



GUARDIANS OF THE METROPOLIA

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX
CHURCH OF THE USA

GUARDIANS OF THE METROPOLIA IS A CHARITABLE, AUXILIARY ORGANIZATION OF THE UOC OF USA

- **Guardians of the Metropolia** is a charitable, auxiliary organization (“Organization”) of the UOC of USA (Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America). It was established at the 22nd Regular Sobor of the UOC of USA on October 19th, 2019.
- The Guardians of the Metropolia are dedicated to promoting our Orthodox Christian Faith, growing the core ministries of the UOC of USA, and for leaving a strong UOC of USA for future generations.
- As part of their mission, the Guardians of the UOC of USA will attempt to raise funds through annual membership pledges/sponsorships and additional donations from individuals and/or organizations. These funds will be dedicated towards growing the core ministries of the UOC of USA and its future.

THE GUARDIANS OF THE METROPOLIA ARE DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING THE CORE MINISTRIES OF THE UOC OF USA

- Guardians of the Metropolia are dedicated in their support of the following core ministries of the UOC of USA:
 - Charitable Projects
 - Youth Ministry
 - Religious Publications
 - Seminary
 - Missions
 - Clergy Development
 - Community Outreach
 - Upgrades to existing facilities or programs inside of the UOC of USA

WHAT IS A GUARDIAN OF THE UOC OF USA?

- A Guardian is an honoree identified by the Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America for his/her outstanding service to the Church, and a well-known distinguished, and well-respected leader of the Orthodox Christian community.
- It is by the Grace of God that the Guardian has been able to offer his good works and deeds of faith. Further, it is the sworn oath of the Guardian to promote the Orthodox Christian Faith and traditions in the United States of America. A guardian is also concerned with the human race's inalienable rights wherever and whenever they are violated - and the well-being and general welfare of the Orthodox Church.
- This honor extended by the Metropolitan carries with it grave responsibility, deep commitment, and sincere dedication. Consequently, it is of utmost importance that this honor of obligation be bestowed upon individuals of proven Orthodox Christian character, who conform faithfully to the teachings of Christ and the doctrines, canons, worship, discipline, and encyclicals of the Orthodox Church.
- Those selected to serve as Guardians have demonstrated a commitment greater than average toward the stewardship of time, talent and treasure for the betterment of the UOC of USA, its Parishes, and its community, as a whole. A Guardian must truly be deserving of the proclamation: “Axios! Worthy! Гідний!”

HOW DO YOU BECOME A GUARDIAN OF UOC OF USA?

- One of the greatest honors bestowed on the laity of the Great Church of Christ, and one of the most sobering responsibilities which an Orthodox communicant can assume, is to be named a Guardian of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America. Each year, the title “Guardian” will be conferred by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA upon no more than fifteen individuals from a select group of laity, and clergy.
- Candidates who are passionate in their desire to serve the needs of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America, may do so by completing the **Candidate Application Form**. A candidate's application must be endorsed by their Hierarch, Parish Priest, or a current Guardian who must be in good standing.
- To be a candidate for the Guardian of the Metropolia an individual must possess the following qualifications:
 - Is a practicing and devout Orthodox Christian and a member in good-standing of his/her local Parish/Mission.
 - Has demonstrated love, devotion and support to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America and its institutions.
 - Has performed deeds and demonstrated support, devotion and sustained service to his/her local parish.
 - Has comported themselves at all times with a high degree of dignity and in a manner consistent with the mission of the Guardians and its purposes and objectives.
 - Has demonstrated a record of service to his local parish, and the national church.
 - Is willing and able to give of his/her Time, Talent, and Treasure, to the best of his/her ability.
 - Has never been convicted of any crime and enjoys the unqualified respect and high regard of his fellow parishioners.
 - Is a citizen or has legal status to be a resident of the United States.
 - Must be 18 years of age or over
 - Their investiture will be a credit to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America and a positive influence in the accomplishment of the Church’s purposes and objectives

