



Nia Seattle Bylaws **Updated March 2017**

MISSION STATEMENT

NiaSeattle is an association of certified Nia teachers (livelihood members) dedicated to the growth and success of The Nia Technique both regionally and globally. We maintain an atmosphere of innovation, integrity, professionalism, and excellence, while enriching our students, our extended communities and ourselves.

Vision:

To see *every* body moving with Joy.

Organization:

NiaSeattle membership is open to currently licensed Nia instructors in the greater Puget Sound area who have gone through the Nia Technique white belt training or more. Eligibility of each applicant and renewing member of NiaSeattle is on the honor system.

A volunteer Core Team of five NiaSeattle members will act as a stewardship for the membership and organization. In the event that two or more members volunteer for the same position, a secret ballot will be cast and majority rules.

As a working stewardship for NiaSeattle, each position on the Core Team has equal input and voting rights. When the need for special committees is deemed by the Core Team (ex. Membership, newsletter, social media guidelines, and special events), a request for volunteers will be made to the NiaSeattle membership. One representative of each committee will also have equal input and voting rights on the Core Team as it relates to the primary purpose of the committee. Any such committee may be transitory or can become permanent depending on the need.

The Core Team is responsible for making final decisions for NiaSeattle with input from the membership. Decisions are based on a consensus when possible, or simple majority vote if consensus is not reached within a reasonable time for doing business. The Core Team will maintain transparency in its decisions. The Core Team will seek input from NiaSeattle on major issues before decision-making. In addition to these responsibilities, each Core Team member is responsible for duties specific to their position as described below.

The Core Team will work together for at least one year to accomplish tasks set forth for the year. These tasks may include but are not limited to:

1. Facilitate meetings
2. Facilitate communications
3. Facilitate 2 yearly Jams
4. Maintain internet presence
5. Maintain an accounting of money received and dispersed
6. Maintain a current set of bylaws
7. Oversee ad hoc matters as they arise

Position I Meeting Mobilizer

1. Establishes a time and location for meetings that are amenable to all Core Team Members. Meetings can be face-to-face or electronic.
2. Announces upcoming meetings.
3. Creates an agenda and facilitates the meetings to stay on track.
4. Researches and organizes material and programs for meaningful meetings.
5. Organizes social events for NiaSeattle
6. Ensures that the agenda for one meeting a year contains an item to discuss the yearly budget

Position II Community Communicator

1. Sends out press releases for Jams.
2. Monitors and posts to social media outlets.
3. Maintains meeting records, distributes to all members and Nia HQ.
4. Coordinates electronic communications (eNewsletters) with the help of the Web Wizard and/or designated member.

Position III Web Wizard

1. Has experience on the web, including working knowledge of image editing software if needed.
2. Responsible for the back end of the NiaSeattle website and Listserv.
3. Oversees website updates and changes.
4. Coordinates electronic communications (eNewsLetters) with the help of the Community Communicator and/or designated member
5. Sends welcome material to new members

Position IV Money Maven

1. Maintains records of all money received and disbursed.
2. Reports financial status to general meetings.
3. Maintains cash box and provides change for Jams.
4. Writes checks on behalf of NiaSeattle as required.
5. Maintains bank accounts, pays business license fees and prepares and submits annual taxes.
6. At one meeting per year, as set by the Meeting Mobilizer, is prepared with information to help the Core Team plan a yearly budget.

Position V Jam Juggler

1. Oversees and coordinates Spring and Fall Jams; which includes scheduling a date, securing a location, setting a theme, creating a playlist and maintaining the jam box.
2. Finds volunteers for all positions related to a successful Jam as needed, including teachers.
3. Works with Communications on press releases and other marketing materials for the Jam. Facilitates creation of Jam flyers, in consultation with the Core Team. Core Team maintains final sign off before any public facing materials are released.

All positions are to be held for one to three years, except the Web Wizard and Money Maven position, which may be held for up to five years. If an insufficient number of new volunteers step forward, current Core Team members may extend their term or volunteer for an open position. In order to maintain continuity, at least one member for the prior year's Core Team must remain a member in the new year. To ensure rotation of the positions among the NiaSeattle members, any volunteer must wait two years after completing a term before holding the same position again. Each volunteer on the Core Team agrees to help incoming member transition into the Team, if needed.

NiaSeattle Membership and Benefits

Licensed Nia teachers are welcome to join NiaSeattle at any time. Benefits include access to post one's bio and photo, Nia-related special events, and Nia classes to the NiaSeattle website. Members are also included on the NiaSeattle Listserv and given a unique NiaSeattle email address if requested.

Membership and dues

Dues are \$30 annually, payable online at the NiaSeattle website. Membership is recurring every 12 months unless teacher opts out in their PayPal account. Applicants and renewing members of NiaSeattle must be current Livelihood Members of the Nia Technique. Our members are on the honor system, but if questions arise, an applicant or renewing member may be asked to provide a copy of their current license or may be investigated through Nia HQ.

New teachers may join at any time and membership is good for one year.

All payments are made to NiaSeattle. The Money Maven maintains the records of dues collected.

Core Team members' annual dues are waived for the years they are in service. In addition, any non-Core Team members providing extensive services can, at the discretion of the Core Team, have their annual dues waived or discounted.

Benefits of Membership

I. NIASEATTLE TEACHERS' WEBSITE

Upon receipt of your payment, the Money Maven will connect you with the Web Wizard (or one of the Core Team) who will send you instructions for setting up an account on the NiaSeattle website, for posting your bio, photo, classes and events, and for joining the Listserv.

II. NIASEATTLE TEACHERS' LISTSERV AND NIASEATTLE EMAIL ADDRESSES

- We communicate via our own online NiaSeattle Listserv
- Please adhere to the etiquette and rules set down by Nia HQ for global teachers' forum.
- Upon joining NiaSeattle, the NiaSeattle Web Wizard will provide instructions for joining the Listserv.
- Once you are a teacher you can also have a NiaSeattle email address, which will attach to any email address. For instance, if your name is Zelda your email can be Zelda@niaseattle.com. It will be routed to your own email address. To get your NiaSeattle email address contact the Web Wizard.

As members of NiaSeattle we value working in support of one another and not as competition. To that end, we agree to work professionally and compassionately to conduct ourselves and our businesses in ways that support and respect the work of other NiaSeattle teachers.

We agree to use the Nia tools available to us to keep us open, communicative and harmonious for the sake of each other and for our students. To maintain harmony, we will do our best to communicate with Nia teachers in the area to advise them of our intentions.

We utilize the Four Energy Allies when relating to and working with one another.

1. Speak with impeccability using 'I' statements.
2. Avoid making assumptions.
3. Avoid taking anything personally.
4. Always do our best.

NiaSeattle Community-wide Jams

RULES FOR JAM PARTICIPATION

- Currently certified and teaching NiaSeattle members and invitees are eligible to lead in jams.

- All jam leaders must be prepared to teach their assigned songs. Rehearsals or informational meetings can be set by the Jam Juggler at any designate time and place, for the benefit of those leaders who want or need them. Participation in rehearsals is voluntary.
- Jam leaders and volunteers (must sign up in advance) attend for free.
- Current Livelihood Members not teaching at the Jam, get in for reduced rate.
- All Jam leaders and volunteers stay to the end of the Jam to help clean up.
- Jam coordinator will make any final decisions that need to be made regarding the Jam.

To Join a Committee and/or Volunteer Your Time

If you are interested in getting involved, have ideas and/or have something to contribute to NiaSeattle, please email the NiaSeattle Listserv, any member of the Core Team and/or bring it up at a NiaSeattle meeting.