PREAMBLE
We the residents of the University of Nevada, Reno determined to save succeeding generations from the scourges of apathy, ignorance, and cynicism, and to establish conditions under which academic growth and personal success can flourish, and to empower student-leaders to govern wisely and fairly in the general interest, and to promote faith in one another and our shared ability to solve our mutual problems; and towards these ends, we form a more perfect organization dedicated to the mission our predecessors began, and we strengthen a system in which leadership is practiced and potential is realized, and we enshrine democracy, both representative and participatory, for all who reside here, and we practice the equality of person and diversity of thought that we wish to see in the world.

ARTICLE I Name, Purpose, Principles, & Membership

SECTION 100 The name of this organization shall be the Residence Hall Association of the University of Nevada, Reno, and shall hereafter be referred to as RHA.

SECTION 110 The Residence Hall Association at the University of Nevada, Reno is committed to fostering a diverse community and a welcoming environment for residents to voice their perspectives and engage in leadership opportunities. This student-run organization provides readily available resources to encourage communication as well as social and personal growth.

SECTION 120 Principles
120.1 The Residence Hall Association does not discriminate with respect to membership on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, sex, gender identity, socio-economic status, physical or mental impairment, or sexual orientation.
120.2 RHA is based on the principle of equality for all members of the residence hall system. The residence hall system consists of residents from a great spectrum of social, cultural, socioeconomic, ethnic and racial backgrounds, and of political and religious beliefs. This diversity is the Residence Hall Association’s greatest strength and maintaining an atmosphere that is appreciative of these differences is our highest priority. Concordantly, RHA prohibits discrimination in all forms within the organization and strongly condemns discrimination in all other situations.
120.3 All members shall act in accordance with the University’s mission as an educational institution. Conduct conflicting with the University’s standards is subject to disciplinary action, according to the guidelines in the student handbook.
120.4 All RHA activities shall be respectful and inclusive to all participants.
120.5 RHA is an equal opportunity employer and shall operate pursuant to the policies and regulations set forth by the University in this regard.
120.6 The Department of Residential Life, Housing, and Food Service reserves all powers not explicitly granted to RHA by this Constitution.

SECTION 130 Membership
130.1 Every student who resides in a campus residence hall administered by the Department of Residential Life, Housing, and Food Service shall be a member of RHA.
130.2 The advisor(s) of RHA shall be appointed by the RLHFS Department.

SECTION 140 Qualifications
140.1 Leadership Councils
140.1.1 Each Leadership Council Officer must reside in the residence hall of that Leadership Council, maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5, and remain in good academic and disciplinary standing with the Residence Life, Housing, and Food Service Departments and the University of Nevada, Reno.
140.1.1.1 Leadership Council Presidents must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.7
140.1.2 The Leadership Council President may not simultaneously hold two or more offices within the Residence Hall Association General Council unless so enumerated by this Constitution.
140.1.3 Resident Assistants, Community Assistants, and Academic Mentors are ineligible to hold any Leadership Council officer position.

140.2 Executive Officers
140.2.1 Each RHA Executive Officer must reside in the residence halls, maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.7, and remain in good academic and disciplinary standing with the Residence Life, Housing, and Food Service Department and the University of Nevada, Reno.
140.2.2 No individual may simultaneously hold two or more offices within the Residence Hall Association unless so enumerated in this Constitution.
140.2.3 Resident Assistants, Community Assistants, Academic Mentors, and the Office Manager are ineligible to hold any RHA Executive Officer position.

140.3 RLHFS Administrative Positions
140.3.1 Each Administrative Position must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.7 and remain in good academic and disciplinary standing with the Residence Life, Housing, and Food Service Department and the University of Nevada, Reno.
140.3.2 No individual may simultaneously hold two or more offices within the Residence Hall Association unless so enumerated in this Constitution.
140.3.3 Resident Assistants, Community Assistants, and Academic Mentors are ineligible to hold any Administrative Position.

ARTICLE II Affiliation

SECTION 200 RHA shall register and maintain good standing with the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno (ASUN).

SECTION 210 RHA shall be affiliated with and maintain good standing in the National Association of College and University Residence Halls (NACURH), and the Inter-mountain Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (IACURH).