STEPS TO BECOME A GUARDIAN OF THE UOC OF USA

- Annually the Guardians of the UOC of USA will nominate and induct candidates into the Guardians of the Metropolia. The steps to become a Guardian are:
 - The Guardian Executive Council will meet with local Parish Priests and Guardians to identify potential candidates.
 - Potential Candidates will complete a Guardians Application with their Local Parish Priest and submit it to the Guardians Executive Council.
 - The Guardians Executive Committee will meet and review the potential candidate applications and build a final list of candidates to be submitted to the Guardians of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America.
 - Executive Council of the Guardians of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America submits the list of the final candidates for that year, to the Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America, and to the President of the Consistory.
 - The Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America, and the President of the Consistory will meet with the Guardians Executive Council to discuss each of the candidates and answer any questions or concerns that the Hierarch's might have of the candidates.
 - A Final list of inductees for that year is approved by the Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America and the President of the Consistory.
 - Inductees are notified by the Guardians Executive Council of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America.
 - Induction Ceremony will occur as part of the annual Guardians weekend by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA.

EXPECTATIONS OF A GUARDIAN OF THE UOC OF USA

- The Guardian is expected to remain a practicing and devout Orthodox Christian and a member in good standing of their local parish.
- The Guardian continues to demonstrate love, devotion and support to their local parish.
- The Guardian is willing and able to give their Time, Talent, and Treasure, to the best of their ability in service to their local church and the UOC of USA.
- The Guardian continues to comport themselves with a high degree of dignity and in a manner consistent with the mission of the Guardians and their purposes and objectives.
- The Guardian continues to set an example by living a truly Christian life in this world.
- The Guardian is expected to attend the Annual Guardians Weekend at the Metropolia Center in South Bound Brook NJ.
- Each guardian will donate or raise, to the best of their ability, at least \$3000 annually for the ministries of the Metropolia that the Guardians of the UOC of USA support annually.

