Alliance Inc is a Non-For-Profit Corporation and shall be operated exclusively for scientific research and charitable purpose within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 specifically under the Public Charity Status 170 (b) (1) (A) (vi).

Harlem Launch Launch Alliance Inc is a Non-For-Profit organization founded as an aerospace trade school where students are given the opportunity to engage in active learning to develop their professional, technical, and soft skills through the multidisciplinary field of aerospace.

2.02 Powers

The Corporation shall have the power, directly or indirectly, alone or in conjunction or cooperation with others, to do any and all lawful acts which may be necessary or convenient to affect the charitable purposes, for which the Corporation is organized, and to aid or assist other organizations or persons whose activities further accomplish, foster, or attain such purposes. The powers of the Corporation may include, but not be limited to, the acceptance of contributions from the public.

2.03 Nonprofit Status and Exempt Activities Limitation.

(a)Nonprofit Legal Status. Harlem Launch Alliance Inc is a New York State Non-Profit public benefit Corporation, recognized as tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code.

(b)Exempt Activities Limitation. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, no Director, Officer, employee, member, or representative of this Corporation shall take any action or carry on any activity by or on behalf of the Corporation not permitted to be taken or carried on by an organization exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as it now exists

or may be amended, or by any organization contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of such Code and Regulations as it now exists or may be amended. No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit or be distributable to any Director, Officer, member, or other private person, except that the Corporation 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 Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws.

(c)Distribution Upon Dissolution. Upon termination or dissolution of the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc, any assets lawfully available for distribution shall be distributed to one (1) or more qualifying organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the 1986 Internal Revenue Code which organization or organizations have a charitable purpose which, at least generally, includes a purpose similar to the terminating or dissolving Corporation.

The organization to receive the assets of the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc hereunder shall be selected in the discretion of a majority of the managing body of the Corporation, and if its members cannot so agree, then the recipient organization shall be selected pursuant to a verified petition in equity filed in a court of proper jurisdiction against the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc, by one (1) or more of its managing body which verified petition shall contain such statements as reasonably indicate the applicability of this section. The court upon a finding that this section is applicable shall select the qualifying organization or organizations to receive the assets to be distributed, giving preference if practicable to organizations located within the State of New York..

In the event that the court shall find that this section is applicable but that there is no qualifying organization known to it which has a charitable purpose, which, at least generally, includes a purpose similar to the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc, then the court shall direct the distribution of its assets lawfully available for distribution to the Treasurer of the State of New York to be added to the general fund.

ARTICLE III, MEMBERSHIP

3.01 No Membership Classes

The Corporation shall have no members who have any right to vote or title or interest in or to the Corporation, its properties and franchises.

3.02 Non-Voting Affiliates

The Board of Directors may approve classes of non-voting affiliates with rights, privileges, and obligations established by the Board. Affiliates may be individuals, businesses, and other organizations that seek to support the mission of the Corporation. The Board, a designated Committee of the Board, or any duly elected Officer in accordance with Board policy, shall have authority to admit any individual or organization as an affiliate, to recognize representatives of affiliates, and to make determinations as to affiliates' rights, privileges, and obligations. At no time shall affiliate information be shared with or sold to other organizations or groups without the affiliate's consent. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, affiliates may be given endorsement, recognition and media coverage at fundraising activities, clinics, other events or at the Corporation website. Affiliates have no voting rights, and are not members of the Corporation.

3.03 Dues

Any dues for affiliates shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.01 Number of Directors

Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall have a Board of Directors consisting of at least 4 and no more than 15 Directors. Within these limits, the Board may increase or decrease the number of Directors serving on the Board, including for the purpose of staggering the terms of Directors.

4.02 Powers

All corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of the Board and the affairs of the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall be managed under the direction of the Board, except as otherwise provided by law.

4.03 Terms

(a) All Directors shall be elected to serve a one-year term, however the term may be extended until a successor has been elected.

(b) Directors may serve terms in succession.

(c) The term of office shall be considered to begin the day after the end of the spring semester according to the CCNY academic calendar and end the day after the spring semester of the second year in office, unless the term is extended until such time as a successor has been elected.