ARTICLE III Leadership Councils

SECTION 300 Under the governance of RHA, every residence hall community shall form a Leadership Council.

300.1 Each Leadership Council shall be governed by this Constitution, the RHA By-Laws, and its respective Constitution and By-Laws.

SECTION 310 Name & Membership

310.1 The residence hall community Leadership Councils shall be known as:
310.1.1 Argenta Hall Leadership Council
310.1.2 Canada Hall Leadership Council
310.1.3 Great Basin Hall Leadership Council
310.1.4 Juniper Leadership Council
310.1.5 Nevada Hall Leadership Council
310.1.6 Nye Hall Leadership Council
310.1.7 Peavine Leadership Council
310.1.8 Sierra Hall Leadership Council
310.2 All students who reside in the residence hall community are members of that Leadership Council.
310.3 The formal advisor of the Leadership Council shall be a Resident Assistant/Community Assistant/Academic Mentor of the residence hall community, designated by the Graduate Resident Director (GRD) and the Resident Director (RD) of that community.
310.4 The RD, or Graduate RD, of a residence hall community shall serve as an informal advisor to the Leadership Council of that community.

Section 320 Leadership Council governing documents shall hereafter be referred to as Leadership Council Constitution and By-Laws in the RHA Constitution

Section 330 Compliance with RHA Constitution and By-Laws

330.1 No individual Leadership Council Constitution or By-Laws may be in conflict with the RHA Constitution and By-Laws
330.1.1 If conflict arises and the Leadership Council disputes it, the Judicial Board will make a ruling
330.2 If there is a change in the RHA constitution or By-Laws that affects leadership councils, their powers, their form, or their function, each hall leadership council will, within seven days, have to change their hall’s governing documents to realign with RHA’s governing documents following the passing of the amendment in General Council.
330.2.1 This includes adding or removing anything in the individuals halls' governing documents that does not align with the RHA’s governing documents
330.2.2 The Residence Hall Association Vice President will perform a check on each halls’ constitution and/or By-Laws to make sure the changes are completed within one week’s time of passing the amendment in General Council

SECTION 340 Ratification of Leadership Council Constitution and By-Laws

340.1 Each Leadership Council will submit their ratified Leadership Council governing documents for the following year to the RHA General Council to be approved in April of every year
340.2 These governing documents will be kept on file by RHA as governing documents for the following year.

ARTICLE IV General Council

SECTION 400 The governing power of the RHA organization shall be vested in the RHA General Council.

ARTICLE V Executive Officers

SECTION 500 The executive power of the RHA organization shall be vested in the President and members of the Executive Officer.

SECTION 510 Term Limits

510.1 The term of RHA Executive Officers shall begin at the close of the Spring Banquet
510.1.1 If an officer is elected or appointed after the Spring Banquet or during the academic year, their officer-elect status will begin one (1) day after election or appointment
510.1.1.1 Their term will begin one (1) day after confirmation.
510.2 The term of RHA Executive Officers shall end on the end-of-contract date as determined by the RLHFS Department.

SECTION 520 Executive Officer Positions

520.1 President
The President is the chief executive officer of the Residence Hall Association. They shall act as the official representative and spokesperson for RHA. The President shall chair all
RHA General Council meeting, and shall execute all decisions of the General Council.

520.2 Vice President
The Vice President shall act as Parliamentarian for the Residence Hall Association. The Vice President shall chair the Legislative Board. The Vice President shall also serve in the role of NACURH Communications Coordinator (NCC), fulfilling all NCC duties and representing RHA within IACURH and NACURH. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall fulfill the duties of the President.

520.3 Finance Director
The Finance Director shall accurately maintain all RHA financial records and accounts with assistance from the RHA Advisor(s) to the best of the Officer’s ability, and submit reports of RHA’s financial standing to the General Council. They shall chair the Finance Board, shall prepare an annual budget, and shall coordinate all RHA fundraising activities. The Finance Director oversees all funding requests.

520.4 Outreach Director
The Outreach Director shall be responsible for creating all civic engagement events within RHA, as well as promoting all events within RHA, including LC programs and traditional programs. They shall chair the Outreach Board and lead all Outreach Board programs, including those focused on Community Service or Civic Engagement.

