

M.E.Ch.A. *de Auraria*
ORGANIZATIONAL CONSTITUTION

Article I

Name of Organization

Section I The name of the organization shall be M.E.Ch.A. *de Auraria*. *M.E.Ch.A. stands for Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (Chicano student movement of Aztlan).*

Section II The symbol of the organization shall be the eagle with its wings spread, bearing a macahuittle in one claw and a dynamite stick in the other with a dynamite stick in the other with the lighted fuse in its beak.

Article II

Purpose

Section I The purpose of M.E.Ch.A. *de Auraria* is:

- a. to politicize, socialize, and educate Chicano(a)/Latino(a) students to the ideas of the movement and to promote self-education in our history, culture, and our struggle for equality and self-determination, so that we may promote a self-awareness and reaffirm the pride and dignity in our culture,
- b. to recruit and retain Chicano(a)/Latino(a) students in education, to promote a educational curriculum that is culturally relevant and to increase access to education and educational opportunities,
- c. to promote a sense of obligation and responsibility toward our community in a society whose values consist of materialism, greed and individual advancement,
- d. to strive for social, educational, cultural, economics, and political empowerment within the Chicano community in order to liberate our gente,

“...M.E.Ch.A., than is more than a name; it is a spirit of unity, of brotherhood [and sisterhood], and a resolve to undertake a struggle for liberation in a society where justice is but a word. M.E.Ch.A. is a means to an end.”

-El Plan de Santa Barbara, 1969

Article III

Qualifications for Membership

- Section I Membership is open to any Chicano(a)/Latino(a) student of the Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State College of Denver, and the University of Colorado at Denver believing in the ideas of the organization. ***Members of M.E.Ch.A. de Auraria are referred to Mechistas.***
- Section II Membership shall be open to anyone regardless of race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, ***national origin, disability*** or ability.

Article IV
Mesa Directiva

- Section I The Mesa Directiva of this organization will be as follows:
- a. Co-chairs,***
 - b. A Director of Finance,***
 - c. A Director of Education,***
 - d. A Director of Public Relations,***
 - e. A Director of Outreach,***
 - f. A Director of Networking,***
 - g. Faculty Advisor/s.***
- Section II Each ***Directors*** term shall be one year with elections held in May of each Spring Semester (***to begin in June***).
- Section III It shall be the duties of the Co-chairs to:
- a. co-facilitate and prepare agendas and minutes for meetings, minutes may also be delegated to one of the Mesa Directiva Directors,
 - b. share in direct affairs of the organization, serve as the spokesperson, facilitate meetings and serve as the liaison with other campus organizations (clubs and campus entities of Student Life),
 - c. maintain the organizations email and phone for current information for its members,***
 - d. distribute pertinent information received via phone and email to its members during with the weekly emails or at the next meeting,***
 - e. Co-chair Primero shall be responsible for documenting attendance at all meetings and oversees the Directors of Finance, Education, and Public Relations,
 - f. Co-chair Segundo will be in charge of maintaining the organizational records of M.E.Ch.A. ***de Auraria*** and shall oversee the Directors Outreach and Networking.

Let it be understood these two leaders are equal in power and responsibility.

- Section IV It shall be the duty of the Director of Finance to:
- a. account for organizational assets, document all financial transactions and provide accounting reports at meetings,

- b. arrange, seek, and organize fundraising events and committees,
- c. ***maintain its committee with the designated treasures from each school.***

Section V It shall be the duty of the Director of Education to:

- a. arrange and coordinate educational panels, speakers and events,
- b. monitor event committees and delegate event responsibilities.

Section VI It shall be the duty of the Director of Public Relations to:

- a. create notices of meetings, flyers for events and all media material,
- b. write press releases and advisories when needed,
- c. maintain data base and updated phone list,
- d. monitor and delegate the duties of recruitment and retention of members,
- e. ***maintain all historical documentation of events, including photos and flyers,***
- f. ***maintain the organizations webpage.***

Section VII It shall be the duty of the Director of Outreach to:

- a. maintain contract with the high schools, middle schools, and community organizations,
- b. initiate communication with new schools and organizations.

Section VIII It shall be the duties of the Directors of Networking to:

- a. attend outside meetings of state and local organizations with whom M.E.Ch.A. ***de Auraria*** has ties to ***including statewide M.E.Ch.A. meetings***, (reasonable compensation will be provided for long distance trips, equivalent to but not to exceed \$40),
- b. report on meetings attended to the Mesa Directiva and relay pertinent information to the general assembly.

Section IX It shall be the duty of the Faculty Advisor/s to:

- a. be the Consejero of the organization in an advisory role,
- b. serve as a mentor to the students.

Section X In the absence of any of the Directors any other Director or Mechista may temporarily fill the position until it is filled.

Article V Impeachment of Officers

Section I Any officer or faculty advisor may be terminated at any time if they attempt to dominate, hinder, or deactivate the progress of the organization or are consistently delinquent in their duties.

- Section II Procedure for impeachment:
- a. written charges will be presented to the accused officer prior to the general meeting,
 - b. the charges will be made public the next general meeting where the officer will be given the opportunity to respond to charges,
 - c. a vote will be taken and impeachment will occur only by a 2/3 or more majority outcome of the general membership vote.

Article VI
Meetings

- Section I Meetings will be held at least twice a month, will be announced via *weekly emails and campus bulletin boards, monthly phone calls and mailings.*
- Section II Mesa Directiva meetings will be held at least once a month and shall be open to all members.

Article VII
Voting

- Section I Decisions concerning the organization will be done by a majority rules basis (50% + 1 voting majority).

Article VIII
Events Planning

- Section I All events must be voted on and approved by the organization. *A M.E.Ch.A. de Auraria event planning form must be completed for each event.*
- Section II Community Sponsorship:
- a. community sponsorship must be approved by the organization, *if and only if a member of that community planning member presents it to M.E.Ch.A. de Auraria,*
 - b. a *Mechista* must be on the Planning Committee of the event,
 - c. M.E.Ch.A. *de Auraria* must be given a minimum of six weeks notice to ensure sponsorship of such events (*discretion of notice is up to M.E.Ch.A.*),
 - d. *a M.E.Ch.A. de Auraria event planning form must be completed for each event.*
- Section III Special events must follow Student Life guidelines.

Article IX
Amending the Constitution

- Section I Amendment(s) to the Constitution will be allowed on the following guidelines:
- a. amendment(s) must be first brought up to the Mesa Directiva for assignment to the agenda of the following meeting,
 - b. amendment(s) must be type-written and copied for presentation at a general meeting,
 - c. approval of amendment(s) must follow voting guidelines (*Article VII*) of the Constitution.