4.04 Qualifications and Election of Directors

In order to be eligible to serve as a Director on the Board of Directors, the individual must be 18 years of age and an affiliate within affiliate classifications created by the Board of Directors. Directors may be elected at any Board meeting by the majority vote of the existing Board of Directors. The election of Directors to replace those who have fulfilled their term of office shall take place the week before the start of Spring Break according to the CCNY Academic Calendar.

4.05 Vacancies

The Board of Directors may fill vacancies due to the expiration of a Director's term of office, resignation, death, or removal of a Director or may appoint new Directors to fill a previously unfilled Board position, subject to the maximum number of Directors under these Bylaws.

(a) Unexpected Vacancies. Vacancies in the Board of Directors due to resignation, death, or removal shall be filled by the Board members for the balance of the term of the Director being replaced.

4.06 Removal of Directors

A Director may be removed by two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors then in office, if:

(a) the Director is absent and unexcused from two or more meetings of the Board of Directors in a twelve month period. The Board President is empowered to excuse Directors from attendance for a reason deemed adequate by the Board President. **The President shall not have the power to excuse him/herself from the Board meeting attendance and in that case, the Secretary shall excuse the President.** Or:

(b) for cause or no cause, if before any meeting of the Board members at which a vote on removal will be made, the Director in question is given electronic or written notification of the Board's intention to discuss her/his case and is given the opportunity to be heard at a meeting of the Board.

4.07 Board of Directors Meetings.

(a) Regular Meetings. The Board of Directors shall have a minimum of four (4) regular meetings each calendar year, one during the Fall Semester, one during the Spring Semester and two during the Summer Semesters according to the CCNY Academic Calendar, at places fixed by the Board. Board meetings shall be notified to Board members a minimum of 2 weeks in advance. Notice of meetings shall specify the place, day, and hour of meeting. The purpose of the meeting needs to be specified.

(b) Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President, vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or any two (2) other Directors of the Board of Directors. A special meeting must be preceded by at least 2 days' notice to each Director of the date, time, and place, but not the purpose, of the meeting.

4.08 Manner of Acting.

(a) Quorum. A majority of the Directors in office immediately before a meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at that meeting of the Board. No business shall be considered by the Board at any meeting at which a quorum is not present.

(b) Majority Vote. Except as otherwise required by law or by the articles of incorporation, the act of the majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board.

(c) Hung Board Decisions. On the occasion that Directors of the Board are unable to make a decision based on a tied number of votes, the President or Treasurer in the order of presence shall have the power to swing the vote based on his/her discretion.

(d) Participation. Except as required otherwise by law, the Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws, Directors may participate in a regular or special meeting through the use of any means of communication by which all Directors participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting, including in person, internet video meeting or by telephonic conference call.

4.09 Compensation for Board Members Services

Directors shall receive no compensation for carrying out their duties as Directors. The Board may adopt policies providing for reasonable reimbursement of Directors for expenses incurred in conjunction with carrying out Board responsibilities, such as travel expenses to attend Board meetings.

4.10 Compensation for Professional Services by Directors

Directors are not restricted from being remunerated for professional services provided to the Corporation. Such remuneration shall be reasonable and fair to the Corporation and must be reviewed and approved in accordance with the Board Conflict of Interest policy and state law.

ARTICLE V, COMMITTEES

5.01 Committees

The Board of Directors may, by the resolution adopted by a majority of the Directors then in office, designate one or more Committees, each consisting of two or more Directors, to serve at the pleasure of the Board. Any Committee, to the extent provided in the resolution of the Board, shall have all the authority of the Board, except that no Committee, regardless of Board resolution, may:

- (a) take any final action on matters which also requires Board members' approval or approval of a majority of all members;
- (b) fill vacancies on the Board of Directors or in any Committee which has the authority of the Board;
- (c) amend or repeal Bylaws or adopt new Bylaws;
- (d) amend or repeal any resolution of the Board of Directors which by its express terms is not so amendable or repealable;
- (e) appoint any other Committees of the Board of Directors or the members of these Committees;
- (f) expend corporate funds to support a nominee for Director; or
- (g) approve any transaction;
 - (i) to which the Corporation is a party and one or more Directors have a material financial interest; or
 - (ii) between the Corporation and one or more of its Directors or between the Corporation or any person in which one or more of its Directors have a material financial interest.

