

Constitution of Miagao Association of California  
Los Angeles  
(MACLA)

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**“Miagao Association of California Los Angeles is a non-profit organization started by Miagaowanons, whose main goal is to develop and grow the network of members through sponsored group activities, which pass on our Filipino heritage to the children, share the Filipino culture with the community, and most importantly, raise funds through charity and goodwill for the use of improving the lives of people in the hometown of Miagao, Iloilo, Philippines.”**

- Article I – Name

This organization shall be named Miagao Association of California Los Angeles; the acronym that will identify this organization shall be MACLA.

- Article II – Purpose

The purpose of Miagao Association of California Los Angeles is to celebrate the Filipino heritage, form charity fund raising initiatives and sponsor group events for the enjoyment of the members, friends and guests. To reach out to others and to promote charity and goodwill programs back in the hometown of Miagao.

- Article III – Membership

Membership in this organization shall be open to those from Miagao and all persons, without regard to religion, national origin, age, gender, marital status, color, veteran status, or disability; that wishes to join and believes in Miagao Association of California Los Angeles - mission statement and purpose.

Members are expected to:

1. Attend a minimum of three scheduled general meetings. Paid member has one Vote during elections, motions and resolution initiatives.
2. Be a part of at least one committee. Be active in group activities. Join in discussions, share their suggestions and voice their opinions.
3. Especially, pay their annual dues on time. There will **never** be a late fee. Payments not received within the due date shall render the membership status to “inactive” and therefore, will not be entitled to the benefits of a paid member. Inactive members will **never** be denied the opportunity to participate in any MACLA event and activity. (Refer to Article iii sec. 5)

4. Notify the secretary or the assistant secretary of current contact information.

A person's membership can be terminated by the person by the following steps:

1. Notifying the Secretary or Assistant Secretary through mail, electronic mail, or by phone.
2. Giving the Secretary or Assistant Secretary a written request for membership cancellation, signed and dated.

Members, who do not pay their annual membership fee for the specified year, do **not** have a vote for any election or decisions being voted upon for that specified year. If a member wishes to vote, he or she must pay their annual fee for the specified year anytime prior the election or decisions being voted upon.

- **Article IV – Officers**

The officers of MACLA shall include the positions of President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Auditor, Public Relations, Webmaster, Sergeant at Arms and Board Members. Every officer's term shall be the same, and the length of term shall be **two** years. Each electoral office has a limit of **five** terms.

- **Article V – Ratification**

The Constitution shall be ratified by at least two-thirds votes of the quorum present and shall take effect immediately after ratification. A **quorum** shall constitute a minimum of twenty five percent (25%) of the total paid members. Ratification cannot take place if there is no quorum present.

- **Article VI – Decision Making Process**

Decisions affecting the organization as a whole shall be presented to a quorum. A majority vote from the quorum is needed in order to make the decision final. These decisions include the results of elections, resolutions or any other decision that the officers see essential to the best interest of the organization. All voters must first be checked for paid membership before voting begins. All unpaid members shall not be recognized as voters. The person must first pay their dues before they are recognized as voters.

- **Article VII – Amendment Process**

The Constitution shall be amended by approval of three-fourths (75%) of all paid members present at the time of the voting process. Proxy voting will be permitted for paid members. Proxy voting must be submitted in written form, prior to the

voting process. No proxy votes shall be recognized by word of mouth. All written proxy votes, must have:

1. Full name printed
2. Signature
3. Date
4. The vote

All amendments shall be presented in a scheduled meeting, and voted upon at a future scheduled meeting. No amendments shall be voted upon, on the same scheduled meeting that it has been presented. This will allow time for paid members to proxy votes and absent members to be notified of an amendment in process. Voting on amendments shall be announced **six weeks** prior to the vote.

- **Article VIII – Disbursal of Assets**

Should MACLA disband, all assets, which include all items owned by MACLA and all finances under MACLA's account, shall be donated to a charity selected by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.