520.5 Events Director
The RHA Events Director shall be in charge of all large scale events put on by RHA. The Events Director shall chair all RHA Events Board meetings. They must plan at least 3 large scale events per semester which include an event during Opening Weekend. Throughout the year the Events Director must plan at least one event that incorporates cultural awareness/social justice.

520.6 Recognition Director
The RHA Recognition Director shall be in charge of all recognition initiatives put on by RHA. The RHA Recognition Director shall chair all Recognition Board Meetings. They shall facilitate a minimum of 4 recognition days each semester to recognize the Department of Residential Life, Housing, and Food Service faculty. They are also in charge of organizing the RHA Winter Reception and Spring Banquet. They also are in charge of updating the award plaques each year following the Spring Banquet. The Recognition Director will also work with the VP-NCC to write award bids to submit to the region.

SECTION 530 Compensation
530.1 Each Executive Officer shall receive financial compensation, in the form of an hourly wage, commensurate to their position, in an amount determined by the Department of Residential Life, Housing, and Food Service.

SECTION 540 Election of Executive Officers
540.1 Executive Officers shall be elected in the Spring via a bid process

ARTICLE VI RLHFS Administrative Positions

SECTION 600 Term Limits
600.1 The term of Administrative Positions shall begin at the close of the Spring Banquet
   600.1.1 If a position is hired after the Spring Banquet or during the academic year, their position will begin one (1) day after being hired

600.2 The term of RLHFS Administrative Positions shall end on the end-of- contract date as determined by the RLHFS Department.

600.3 Continuation of the position shall be based on performance evaluation from the RHA Advisor(s).

SECTION 610 Administrative Positions
610.1 Marketing Director
The Marketing Director will be responsible for designing and implementing a fall and
spring recruitment campaign for RHA Boards and Leadership Council. The Marketing Director shall also design and implement an elections campaign for RHA Executive Board Elections in the spring semester. The Marketing Director shall oversee all RHA trademark and publicity matters. Maintain all RHA social media handles and maintain and update an RHA-designated website platform with current events and information. The Marketing Director shall also oversee the RHA Resource Center. This includes ordering and keeping an inventory of office supplies, scheduling office hours for all Executive Board members, managing the RHA item check-out system and assisting in Residential Life Hall T-shirt and Intramural processes. The Marketing Director shall also take minutes for the RHA General Council and Executive Board Officer Meetings.

SECTION 620 Compensation
620.1 Each Administrative Position shall receive financial compensation, in the form of an hourly wage, commensurate to their position, in an amount determined by the Department of Residential Life, Housing, and Food Service.

SECTION 630 Selection and Removal of Administrative Positions
630.1 Administrative Positions will be hired by the RHA Advisor(s) and the RHA President, during the spring of each year.
630.1.1 The RHA Advisor(s) and RHA President shall hire any administrative positions through an interview process should the positions not get filled or become vacant.
630.2 Any Administrative Position who fails to maintain eligibility to hold their position shall be immediately dismissed from said position, as notified by the RHA Advisor.
630.2.1 Eligibility is defined by RLHFS standards that is reflected in the RHA governing documents.
630.2.2 Input from the RHA President may be taken into consideration.

ARTICLE VII Boards

SECTION 700 Purpose
700.1 RHA Boards are specialized, permanent committees of the RHA organization, which are tasked with the execution of various functions for the benefit of all residents.
700.2 Each board shall meet once a week at a time and place of each board’s choice, which shall be posted publicly at each residence hall’s front desk.

SECTION 710 Standing Boards
710.1 Legislative Board
710.1.1 The Legislative Board shall represent and oversee all legislative matters for the organization.
710.1.2 The RHA Vice President shall chair the Legislative Board.
710.1.3 The membership shall consist of the Vice President of each Leadership Council.
710.1.4 Members of this board shall serve as liaisons to department and university committees.
710.2 Finance Board
710.2.1 The Finance Board shall oversee all financial matters for the organization.
710.2.2 The RHA Finance Director shall chair the Finance Board.
710.2.3 The membership of this board shall consist of the Treasurer of each Leadership Council.
710.3 Events Board
710.3.1 The Events Board exists to plan and implement large-scale social, educational and cultural events for the benefit of all residence hall students.
710.3.2 The Events Director shall chair the Events Board, and serve as Events Board Director on the General Council.
710.3.3 The membership of this board shall consist of RHA Events Reps from each Leadership Council and members-at-large.
710.4 Outreach Board
710.4.1 The Outreach Board exists to engage residence hall students in Civic Engagement initiatives.
710.4.2 The Outreach Director shall chair the Outreach Board.
710.4.3 The membership of this board shall consist of RHA Outreach Reps from each Leadership Council and members-at-large.