5.02 Meetings and Actions of Committees

Meetings and actions of the Committees shall be governed by, held and taken in accordance with the provisions of Article IV of these Bylaws concerning meetings of the Directors, with such changes in the context of those Bylaws as are necessary to substitute the Committee and its members for the Board of Directors and its members, except that the time for regular meetings of Committees may be determined either by resolution of the Board of Directors or by resolution of the Committee.

Special meetings of the Committee may also be called by resolution of the Board of Directors. Notice of special meetings of Committees shall also be given to any and all alternate members, who shall have the right to attend all meetings of the Committee. Minutes shall be kept of each meeting of any Committee and shall be filed with the corporate records. The Board of Directors may adopt rules for the governing of the Committee not inconsistent with the provision of these Bylaws.

The specific duties of the Committees shall be articulated in a Committee Charter to be drafted before the Committee takes any actions and after the formation of the Committee by resolution of the Board of Directors. Nothing in the Charter may be construed to counteract any provisions set forth in these Bylaws.

5.03 Informal Action By The Board of Directors

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board of Directors at a meeting may be taken without a meeting if consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be agreed by the consensus of a quorum. For purposes of this section an e-mail transmission from an Email address on record constitutes a valid writing. The intent of this provision is to allow the Board of Directors to use email to approve actions, as long as a quorum of Board members gives consent.

5.04 Type of Committee

Upon a Committee's formation by resolution of the Board of Directors, the Committee will be classified as either a Standing or Working Committee. A Standing Committee exists permanently, or until such time as it is dissolved by resolution of the Board of Directors. A Working Committee exists until a specific goal, stated upon its formation and in its Charter, is accomplished, upon which it is automatically dissolved.

5.05 Founding Committees

The following Standing Committees were Chartered along with the drafting of the Bylaws as their functions are essential to the governing of the HLA. These are the Founding Committees and they are:

ARTICLE VI, OFFICERS

6.01 Board Officers

The Officers of the Corporation shall be a Board President, Secretary, and Treasurer, all of whom shall be chosen by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Board of Directors. Each Board Officer shall have the authority and shall perform the duties set forth in these Bylaws or by resolution of the Board or by direction of an Officer authorized by the Board to prescribe the duties and authority of other Officers. The Board may also appoint additional vice-Presidents and such other Officers as it deems expedient for the proper conduct of the business of the Corporation, each of whom shall have such authority and shall perform such duties as the Board of Directors may determine. One person may hold two or more Board offices, but no Board Officer may act in more than one capacity where action of two or more Officers is required.

6.02 Term of Office

Each Officer shall serve a one-year term of office as noted in Article IV and may not serve more than three (3) consecutive terms of office. Unless unanimously elected by the Board at the end of his/her three (3) year terms or to fill a vacancy in an Officer position, each Board Officer's term of office shall begin upon the adjournment of the Board meeting at which elected and shall end upon the adjournment of the Board meeting during which a successor is elected.

6.03 Removal and Resignation

The Board of Directors may remove an Officer at any time, with or without cause. Any Officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Corporation without prejudice to the rights, if any, of the Corporation under any contract to which the Officer is a party. Any resignation shall take effect at the date of the receipt of the notice or at any later time specified in the notice, unless otherwise specified in the notice. The acceptance of the resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

6.04 Board President

The Board President shall be the chief volunteer Officer of the Corporation. The Board President shall lead the Board of Directors in performing its duties and responsibilities, including, if present, presiding at all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall perform all other duties incident to the office or properly required by the Board of Directors.

6.05 Secretary

The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept a book of minutes of all meetings and actions of Directors and Committees of Directors. The minutes of each meeting shall state the time and place that it was held and such other information as shall be necessary to determine the actions taken and whether the meeting was held in accordance with the law and these Bylaws. The Secretary shall cause notice to be given of all meetings of Directors and Committees as required by the Bylaws. The Secretary shall be the custodian of records, both physical and electronic. The Secretary shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or the Board President. The Secretary will also act as the Chair of the Membership Committee within the Board of Directors. The Secretary may appoint, with approval of the Board, a Director to assist in performance of all or part of the duties of the Secretary.