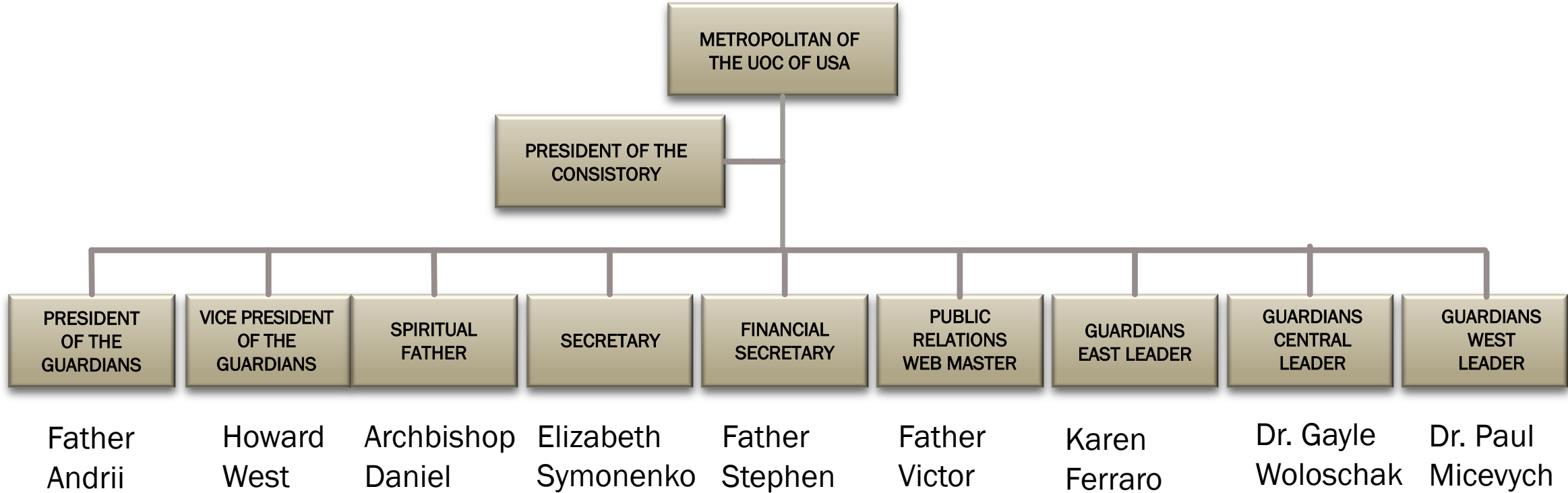
ANNUAL GUARDIANS METROPOLIA WEEKEND

- Each year the Guardians will have a weekend at the Consistory consisting of the following:
 - Annual Review and Update of the Guardians of the Metropolia.
 - Annual Reports from the Executive Council and the membership setting goals concerning expenditures with the Metropolitan and President of the Consistory of the UOC of USA. The expenditures will be selected from a list of projects that have been presented to the Guardians that will have been defined and a proposal created and delivered to the Guardians for selection.
 - Orthodox speakers will be invited to speak on various topics such as Global Christian Persecution, trends in the Orthodox world, history of the Orthodox Church, etc.
 - Annual Banquet will be held on Friday Evening.
 - Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on Saturday with induction ceremony for the new Guardians Class for that year.

HALL OF THE GUARDIANS

- The Rotunda of the Consistory will be re-named the **Hall of the Guardians**.
- A plaque will be created and mounted for each yearly inductee class in the Hall of the Guardians.
- The plaque will be revealed each year at the annual Guardians Meeting for the previous year's inductee class.

STRUCTURE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR THE GUARDIANS OF THE METROPOLIA



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GUARDIANS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

■ President of the Guardians of the Metropolia of the UOC of USA

- An existing Guardian will be appointed to this position by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA and the President of the Consistory for a 2-year term, until the Guardians enrollment reaches 20+ members. Once the Guardians reach 20+ members they will elect a president at the next annual Guardians Induction weekend.
- The President of the Guardians shall serve for a term of three (3) years and shall be eligible to succeed himself/herself twice.
- The President shall preside at all meetings of the Organization and meetings of the Governing Council.
- The President shall be the representative of the Organization at all official functions of the Metropolia. In the event of the President's inability to attend any such function, he or she shall notify the Vice President. In the event the Vice President is unable to attend, the President may designate any other member of the organization to attend in his or her behalf.
- The President shall submit written reports for meetings of the Guardians, Metropolitan Council Meetings, Consistory meetings, and UOC of USA Sobors.
- The President or Secretary shall call all meetings of the Executive Committee and all Assemblies of the organization and shall designate the time and place for all such meetings.
- The President or Secretary shall prepare an agenda for all meetings of the organization and shall circulate the agenda, together with the notice of such meeting at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting.
- The President, Vice President, and the Spiritual Father of the Guardians will work with local parishes to identify potential candidates for induction into the Guardians of the UOC of USA.
- The President, Vice President, and the Spiritual Father of the Guardians will work with local Parish Priests and potential candidates through the candidate's application process.
- The President, Vice President, and the Spiritual Father of the Guardians will build the final list of Candidates and present it to the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA and the President of the Consistory for their approval and blessing.
- The president will work with the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA and the President of the Consistory on the annual induction weekend.
- The President of the Guardians may be asked by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, or the President of the Consistory, to help with specific tasks to support the UOC of USA.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GUARDIANS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

■ Vice President of the Guardians of the Metropolia of the UOC of USA

- An existing Guardian will be appointed to this position by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, and the President of the Consistory, for a 2-year term, until 20 Guardians have been enrolled. Once the Guardians reach 20+ members they will elect a Vice President at the next annual Guardians Induction weekend.
- The Vice President of the Organization shall serve for a term of three (3) years and shall be eligible to succeed himself/herself once.
- In the absence of the President, the duties of the President shall be assumed by the Vice President, who shall be vested with all the authority of the President.
- The Vice President shall be an ex-officio member of any Committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee.
- The Vice President shall perform all duties assigned to him/her by the President.
- The President, Vice President, and the Spiritual Father of the Guardians, will work with local Parish Priests to identify potential candidates for induction into the Guardians of the UOC of USA.
- The President, Vice President, and the Spiritual Father of the Guardians, will work with local Parish Priests and potential candidates through the candidate's application process.
- The President, Vice President, and the Spiritual Father of the Guardians, will build the final list of Candidates and present it to the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, and the President of the Consistory for their approval and blessing.
- The Vice President will work with the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, and the President of the Consistory on the annual induction weekend.
- The Vice President of the Guardians may be asked by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, or the President of the Consistory to help with specific tasks to support the UOC of USA.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GUARDIANS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