710.5 Recognition Board
710.5.1 The Recognition Board exists to plan and coordinate recognition events and initiatives that benefit residence hall students.
710.5.2 The Recognition Director shall chair the Recognition Board, and serve as Recognition Board Director on the General Council.
710.5.3 The membership of this board shall consist of RHA Recognition Reps from each Leadership Council and members-at-large.

ARTICLE VIII Impeachment and Succession

SECTION 800 Cause for Immediate Dismissal
800.1 Any RHA member who fails to maintain eligibility to hold office shall be immediately dismissed from said position, as notified by the RHA Advisor.
800.1.1 Eligibility is defined as being able to meet all required criteria in order to be in office as defined in the RHA governing documents.

SECTION 810 Impeachment
810.1 Any RHA member may be subject to impeachment and removal from position by vote of the General Council.
810.2 Any motion to impeach shall lay on the table for one week prior to any vote on it.
810.3 A 2/3 majority vote of the General Council is required to remove a member from office.

SECTION 820 Succession
820.1 RHA Executive Board
820.1.1 Should the position of RHA President become vacant, the RHA Vice President shall assume the position of RHA President for the remainder of the academic year term.
820.1.1.1 If the Vice President does not wish to fill the position of President, they must fulfill the President duties until an election can be done.
820.1.2 In the event of a vacancy of any other Executive Officer, the RHA President shall call for election by bid process.
820.1.2.1 The RHA President can appoint an individual to fulfill the duties of the position as a proxy until the position is filled by the a bid process.
820.1.2.2 The appointment(s) will be confirmed by the body of Executive Officers and the NRHH President.
820.2.2.1 This confirmation process will be determined by the RHA President.
820.1.2.1 The appointment of any individual can only last until the third General Council meeting after they have been appointed and can only be extended in the event that no other candidate is present once a bid process is called.

820.2 Special Elections of Executive Officers
820.2.1 In the event that an Executive Officer position(s) is not filled during the regular elections process as outlined in Section 540, a special elections process and timeline will be determined by the standing RHA President and the RHA Advisor(s).
820.2.1.1 The Elections Chair shall be the same as outlined in section 310.2 of the RHA By-Laws.
820.2.1.2 If the RHA Vice President position is not filled at the time, the RHA Advisor(s) shall determine another elections chair.
820.2.2 The special elections process will consist of bid intents, bid submissions, and bid...
presentations.

820.2.3 The voting body for special elections will be the same as outlined in section 310 of the RHA Bylaws.

820.2.4 If an Executive Officer position(s) is not filled via the special elections, an appointment process as outlined in section 820.1.2 will be reinitiated by the Executive Officer highest in gavel order in conjunction with the NRHH President.

820.3 Residence Hall Leadership Councils

820.3.1 Should the position of a Leadership Council President become vacant, the Leadership Council Vice President of that residence hall shall assume the Leadership Council President position.

820.3.2 In the event of a vacancy of any Leadership Council officer position, the Leadership Council President shall nominate a successor; and the Leadership Council shall confirm with simple majority vote.

820.4 RHA Boards

820.4.1 With exception of the Board Director, vacancies among membership of RHA Boards shall be filled according to the specific rules of that hall’s By-Laws; if the hall does not have those rules, they should fill vacancies by a majority vote within that hall’s council.

ARTICLE IX Amendments

SECTION 900 Procedures

900.1 Amendments to this Constitution must be proposed in the Legislative Board. If approved, the amendment is placed on the agenda of the next General Council meeting held.

900.2 When considering an amendment, the General Council must debate it during no fewer than two consecutive weekly meetings. After the second reading, the General Council may adopt the amendment by a two-thirds vote.