6.06 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be the lead Director for oversight of the financial condition and affairs of the Corporation. The Treasurer shall oversee and keep the Board informed of the financial condition of the Corporation and of audit or financial review results. In conjunction with other Directors or Officers, the Treasurer shall oversee budget preparation and shall ensure that appropriate financial reports, including an account of major transactions and the financial condition of the Corporation, are made available to the Board of Directors on a timely basis or as may be required by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer will also act as the Chair of the Finance & Governance Committee within the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall perform all duties properly required by the Board of Directors or the Board President. The Treasurer may appoint, with the approval of the Board, a qualified fiscal agent or member of the staff to assist in performance of all or part of the duties of the Treasurer.

6.07 Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is a standing Committee on the Board of Directors. The Membership Committee looks to advance membership growth, retention, and benefits. The Committee is responsible for evaluating current and proposed members' benefits and potential

new categories of membership to be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. If there is no Secretary in place, the chair of the Committee will take on that role as well. The Committee is responsible for:

- I. Establishing recruitment opportunities, collaborating with other Committees, and membership service.
- II. It supports membership growth by actively recruiting, retaining, and engaging members.
- III. When needed, the Committee will provide input and feedback regarding membership needs and policies.
- IV. Under this Committee, membership will be promoted and volunteers will be recruited.
- V. It also focuses on enhancing engagement within the organization such as communication skills, management, and working style amongst the current members or volunteers.
- VI. The Committee seeks to overlook current operations and management models and works to improve on them.
- VII. The Committee ensures that members have a platform where they can communicate their issues and give feedback.
- VIII. It works to promote membership through marketing and communication efforts and increase participation.
- IX. Interns in the Committee work to evaluate, observe, and record, data and information regarding the interworks of the HLA.

6.08 Finance & Governance Committee

The Finance & Governance Committee is a Standing Committee on the Board of Directors. The Finance & Governance Committee provides oversight of the HLA's finance and business administration activities. The Committee is responsible for formulating and recommending policies in matters concerning finance, business administration, and fiscal oversight. The chair of this Committee is also the Treasurer of the organization. The Committee is empowered and expected to:

- I. Approve the budget within the Finance & Governance Committee.
- II. Set long-range financial goals along with funding strategies to achieve them.
- III. Present all financial goals and proposals to the Board for approval.
- IV. Develop useful and readable report formats that will be utilized by departments in the organization.
- V. Ensure policies and procedures for financial transactions are documented and reviewed annually.

- VI. Ensure approved financial policies and procedures are being followed.
- VII. File financial legal documents such as tax related documents that include the Form 990.
- VIII. Establish and monitor the Election Committee during election periods.
- IX. Monitoring the election of the E-Board for the Harlem Launch Alliance Club as well as addressing the new members with their responsibilities.
- X. Ensuring the funds from the Undergraduate Student Government is received by the HLA Club and transferred to the HLA Organization.
- XI. Ensure the duties of the Club are fulfilled and is the point person for communication for progress reports for the Club. This will be done by having monthly meetings that address the work and progress taking place. This will be generated in a report that will be presented to the Board.

6.09 Technical Planning Committee

The Technical Planning Committee is a Standing Committee on the Board of Directors. The Technical Planning Committee commissions and plans Projects in keeping with Harlem Launch Alliance Inc' scientific research tax-exempt purpose, provides technical oversight of those Projects, and organizes technical education and critique in order to elevate the engineering and technical professionalism of the HLA. The Committee is empowered and expected to:

