

Preamble

Whereas it is one of Bethel University's stated purposes to "pursue breadth and depth of insight" and "education in and beyond the classroom" (Bethel Catalogue 5); and

Whereas the Bethel Catalogue states that "American Christians cannot live in isolation from the people of other cultures" and that we must "develop the cross-cultural communication skills and the special understanding needed to interact as Christians with all types of people in God's world" (6); and

Whereas the Bethel Covenant for Life Together reminds us that "we believe that God is honored by careful thinking and joyful use of our creativity and imagination"; and

Whereas we understand that the values, viewpoints, traditions, morals, and desires of a given society can be found in the art which that society produces, and that careful thinking and critical interaction can reveal and explore these societal values; and

Whereas the country and culture of Japan have long produced an art form which is unique in its perspective on human nature, the religious and spiritual ideas which inform it, and the artistic mode in which it is made; and

Whereas this art form has been often misunderstood, maligned, and underappreciated by both the Christian and the larger Western culture;

Let it be here known that the Bethel Anime Club intends to commence its activities with the goals stated below, which it believes are the proper response to the statements made above.

I. Statement of Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the Bethel Anime Club is to appreciate and increase understanding of Japanese animation and culture through the critical viewing and discussion of artistically valid and Bethel-appropriate works. The goal is to experience both the personal pleasure that comes from interaction with a good piece of art and the intellectual and spiritual stimulation and growth that occurs when things are seen from a different culture's perspective. Furthermore, the Bethel Anime Club desires that more people be introduced to and become appreciative of the world of Japanese animation. The Bethel Anime Club will achieve its goals and objectives by holding meetings, having a small number of special events, and advertising itself both through media and by word-of-mouth.

II. Membership

A. The Bethel Anime Club is open to all Bethel students, faculty, staff, and alumni, and also welcomes the participation and company of people from outside the Bethel University community.

B. The elected members of the Bethel Anime Club shall consist of the following: President and Vice President.

C. As one of the stated purposes of the Bethel Anime Club is to enhance and abet our understanding of a foreign culture, and as its members believe that such interaction is crucial for living a Christian life, the Bethel Anime Club will never discriminate on the basis of race, creed, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender, handicaps, major, height, handedness, IQ, or any other conceivable discriminatory basis.

D. There shall be no requirements for membership in the Bethel Anime Club apart from a willingness to show up for meetings and an open mind. Additionally, new members are requested (but not required) to bring a smile and a friend.

III. Officers

A. Elections: The members of the Bethel Anime Club shall elect its officers from the student membership by majority consent. The President and Vice President will, as the chief nominating committee, be responsible for selecting and approaching candidates from the general membership.

B. Officers

1. President: The President of the Bethel Anime Club will be in charge of the Constitution and the interaction with Student Senate. The President will be responsible for overseeing the week-to-week running of club and the welcoming and orientation of new members. ***The President will be the main contact with BSG.***

2. Vice President: The Vice President will assist the President and will take on the President's duties when the President is unavailable, sick, injured, or transported to an alternate world in which only the power of the Bethel Anime Club President can save the suffering people and almost impossibly difficult moral decisions must be made before the land can be rid of the malaise that binds it.

C. Removal: Any officer may be removed by a majority consent of two-thirds of the general membership. Grounds for removal include:

1. Failure to comply with official duties.
2. Failure to abide by the Bethel University Covenant for Life Together.
3. Requesting to be relieved from official duties.

Demands for removal of any officer must be made by three or more members together, be addressed to the club advisor, and be presented one week prior to the actual vote. In the event that the President is expelled from the position, the Vice President will become President and a new Vice President will be elected. In the event that any other officer is expelled, elections will be held for a replacement in accordance with clause **A. Elections**.

D. Term: Officers will be elected at the end of March or the beginning of April for the next full academic year (unless said officers graduate after the Fall Semester) and the Student Senate must be notified. If an officer does not complete a term, the elected replacement will serve out the remainder of the term and must be re-elected for the next academic year. If at any time during the academic year a new officer is elected, the Student Senate must be notified. Consecutive terms may be served. Any officer may appoint a *pro tempore* replacement if that officer is unable to perform the duties associated with the position for an extended period of time. ***Subject to approval by the faculty advisor.***

IV. Advisor

A. Advisors will be appointed by the Bethel Anime Club's President after consultation with the general membership.

B. All Bethel faculty and staff members are eligible for the position of Advisor, irrespective of their interest in said position.

C. Any general member may make a nomination for the position of Advisor.

V. Financial Aspects

At this time the Bethel Anime Club may request a sum of money up to, but not exceeding, \$400 from the Student Senate. The Bethel Anime Club will use this sum only for purchasing anime on DVD, subsidizing costs of large events for members, and for refunds to members when necessary. All anime purchased with club funds will be donated to the Bethel library.

VI. The Constitution

The Bethel Anime Club constitution may be changed at any time by majority vote of its members. The President is responsible for rewriting the constitution and the new constitution must be approved by majority vote, with each member having a single vote and tanukis having three. The Bethel Anime Club constitution may not be used in place of tissue paper, as this is both unsanitary and disrespectful, or as a tool in the hands of Dr. Genus, as this would most likely result in its destruction by an ageless evil scientist and his clones in an attempt to eradicate the heroes afforded sanctuary by the Bethel Anime Club.