



Nne Agwu Constitution

Adopted on Thursday the 9th Day of January 2025

1. The name of the vision shall be known as Nne Agwu Constitution

2. Subject to the matters set out below, the vision, its spiritual order, its intellectual property and property shall be administered and managed in accordance with this visionary constitution.

The objects of the vision are to:

- I. create a safe sacred space exclusively for the melanin rich community to heal without the worry of offending or being judged by 'others'.
- II. design and facilitate intergenerational safe sacred spaces in natural environments, where original indigenous melanin rich communities globally can experience a village vibration, by attending retreats, ancient initiations and have healing dialogues, to preserve, promote, celebrate & elevate the oral traditions for our spiritual, mental & emotional wellbeing:
- III. motivate, empower and educate community, with the stories of their heritage, culture and spirituality.
- IV. reclaim ancestral practices that build self-esteem and reconnect us to our ancients wisdoms & proverbs, universal order of the cosmos and natural laws of the land.
- V. encourage increased positive contribution to restoring emotional and spiritual well being
- VI. build platforms for authentic expression that build stronger communities through shared lived experiences.
- VII. develop a love for, a desire to be and a healing connection to, create a space for collective liberation on Mother Earth in the natural environment
- VIII. promote the growth of the oral traditions to foster leadership and agency for the progression of the culture and heritage within the community
- IX. develop our natural gifts, to share our gifts and to receive the gifts of others as a reaffirmation of our identity, who we are and why we are here.
- X. evolve into what we need to be in society in order to fulfil our purpose and heal our spirit through social change
- XI. inspire visions with the oral traditions of ubuntu (I am because we are, we are therefore I am)
- XII. build foundations that advance both the immediate & long-term objects for our community to thrive, flourish and prosper.
- XIII. recognise Chineke, the "divine *Womb of Creation," as the origin that has required generations of sacrifice and now serves as a transformative force, creating space for continual creation, change, and evolution.

3. In furtherance of the said objects the committee may exercise the following powers on behalf of the Nne Agwu vision:

- a. power to raise funds, secure sponsorship, receive contributions, payment and donations.
- b. power to buy or lease or exchange property or land necessary for the achievement of the objects and vision. To maintain and equip the said land or property.
- c. power, subject to divine law, in alignments with objects and vision, sell lease or dispose of all or part of the property or land held by the Nne Agwu community project.
- d. power to employ such staff (which may or may not include committee members) as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the objects.

- e. power to use agreed designated money to reimburse members for expenses incurred in the furtherance of the Nne Agwu vision
- f. power to work, exchange information & share resources with other lawful, spiritual and legal entities in alignment with Nne Agwu vision and the furtherance of the objects.
- g. power to establish relationships with lawful and spiritual entities in alignment with our visions.
- h. power to create affiliate peer groups for Nne Agwu, such as: youth groups, elder council, etc
- i. power to do lawful things necessary for the achievement and furtherance of the objects.

4. Membership

A. Membership must be passed by the committee and is open to melanin rich indigenous original individuals / corporates or unincorporated associations / groups who have been nominated by existing individual group members and who:

- are interested in furthering the work of Nne Agwu. They can self-nominate.
- have completed a recognised Shanti-Chi training course, They can self-nominate.
- has been nominated by a committee member.
- is interested in furthering the work of Nne Agwu and its representative and have completed a recognised Shanti-Chi training course. They can self-nominate.
- All members now or at some future date, maybe subject to pay subscriptions. Subscription fees will be set and agreed at an annual general meeting.
- Every member shall have one vote.
- Individual members shall be 12 years and older, (anyone under 12 must be represented by some one 18 years and above)
- Each member organisation and or affiliated members shall appoint an individual to represent it and to vote on its behalf at meetings of Nne Agwu; Member organisation may appoint with agreement, an alternative representative to attend any meeting except the AGM.
- Each member organisation shall notify the name of the representative appointed by it and of any alternate to the secretary. If the representative or alternate resigns from or otherwise leaves the member organisation, she or he shall forthwith cease to be the representative of the member organisation, but can self nominate to be an individual member.
- The Committee may unanimously and for good reason terminate the membership of any individual or member organisation: the individual concerned or the appointed representative of the member organisation concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Committee, accompanied by a friend, before a final decision is made.

5. Honorary Officers

- I. At the Annual General Meeting, members shall elect from amongst themselves a Chair, a vice chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer, and honorary officers who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting for 4 year.
- II. An honorary elder shall be appointed as representative to ensure that the wisdom and skills of the elders are utilised for the benefit of bring into fruition the Nne Agwu vision.
- III. The Founder and Artistic director known as Griot Chinyere Nwaubani shall be a life time Honorary Officer and member of the Nne Agwu board. She cannot be disaffiliated.
- IV. At AGM's officers can step down before the end of the 4 year. They can nominate a replacement

6. The Committee

- A. The Committee shall consist of not less than 3 members nor more than 12 members being:
- i. the honorary officers as specified in clause 5

- ii. not less than 3 and not more than 12 members elected at the annual general meeting who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting;

B. Nominated members appointed as follows:-

- i. The Committee may in addition appoint not more than 3 co-opted members but so that no-one may be appointed as a co-opted member if as a result more than one third of the committee would be co-opted members.
- ii. Each appointment of a co-opted member shall be made at a special meeting of the Committee and shall take effect from the end of that meeting unless the appointment is to fill a place which has not then been vacated in which case the appointment shall run from the date when the post becomes vacant.
- iii. All members of the committee shall retire from office together at the end of their 4 year period or part thereof depending on the next AGM but they may be re-elected or re-appointed.
- iv. No member of the Committee shall acquire any interest in property or land belonging to the Nne Agwu or receive remuneration in any contract entered into by the Committee.
- v. Committee members may be gainfully employed by Nne Agwu if they prove to be the best individual / organisation to promote in alignment Nne Agwu vision.