- I. Periodically review current progress, past performance, and technical motivation of HLA Projects to ensure they are in keeping with the HLA's tax-exempt purpose, agenda of the HLA Board of Directors, and the best interest of the students and community. As such, the Committee will commission new Projects and decommission current ones in accord with this duty.
- II. Engage with the relevant managers in Mission Planning. Only the Committee can authorize a Mission.
- III. Serve as the Panel on all Project Gate Reviews, and will determine if the relevant organizations have met competition design requirements and internal Mission Planning requirements as previously articulated by the Committee and agreed upon by all stakeholders.
- IV. Provide the relevant managers with official documentation after each Project Gate Review noting their decision with respect to requirements. The documentation will note any action items required for pass/fail criteria as well as detailed rationale for why a requirement was set to be pass/fail.
- V. Ensure both the posts of Chief of Operations and Chief Engineer are filled, determining the scope of their responsibilities, conferring with the Membership Committee on prospective selections, approving new appointments, and dismissing those who in the

performance of their duties are deemed unsatisfactory. All such decisions will be completed through a majority vote.

- VI. Establish and maintain internal HLA training programs for the Engineering and Operations departments, periodically assessing their effectiveness and making changes as necessary.
- VII. Establish and maintain external STEM community outreach programs, periodically assessing their effectiveness and making changes as necessary.

6.10 Compliance Committee

The Compliance Committee is a Standing Committee on the Board of Directors. The Compliance Committee is tasked with taking all necessary action needed to uphold the 501(c)(3) exemption status for Harlem Launch Alliance Inc. The Committee will be acquainted with the [Compliance Guide for 501\(c\)\(3\) Public Charities](#) in order to be able to monitor the activities across the Organization. The Committee is empowered and expected to:

- I. Have a full understanding of the compliance guidelines for 501(c)(3) public charities, which is linked in the Statement of Purpose section. The key points of understanding in this guide are as follows:
 - A. Activities that may jeopardize a charity's exempt status
 - B. Federal information returns, tax returns or notices that must be filed
 - C. Recordkeeping - why, what, when
 - D. Governance considerations
 - E. Changes to be reported to the IRS
 - F. Required public disclosures
 - G. Resources for public charities
- II. Set up Information Sessions designed to educate Board members as well as their respective Committees about the protocols they are expected to uphold
- III. Train representatives from each Committee in the organization on regulations expected of a 501(c)(3) organization in order to efficiently monitor activities across the entire organization
- IV. Stay informed about new EO information by signing up for the [Exempt Organization Update](#), a free e-newsletter for tax-exempt organization and tax practitioners who represent them.
- V. Coordinate with the Membership Committee in cases where a member of the organization acts against the core values of the HLA.

6.11 Non-Director Officers

The Board of Directors may designate additional Officer positions of the Corporation and may appoint and assign duties to other non-Director Officers of the Corporation.

ARTICLE VII, CONTRACTS, CHECKS, LOANS, INDEMNIFICATION AND RELATED MATTERS

7.01 Contracts and other Writings

Except as otherwise provided by resolution of the Board or Board policy, all contracts, deeds, leases, mortgages, grants, and other agreements of the Corporation shall be executed on its behalf by the Treasurer or other persons to whom the Corporation has delegated authority to execute such documents in accordance with policies approved by the Board.

7.02 Checks, Drafts

All checks, drafts, or other orders for payment of money, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the Corporation, shall be signed by the Treasurer of the Corporation.

7.03 Deposits

All funds of the Corporation not otherwise employed shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depository as the Board or a designated Committee of the Board may select.

7.04 Loans

No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the Corporation and no evidence of indebtedness shall be issued in its name unless authorized by resolution of the Board. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

7.05 Indemnification

(a) Mandatory Indemnification. The Corporation shall indemnify a Director or former Director, who was wholly successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to

which he or she was a party because he or she is or was a Director of the Corporation against reasonable expenses incurred by him or her in connection with the proceedings.

(b) Permissible Indemnification. The Corporation shall indemnify a Director or former Director made a party to a proceeding because he or she is or was a Director of the Corporation, against liability incurred in the proceeding, if the determination to indemnify him or her has been made in the manner prescribed by the law and payment has been authorized in the manner prescribed by law.