900.2.1 In the event that a constitutional change needs to be made immediately, due to outside factors, this rule may be suspended for the duration of a General Council meeting.

900.2.1.1 A vote of two-thirds is required to suspend the rules

SECTION 910 Amendments Affecting Leadership Councils

910.1 If the amendment considered affects the Hall Leadership Councils, their powers, their form, or their function, the amendment must also be voted in favor for by 2/3 of the affected Hall Leadership Councils.

910.1.1 This includes adding or removing anything in the individual halls’ governing documents that does not align with the RHA’s governing documents.

910.1.2 For example 5 out of 7 Hall Leadership Councils must vote in favor of the amendment

ARTICLE X Parliamentary Procedure

SECTION 1000 Special Rules

1000.1 The RHA President shall have authority to limit debate in the General Council on any issue in the interest of time constraints. This decision may be overruled by a two-thirds majority of the Council members present.

1000.2 All votes shall be taken by a show of hands, unless otherwise determined by the chair, or if a voting General Council member requests a roll-call vote.

1000.3 The President may adopt standing rules for additional decorum.

SECTION 1010 The rules contained in Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the Residence Hall Association in all cases where they are not inconsistent with this document and any special rules of order this organization may adopt.
ARTICLE XI  Judicial Board

SECTION 1100  Purpose
1100.1  The Judicial power of the RHA shall be vested in the Judicial Board
1100.2  The Judicial Board exists to rule in the following situations
       1100.2.1 Questions of RHA Constitutionality with regards to action, legislation, or any
              other official matters
       1100.2.2 RLVHFS Conduct Sanction Appeals
       1100.2.3 RLVHFS Housing License Appeals

Section 1110  Judicial Board Director
1110.1  The Judicial Board Director will be appointed from the Judicial Board membership
        during the first Judicial Board meeting
1110.2  Duties of the Judicial Board Director
        1110.2.1 Call of RHA Judicial Board meetings, set its agenda, and preside over their
               meetings.
               1110.2.1.1 Meetings will be held at the discretion of the Judicial Board Director
                        and the Judicial Board Advisor(s).
        1110.2.2 The Judicial Board Director will serve as the Judicial Board Representative at
                        RHA General Council Meetings.

Section 1120  Judicial Board Governance
1120.1  The Judicial Board will be governed by the Judicial Board Bylaws.
        1120.1.2 The Judicial Board Bylaws must remain in accordance with the RHA
               Constitution and Bylaws
1120.2  The Judicial shall consist solely of one Judicial Board Representative from each hall.
        1120.2.1 These representatives will be elected through the hall Leadership Council
               Elections process
1120.3  The Residence Hall Association holds the following powers over the Judicial Board.
        1120.3.1 RHA may at any time choose to dis-ban the Judicial Board or sever it from the
                Residence Hall Association.
        1120.3.2 RHA may at any time increase the duties of the Judicial Board.

Section 1130  Amendments to the Judicial Board Bylaws
1130.1  The Judicial Board Bylaws can be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Judicial Board.
1130.2  Amendments to the Judicial Board Bylaws do not require approval by the Legislative
        Board or the RHA General Council as long as they remain in accordance with the RHA
        Constitution and Bylaws.
        1130.2.1 If the Judicial Board would like to amend their portion of the RHA Constitution
                and Bylaws, the proposal will follow normal amendment procedures.

ARTICLE XII  Food and Dining Board

SECTION 1200  Purpose
1200.1  The purpose of the Food and Dining Board is to give the residents a stronger involvement
        in the decisions for the Down-under Café.

Section 1210  Food and Dining Director
1210.1  The Food and Dining Board Director will be appointed from the Food and Dining Board
        membership during the first Food and Dining Board meeting.
1210.2  Duties of the Food and Dining Board Director
        1210.2.1 Call of RHA Food and Dining Board meetings, set its agenda, and preside over
                their meetings.
                1210.2.1.1 Meetings will be held at the discretion of the Food and
                        Dining Board Director and the Food and Dining Board
                        Advisor(s).
1210.2.2 The Food and Dining Board Director will serve as the Food and Dining Board Representative at RHA General Council Meetings.

*Ratified: May 3rd, 2018*