■ Financial Secretary of the Guardians of the Metropolia of the UOC of USA

- The Financial Secretary of the Guardians of the Metropolia is the Treasurer of the UOC of USA. The Financial Secretary of the Guardians of the Metropolia is not required to be a Guardian of the Metropolia, but it is recommended that the person should consider becoming a Member of the Guardians of the Metropolia.
- Financial Secretary shall maintain the financial records of the Organization and shall present a written financial report at all regular meetings and provide a quarterly report to the Guardians Executive Body..
- The Financial Secretary shall present an audited financial statement at the Guardians annual meeting.
- The Financial Secretary shall mail out annual donation statements to each Guardian per Internal Revenue Service Regulations.
- The Financial Secretary shall authorize the Metropolia office to make disbursements from the funds of the Organization, which have been approved by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, President of the Consistory, and the Guardians Executive Committee.
- The Financial Secretary will work with the Secretary of the Guardians to forward copies of all financial documents to the Consistory of the Metropolia in South Bound Brook, New Jersey.
- The Financial Secretary will work with the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, and the President of the Consistory on the annual induction weekend.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GUARDIANS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

■ Secretary of the Guardians of the Metropolia of the UOC of USA

- An existing Guardian will be appointed to this position by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, and the President of the Consistory for a 2-year term. Once the Guardians reach 20+ members they will elect a Secretary at the next annual Guardians Induction weekend.
- The Secretary shall serve for a term of three (3) years and shall be eligible to succeed himself/herself.
- The Secretary shall record the minutes of all Assemblies and meetings of the Governing Council, shall circulate copies of the same to members of the Governing Council, shall prepare a summary of the minutes and shall forward the summary of the minutes to the Public Relations and Publicity Chairperson for publication on the official website of the Organization. The Secretary shall provide copies of the minutes to all members prior to the next meeting or at the annual meeting. The Secretary shall forward copies of the approved minutes to the Consistory of the Metropolia in South Bound Brook, New Jersey.
- The Secretary shall be the custodian of the archives of the Organization, including original minutes, legal documents, all financial documents provided by the Financial Secretary and all historical data, which shall be maintained at the Consistory of the Metropolia in South Bound Brook, New Jersey.
- The Secretary will work with the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA and the President of the Consistory on the annual induction weekend.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GUARDIANS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

■ Public Relations and Web Master of the Guardians of the Metropolia of the UOC of USA

- An existing Guardian, layperson, or member of the clergy who has the required skill sets, will be appointed to this position by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, and the President of the Consistory for a 2-year term. Once the Guardians reach 20+ members they will elect a Public Relations and Communications Manager at the next annual Guardians Induction weekend.
- This individual is responsible for pictorial, print and electronic communications both internal and external.
- They will work with the appropriate communications/PR individuals at the UOC of USA to ensure that the Guardians are using the correct formats, process and practices.
- They will be responsible for taking photographs at important events.
- They will write articles for the Church and other publications.
- They will prepare and distribute publicity for the Organization.
- They will maintain and update the Organization website and other electronic media.
- They will publish the Organization Membership list, that the Secretary keeps updated.
- They will work on projects to support the other members of the Executive Council.
- The Public Relations and Communications Manager will work with the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, and the President of the Consistory on the annual induction weekend.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GUARDIANS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