(c) Advance for Expenses. Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the Corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding, as authorized by the Board of Directors in the specific case, upon receipt of (I) a written affirmation from the Director, Officer, or agent of his or her good faith belief that he or she is entitled to indemnification as authorized in this article, and (II) an undertaking by or on behalf of the Director, Officer, or agent to repay such amount, unless it shall ultimately be determined that he or she is entitled to be indemnified by the Corporation in these Bylaws.

(d) Indemnification of Officers and Agents. An Officer of the Corporation who is not a Director is entitled to mandatory indemnification under this article to the same extent as a Director. The Corporation may also indemnify and advance expenses to an employee or agent of the Corporation who is not a Director, consistent with New York State Law and public policy, provided that such indemnification, and the scope of such indemnification, is set forth by the general or specific action of the Board or by contract.

ARTICLE VIII, MISCELLANEOUS

8.01 Books and Records

The Corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall keep minutes of the proceedings of all meetings of its Board of Directors, a record of all actions taken by Board of Directors without a meeting, and a record of all actions taken by Committees of the Board. In addition, the Corporation shall keep a copy of the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws as amended to date.

8.01 Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be from January 1 to December 31 of each year.

8.02 Conflict of Interest

The Board shall adopt and periodically review a conflict of interest policy to protect the Corporation's interest when it is contemplating any transaction or arrangement which may benefit any Director, Officer, affiliate, or member of a Committee with Board-delegated powers.

8.03 Nondiscrimination Policy

The Officers, Directors, Committee members, and persons served by this Corporation shall be selected entirely on a nondiscriminatory basis with respect to age, sex, race, religion, national origin, and sexual orientation. It is the policy of Harlem Launch Alliance Inc not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, ancestry, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, veteran's status, political service or affiliation, color, religion, or national origin.

8.04 Bylaw Amendment

These Bylaws may be amended, altered, repealed, or restated by a vote of the majority of the Board of Directors then in office at a meeting of the Board, provided, however,

(a) that no amendment shall be made to these Bylaws which would cause the Corporation to cease to qualify as an exempt Corporation under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code; and,

(b) that an amendment does not affect the voting rights of Directors. An amendment that does affect the voting rights of Directors further requires ratification by a two-thirds vote of a quorum of Directors at a Board meeting.

(c) that all amendments be consistent with the Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE IX

COUNTERTERRORISM AND DUE DILIGENCE POLICY

In furtherance of its exemption by contributions to other organizations, domestic or foreign, Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall stipulate how the funds will be used and shall require the recipient to provide the Corporation with detailed records and financial proof of how the funds were utilized.

Although adherence and compliance with the US Department of the Treasury's publication the "Voluntary Best Practice for US. Based Charities" is not mandatory, Harlem Launch Alliance

Inc willfully and voluntarily recognizes and puts to practice these guidelines and suggestions to reduce, develop, re-evaluate and strengthen a risk-based approach to guard against the threat of diversion of charitable funds or exploitation of charitable activity by terrorist organizations and their support networks.

Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall also comply and put into practice the federal guidelines, suggestion, laws and limitation set forth by pre-existing U.S. legal requirements related to combating terrorist financing, which include, but are not limited to, various sanctions programs administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) in regard to its foreign activities.

ARTICLE X, DOCUMENT RETENTION POLICY

10.01 Purpose

The purpose of this document retention policy is establishing standards for document integrity, retention, and destruction and to promote the proper treatment of Harlem Launch Alliance Inc records.

10.02 Policy

Section 1. General Guidelines. Records should not be kept if they are no longer needed for the operation of the business or required by law. Unnecessary records should be eliminated from the files. A mass of records also makes it more difficult to find pertinent records.

From time to time, Harlem Launch Alliance Inc may establish retention or destruction policies or schedules for specific categories of records in order to ensure legal compliance, and also to accomplish other objectives, such as preserving intellectual property and cost management. Several categories of documents that warrant special consideration are identified below. While minimum retention periods are established, the retention of the documents identified below and of documents not included in the identified categories should be determined primarily by the application of the general guidelines affecting document retention, as well as the exception for litigation relevant documents and any other pertinent factors.