7. Termination of membership

A member of the committee shall cease to hold office if she or he:

- i. is disqualified from acting as a member by virtue that our values are no longer in alignment.
- ii. becomes incapable by reason of mental disorder, that is to exhibit self-harm, harm to others / members and their actions and behaviour are detrimental to Nne Agwu, illness or injury of managing and administering her or his own affairs.
- iii. is absent without the permissions of the Committee from all their meetings held within a period of 3 months and the Committee resolve that her or his office be vacated; or
- iv. notifies the Committee, a wish to resign (but only if at least three members of the Committee will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect.)

8. Meetings and proceedings of the Committee

A. The Committee shall hold at least nine ordinary meetings each year that we have the Nne Agwu storytelling festival. A special meeting may be called at any time by the Chair or by any two members of the Committee upon not less than 7 days' notice being given to the other members of the executive committee of the matters to be discussed

B. The Chair shall act as Chair at all meetings of the Committee. If the Chair is absent from a committee meeting, the vice chair shall act as chair. Any member of the committee can be elected to act as chair in the absence of the chair and or vice chair.

I. There shall be quorum when at least one third or 3 whichever is the highest of the elected members are present

II. If a meeting is inquorate the meeting will be held again at the same time the following week or rearranged within the next 7 days

III. Every matter shall be determined by a majority vote of the members of the Committee but in the case of equality of votes the Chair of the meeting shall have the casting vote.

IV. The secretary shall take the minutes of every committee meeting and sub-committee meeting

V. The Committee shall keep minutes of all proceedings of Committee meetings and sub-committee meetings.

VI. The Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees consisting of one or more members of the committee for the purpose of making any inquiry or supervising or performing any function or duty which in the opinion of the Committee would be more conveniently undertaken or carried

out by a sub-committee: provided that all acts and proceedings of any such sub-committee shall be fully and promptly reported to the Executive Committee.

9. Finance and Accounts

The Committee shall comply with their spiritual obligations to keep accounts of monies:

- i. The treasurer shall keep account of the money incoming and expenditure of monies in the Nne Agwu account.
- ii. The committee are jointly responsible for the accounting records Nne Agwu projects
- iii. The treasurer in conjunction with the artistic director will prepare statements with regards to projects pertaining to the accounts for the organisation
- iv. The auditing or internal examination of the statements of accounts of the organisation
- v. The Funds of the organisation, including all donations, contributions, sponsorships and bequests shall be paid into an account named of Nne Agwu.
- vi. All cheques drawn on the account must be signed by at least two members of the Committee
- vii. The funds belonging to the organisation shall be applied only in furthering the objects & vision of Nne Agwu & to support the artistic director's activities that further the vision.

10. Regular Reports

The Chair and Secretary with the support of the committee and Honorary officer will prepare annual reports. The Committee shall comply with their obligations with regards to the preparation of report to be presented at AGM.

11. Annual General Meetings

- i. There shall be an annual general meeting of Nne Agwu, with committee members and invited guests, held in each year or as soon as is practical, not exceeding 24 months between each Annual General Meeting.
- ii. All general meetings shall be called by the Committee. The secretary shall give at least 21 days' notice of the Annual General Meeting to all the members of the organisation.
- iii. All members of Nne Agwu shall be entitled to one vote.
- iv. The Committee shall present at each Annual General Meeting the report and accounts of the Community organisation for the preceding year.
- v. Nominations for election to the committee must be made by members in writing or verbalised and must be in acknowledged by the secretary at least 7 days before the Annual General Meeting.
- vi. Should nominations exceed vacancies then election shall be by ballot at AGM.

12. Regular Meetings

There shall be a monthly meeting of Nne Agwu committee to review progress of the organisation. The Artistic Director shall present a progress report on the day to day running, the committee shall offer support in planning, designing, delivering and evaluating activities and events which further Nne Agwu objects and vision.

13. Special General Meetings

The Committee and or Honorary Officers may call a special general meeting at any time. If at least one third of the members request such a meeting in writing stating the business to be considered the secretary shall call such a meeting. At least 7 days notice must be given, stating the reason for the meeting.

14. Alterations to this Constitution

Subject to the following provisions of this clause the constitution may be altered by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members present, the honorary officer Griot Chinyere and voting at a general meeting. The notice of the general meeting must include notice of the resolution, setting out the terms of the alteration proposed.

No amendments may be made to the name of the organisation, the objects clause, the dissolution clause and this clause.

15. Dissolution

If the executive committee decides that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve Nne Agwu then a proposal stating the reasons should be sent to all members calling a special meeting 21 days in advance. If the proposal is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting the Committee shall have the power to realise any assets held. The name , trademark and copy right of Nne Agwu belongs to Griot Chinyere Nwaubani.

Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities maybe given to such other activist organisations with objects in alignment with Nne Agwu.

Position and Name	Acceptance of Post on	Signature	Contact Details
Chair Shirley Mason	Thursday 24 th April 2025		sshirleymason137@gmail.com +447946723494
Human Relations Angie Graham	Thursday April 24 th 2025		nnbppengland@yahoo.co.uk +447903591426
Artistic Director Djeli Chinyere Nwaubani	Thursday 24th April 2025		info@shanti-chi.com +447582228967

www.shanti-chi.com - info@shanti-chi.com