■ Spiritual Father of the Guardians of the Metropolia of the UOC of USA

- A Guardian who is a member of the clergy of the UOC of USA will be appointed to this position by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, and the President of the Consistory for a 2-year term.
- The Spiritual Father will attend all meetings of the Organization and meetings of the Governing Council.
- The Spiritual Father will work with the Executive Council to meet with local parishes of the UOC of USA and explain the role of the Guardians of the UOC of USA.
- The Spiritual Father will work with the President and Vice President of the Guardians, along with local parishes to identify potential candidates for induction into the Guardians of the UOC of USA.
- The Spiritual Father will work with the President, Vice President, and Secretary of the Guardians and work with local Parish Priests and potential candidates through the candidate's application process.
- The Spiritual Father will work with the President, and Vice President to build the final list of Candidates and will present the list to the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA, and the President of the Consistory for their approval and blessing.
- The Spiritual Father will work with the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA and the President of the Consistory on the annual induction weekend.

FINANCIAL

(THIS IS A SUMMARY OF TOPICS DISCUSSED EARLIER IN THIS DOCUMENT)

- Funds Raised:
 - The Financial Secretary will work with the Treasurer of the UOC of USA to ensure that all funds raised have been deposited into the correct accounts under the control of the UOC of USA.
 - The Financial Secretary will keep a record of each Guardian's annual donations.
- Expenditure of Funds:
 - At the Annual Guardian Weekend, the Guardians who attend will vote on how the monies will be distributed. Throughout the year the Executive Council will work with the Consistory of the UOC of USA to identify a list of potential projects that the Guardians will sponsor. The executive council will present this list of projects to the attending membership for a vote.
 - The list of projects submitted by the Executive Council must support the Ministries of the UOC of USA.
 - Funded projects should provide project updates to the Guardians where appropriate.
 - Up to 25% of the funds raised by the Guardians can be distributed annually, and no one project can account for 20% of the annual amount to be distributed.
- Accounting of Monies Raised and Spent:
 - The Guardians Financial Secretary will create quarterly and annual reports and distribute them to the membership and to the Hierarchs of the UOC of USA and the Consistory of the UOC of USA Members.

FAQ

- Will the Guardians of the UOC of USA have a constitution and by-laws?
 - No, once approved by the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA and the President of the Consistory, this document will serve as set of guiding principles for the Guardians to function. This will be in effect until the Metropolitan of the UOC of USA and the President of the Consistory request that a Constitution and By-Laws be created.
- Will the Guardians have their own or separate financial accounts from the UOC of USA?
 - No, the Guardians of the UOC of the USA will not have their own separate financial accounts. All monies raised by the Guardians of the UOC of USA will be turned over to the Consistory of the UOC of the USA and deposited into the proper accounts.
- Can Clergy of the UOC of USA be a Guardian? Yes
- Can Clergy be on the Guardians Executive Committee? Yes. Inducted Guardians who are Clergy can be on the Executive Council.
- Can females become Guardians? Yes
- Can a Guardian make monthly contributions towards their annual contribution? Yes

FINAL APPROVAL BY THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS

Dearly Beloved Clergy and Faithful of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA,

GLORY TO CHRIST OUR LORD!

During the 22nd Regular Sobor of our Church in October 2019, considerable discussion occurred about the possibility of establishing a network of dedicated clergy and faithful of the Church, which would maintain a sustained and permanent stewardship effort, which would ensure that the Church could continue its numerous ministries forever. The Sobor body assigned a committee to work on this effort and a complete proposal has been developed and approved by the full Consistory and is now presented to the Council of Bishops for final approval. Therefore, we hereby give our unequivocal blessing to:

THE GUARDIANS OF THE METROPOLIA
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

We wholeheartedly encourage the effort to invite the clergy, faithful and friends of our Holy Church to join the GUARDIANS, contributing their time, effort, talent and treasure for the extension of God's Kingdom on Earth. May the motto of the GUARDIANS be: "The Father is my Hope, the Son is my Refuge and the Holy Spirit is my Protection", expressing our enduring faith that our mission can and will be successful for all generations to come.



+ ANTONY
By the Grace of God, Metropolitan



+ DANIEL
By the Grace of God, Archbishop