Section 2. Exception for Litigation Relevant Documents. Harlem Launch Alliance Inc expects all Officers, Directors, and employees to comply fully with any published records retention or destruction policies and schedules, provided that all Officers, Directors, and employees should note the following general exception to any stated destruction schedule: If you believe, or the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc informs you, that corporate records are relevant to litigation, or potential litigation (i.e. a dispute that could result in litigation), then you must preserve those

records until it is determined that the records are no longer needed. That exception supersedes any previously or subsequently established destruction schedule for those records.

Section 3. Minimum Retention Periods for Specific Categories

(a) Corporate Documents. Corporate records include the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and IRS Form 1023 and Application for Exemption. Corporate records should be retained permanently. IRS regulations require that the Form 1023 be available for public inspection upon request.

(b) Tax Records. Tax records include, but may not be limited to, documents concerning payroll, expenses, proof of contributions made by donors, accounting procedures, and other documents concerning the Corporation's revenues. Tax records should be retained for at least seven years from the date of filing the applicable return.

(c) Board and Board Committee Materials. Meeting minutes should be retained in perpetuity in the Corporation's minute book. A clean copy of all other Board and Board Committee materials should be kept for no less than three years by the Corporation.

(d) Press Releases/Public Filings. The Corporation should retain permanent copies of all press releases and publicly filed documents under the theory that the Corporation should have its own copy to test the accuracy of any document a member of the public can theoretically produce against the Corporation.

(e) Legal Files. Legal counsel should be consulted to determine the retention period of particular documents, but legal documents should generally be maintained for a period of ten years.

(f) Correspondence. Unless correspondence falls under another category listed elsewhere in this policy, correspondence should generally be saved for two years.

(h) Banking and Accounting. Accounts payable ledgers and schedules should be kept for seven years. Bank reconciliations, bank statements, deposit slips and checks (unless for important payments and purchases) should be kept for three years. Any inventories of products, materials, and supplies and any invoices should be kept for seven years.

(i) Insurance. Expired insurance policies, insurance records, accident reports, claims, etc. should be kept permanently.

(j) Audit Records. External audit reports should be kept permanently. Internal audit reports should be kept for three years.

Section 4. Electronic Mail. E-mail that needs to be saved should be either:

(i) printed in hard copy and kept in the appropriate file; or

(ii) downloaded to a computer file and kept electronically or on disk as a separate file. The retention period depends upon the subject matter of the e-mail, as covered elsewhere in this policy.

ARTICLE XI, TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC

11.01 Purpose

By making full and accurate information about its mission, activities, finances, and governance publicly available, Harlem Launch Alliance Inc practices and encourages transparency and accountability to the general public. This policy will:

- indicate which documents and materials produced by the Corporation are presumptively open to staff and/or the public
- indicate which documents and materials produced by the Corporation are presumptively closed to staff and/or the public
- specify the procedures whereby the open/closed status of documents and materials can be altered.

The details of this policy are as follow:

- **Financial and IRS documents (The form 1023 and the form 990)**

Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall provide its Internal Revenue forms 990, 990-T, 1023 and 5227, bylaws, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements to the general public for inspection free of charge.

- **Means and Conditions of Disclosure**

Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall make “Widely Available” the aforementioned documents on its internet website: www.hla.nyc to be viewed and inspected by the general public.

- The documents shall be posted in a format that allows an individual using the Internet to access, download, view and print them in a manner that exactly reproduces the image of the original document filed with the IRS (except information exempt from public disclosure requirements, such as contributor lists).
- The website shall clearly inform readers that the document is available and provide instructions for downloading it.
- Harlem Launch Alliance Inc, shall not charge a fee for downloading the information. Documents shall not be posted in a format that would require special computer hardware or software (other than software readily available to the public free of charge).
- Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall inform anyone requesting the information where this information can be found, including the web address. This information must be provided immediately for in-person requests and within 7 days for mailed requests.

11.02 IRS Annual Information Returns (Form 990)

Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall submit the Form 990 to its Board of Directors prior to the filing of the Form 990. While neither the approval of the Form 990 or a review of the 990 is required under Federal law, the Corporation’s Form 990 shall be submitted to each member of the Board of Directors via (hard copy or email) at least 10 days before the Form 990 is filed with the IRS.

