

## **By-Laws of the Gertrude Stein Society**

### **Article I: Name**

Sec. 1. The name of this organization shall be the Gertrude Stein Society.

### **Article II: Purpose**

Sec. 1. The purpose of this Society shall be to encourage the scholarly study of and general interest in the work of Gertrude Stein, and to facilitate ways in which all people interested in her writings -- scholars, critics, artists, poets, teachers, students, and general readers -- may learn from one another, meet together, contact each other, and help one another.

Sec. 2. An important function of the Society shall be the sponsorship of the Gertrude Stein Society Sessions at the annual ALA Conferences.

### **Article III: Membership**

Sec. 1. Any individual, business, educational institution, or corporation interested in the aims of the Gertrude Stein Society may join it.

Sec. 2. Membership in the Gertrude Stein Society is currently free. The Society reserves the right to institute membership dues by vote at the Annual General Meeting of the Society. At such time as dues may become a requirement for membership, payment shall be made according to schedules and procedures to be determined at the time of instantiation.

### **Article IV: Privileges**

Sec. 1. All members in good standing shall have the right to stand for office, vote for officers of the Society and for session proposals for the ALA Conferences, serve as a chair or organizer of an ALA session, and receive all publications issued by the Society.

### **Article V: Officers**

Sec. 1. The officers of the Society shall be a President and a Secretary/Treasurer, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Sec. 2. Officers shall serve without compensation. They shall be entitled to reimbursement for legitimate Society expenses.

Sec. 3. A vacancy in any of these offices occurring during the incumbent's term of office because of illness, death, resignation, or any other reason shall be filled by a volunteer chosen by the remaining officers of the Society until such time as a new election can be held.

Sec. 4. The officers shall perform the following duties:

a. The President shall preside at the Annual General Meeting unless unable to do so. The President shall be responsible for organizing the Gertrude Stein Society Sessions at the annual meeting of the ALA. Together, the President shall work with the Secretary/Treasurer to maintain the Society's Web site, membership roster, and all Society communications.

b. Together and with any specialized assistance which may become necessary, the President and the Secretary/Treasurer will maintain on the Society's Web site:

- i. a yearly calendar of appropriate conferences and their deadlines;
- ii. any open CFPs on Stein's work, including but not limited to CFPs for the ALA;
- iii. a report of pertinent news regarding Gertrude Stein and/or her writings;
- iv. when available, a list of relevant art and other-media exhibits or performances of Stein's work;
- v. information on contacting the Society and/or becoming a member.

Sec. 5. Officers shall be elected bi-annually by the Society membership, by mail, e-mail, or vote at the Annual General Meeting, from a slate of nominees. Names of nominees may be submitted by any member of the Society. Terms of office shall be three years, beginning May 30.

Sec. 6. In addition to the President and the Secretary, an Advisory Board, including one Senior Advisor, shall be formed of no more than six volunteers at the first Annual General Meeting. Members of the Advisory Board may resign from the Board at their own discretion. New members of the Advisory Board shall join by volunteering. At no time shall the Advisory Board consist of more than six members, including the Senior Advisor.

## **Article VI: Meetings**

Sec. 1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in conjunction with the ALA Convention. Special meetings may be called by the President, for social and/or business purposes.

## **Article VII: Funds and Liabilities**

Sec. 1. Any future funds collected by this Society shall be collected and dispersed by a Treasurer, who will be elected by all members for this express purpose. These funds shall only be used for the Society's needs and lawful expenditures.

## **Article IX: Procedures**

Sec. 1. Amendment to these by-laws shall be voted upon, by mail, e-mail, or vote at the Annual General Meeting, by the full membership; approval will need a 2/3 majority of those voting. Amendments may be proposed by the officers of the Society, or by petition signed by twenty or more Society members in good standing.

Sec. 2. The Gertrude Stein Society will post Calls for Papers (CFPs) online whenever a member wishes to chair a panel at a conference or edit a collection or journal issue.

a. Any member seeking to post a CFP on the Gertrude Stein Society website must secure the permission of the Gertrude Stein Society officers before doing so. Each CFP should briefly (250 words or fewer) describe the topic, announce the deadline and provide an address for submissions.

b. If more than one member wishes to post a call for a single conference, the membership will vote to select which CFP the Gertrude Stein Society will sponsor.

c. Anyone desiring to post a CFP must do so no later than a month before the submission deadline.

d. The Gertrude Stein Society particularly seeks to maintain a presence at the annual American Literature Association convention.

e. The Gertrude Stein Society also will work toward yearly participation at the regional MLA conferences; the MLA convention; the Modernist Studies Association; and the Twentieth-Century Literature Conference.