11.03 Board

- All Board deliberations shall be open to the public except where the Board passes a motion to make any specific portion confidential.
- All Board minutes shall be open to the public once accepted by the Board, except where the Board passes a motion to make any specific portion confidential.
- All papers and materials considered by the Board shall be open to the public following the meeting at which they are considered, except where the Board passes a motion to make any specific paper or material confidential.

11.04 Member Records

- All member records shall be available for consultation by the member concerned or by their legal representatives.

- No member records shall be made available to any person outside the Corporation except the authorized governmental agencies.
- Within the Corporation, member records shall be made available only to those persons with managerial or personnel responsibilities for that member, except that
- Member records shall be made available to the Board when requested.

11.05 Donor Records

- All donor records shall be available for consultation by the members and donors concerned or by their legal representatives
- No donor records shall be made available to any other person outside the Corporation except the authorized governmental agencies.
- Within the Corporation, donor records shall be made available only to those persons with managerial or personnel responsibilities for dealing with those donors, except that ;
- donor records shall be made available to the Board when requested.

ARTICLE XII CODES OF ETHICS AND WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY

12.01 Purpose

Harlem Launch Alliance Inc requires and encourages Directors, Officers and employees to observe and practice high standards of business and personal ethics in the conduct of their duties and responsibilities. The employees and representatives of the Corporation must practice honesty and integrity in fulfilling their responsibilities and comply with all applicable laws and regulations. It is the intent of Harlem Launch Alliance Inc to adhere to all laws and regulations that apply to the Corporation and the underlying purpose of this policy is to support the Corporation's goal of legal compliance. The support of all corporate staff is necessary to achieving compliance with various laws and regulations.

12.02 Reporting Violations

If any Director, Officer, staff or employee reasonably believes that some policy, practice, or activity of Harlem Launch Alliance Inc is in violation of law, a written complaint must be filed by that person with the Board President and chair of the compliance Committee.

12.03 Acting in Good Faith

Anyone filing a complaint concerning a violation or suspected violation must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed indicates a violation. Any allegations that prove not to be substantiated and which prove to have been made maliciously or knowingly to be false shall be subject to civil and criminal review.

12.04 Retaliation

Said person is protected from retaliation only if she/he brings the alleged unlawful activity, policy, or practice to the attention of the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc and provides the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc with a reasonable opportunity to investigate and correct the alleged unlawful activity. The protection described below is only available to individuals that comply with this requirement.

Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall not retaliate against any Director, Officer, or member who in good faith, has made a protest or raised a complaint against some practice of Harlem Launch Alliance Inc or of another individual or entity with whom Harlem Launch Alliance Inc has a business relationship, on the basis of a reasonable belief that the practice is in violation of law, or a clear mandate of public policy.

Harlem Launch Alliance Inc shall not retaliate against any Director, Officer, or member who disclose or threaten to disclose to a supervisor or a public body, any activity, policy, or practice of the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc that the individual reasonably believes is in violation of a law, or a rule, or regulation mandated pursuant to law or is in violation of a clear mandate of public policy concerning the health, safety, welfare, or protection of the environment.

12.05 Confidentiality

Violations or suspected violations may be submitted on a confidential basis by the complainant or may be submitted anonymously. Reports of violations or suspected violations shall be kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

12.06 Handling of Reported Violations

The Board President or chair of compliance Committee shall notify the sender and acknowledge receipt of the reported violation or suspected violation within five business days. All reports shall be promptly investigated by the Board and its appointed Committee and appropriate corrective action shall be taken if warranted by the investigation.

This policy shall be made available to all Directors, Officers or members and they shall have the opportunity to ask questions about the policy.

ARTICLE XIII, AMENDMENTS OF ARTICLES OF I

13.01 Amendment

Any amendment to the Articles of Incorporation may be adopted by approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Directors.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION OF BYLAWS

I do hereby certify that the above stated Bylaws of the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc were approved by the Harlem Launch Alliance Inc Board of Directors on **[DATE WE APPROVE THIS DOCUMENT]** and constitute a complete copy of the Bylaws of the Corporation.

[Secretary's Name], Secretary

Date: _____