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### **COVER LETTER**

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Department of State New Filing Section Division of Corporations P. O. Box 6327 Tallahassee, FL 32314

SUBJECT: Equal Ground Educati	ion Fund, Inc.	
(PROPOSED CORPOR	ATE NAME – <u>MUST INC</u>	LUDE SUFFIX)
Enclosed are an original and one (1) copy of the ar	ticles of incorporation an	nd a check for:
\$70.00 \$78.75 Filing Fee & Certificate of Status	\$78.75 Filing Fee & Certified Copy	\$87.50 Filing Fee, Certified Copy & Certificate o Status
	ADDITIONAL C	OPY REQUIRED
La marife de Ca. Dialema		
FROM: <u>Jennifer S. Blohm</u> Nan	ne (Printed or typed)	
P. O. Box 1547	Address	
<u>Tallahassee, Florida 3</u>	2302-1547 C, State & Zip	
850-878-5212  Daytime	Telephone number	
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NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.

### **ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

#### <u>OF</u>

### **EQUAL GROUND EDUCATION FUND, INC.**

The undersigned subscribes to these Articles of Incorporation pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 617, <u>Florida Statutes</u>, for the purpose of forming a corporation not for profit and further states as follows:

### <u>ARTICLE I</u>

#### Name, Principal Place of Business and Mailing Address

The name of the corporation is the Equal Ground Education Fund, Inc. The initial principal place of business is: 2778 South Westmoreland Drive, Orlando, Florida 32805. The mailing address of the corporation is: 424 East Central Boulevard, Unit 650, Orlando, Florida 32801.

# ARTICLE II

The period of the duration of this corporation shall be perpetual unless dissolved in accordance with Florida law. Corporate existence shall commence upon filing with the Secretary of State.

## <u>ARTICLE III</u>

#### Purpose

This corporation is organized exclusively as a charitable, educational and research organization within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as amended, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Revenue

corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law or by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code. The corporation is established for the following purposes:

- Encouraging, empowering and engaging the New American majority through promoting equal access to voter education;
- 2. Providing strategic planning and leadership development for individuals and organizations on addressing issues such as inequality, living wage, healthcare, fair elections, climate and social justice:
- Engaging in and educating others in petition collection, voter registration and voter turnout and education;
- 4. Improving the ability individuals and organizations to communicate effectively with the public about their issues through research and training;
- 5. Recruiting, training and providing ongoing support to volunteers, staff and emerging leaders on social, economic and civil rights issues;
- Engaging and mobilizing constituencies around issues that result in social change and supporting voter education programs;
- Engaging in fundraising to finance projects of the Corporation which are consistent with the Corporation's purposes;
- 8. To conduct such other related activities permitted to be conducted by an organization exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended.

<u>ARTICLE IV</u>

Restrictions

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be

distributable to its members, directors, officers, or other private persons; provided, however, the

corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services

rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in

Article III, hereof and to pay or reimburse the reasonable expenses of fundraising and carrying

out the objectives of the corporation. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall

be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the

corporation shall not participate or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of

statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public

office.

<u>ARTICLE V</u>

Members

Membership in the corporation shall be established by the Board of Directors as provided

in the by-laws of the corporation and may consist of separate categories of membership, each

with different rights and responsibilities.

<u>ARTICLE VI</u>

The street address and city of the registered office of the corporation is:

5750 Parkview Lake Drive

Orlando, Florida 32821

The name of the initial registered agent at such address is Jackie Lee.

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# ARTICLE VII Board of Directors

The number of persons constituting the Board of Directors of the corporation shall be established in the by-laws, but shall not be less than three (3). The by-laws shall provide the process for the selection of Directors; provided, however, the initial Directors of the corporation shall be:

Glen Gilzean 424 E. Central Boulevard, Unit 650 Orlando, Florida 32801

Jackie Lee 424 E. Central Boulevard, Unit 650 Orlando, Florida 32801

Steve Mele 424 E. Central Boulevard, Unit 650 Orlando, Florida 32801

There shall be no limit on the number of terms a Board member may serve unless provided otherwise in the by-laws. The term of office of Board members shall be stated in the by-laws. The Board of Directors may authorize reimbursement of expenses incurred by Board members in conjunction with the corporation's business or other approved activities directly related to the corporation's purposes.

Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the corporation in any other capacity and receiving additional compensation therefore.

# ARTICLE VIII Officers

The corporation shall have such officers as may be provided for in the bylaws; provided, however, that the corporation shall have at least the following officers: President, Vice

President, and Treasurer. The manner of selection of officers shall also be provided for in the bylaws; provided, however, that the initial officers of the corporation shall be:

Glen Gilzean, President 424 E. Central Boulevard, Unit 650 Orlando, Florida 32801

Jackie Lee, Vice President 424 E. Central Boulevard, Unit 650 Orlando, Florida 32801

Steve Mele, Treasurer 424 E. Central Boulevard, Unit 650 Orlando, Florida 32801

Any one individual may hold more than one office in the corporation. Duties of officers shall be described in the bylaws.

### ARTICLE IX Indemnification of Officers and Directors

As provided in the bylaws, officers and directors shall be indemnified by the corporation against all expenses and liabilities, including attorney's fees, (including any incurred in appellate proceedings), reasonably incurred in connection with any proceeding or settlement thereof in which they may become involved by reason of holding such office. The corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of all officers and directors against any such liability asserted against them or incurred by them in their capacity as officers and directors or arising out of their status as such.

# ARTICLE X Non-Stock Basis

This corporation is organized on a non-stock basis.

## ARTICLE XI

### **Dissolution**

In the event of dissolution of this corporation, the residual assets of the corporation will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, or corresponding sections of any prior or future United States Internal Revenue law or to the federal, state or local government to be used for exclusively public purposes.

### **ARTICLE XII**

### **Amendment**

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended by majority vote of the Directors as provided in Section 617.1002(1)(b). Florida Statutes, at a meeting called for such purpose.

### ARTICLE XIII

<u>Incorporator</u>

The name and address of the incorporator subscribing to these Articles of Incorporation are set forth below:

Kristin Fulwylie 2500 Lee Road Apt. 237 Winter Park, Florida 32789

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that any false information submitted in a document to the Department of State constitutes a third degree felony as provided in Section 817.155, Florida Statutes.

KRISTIN FULWYL

### ACCEPTANCE BY REGISTERED AGENT

Jackie Lee, the Registered Agent named in the foregoing Articles of Incorporation, by the execution of this acceptance, does hereby agree to abide by the provisions of Section 617.0503, Florida Statutes, with respect to the duties of such registered agent and agrees to maintain normal business hours at the following address: 5750 Parkview Lake Drive, Orlando, Florida 32821.

JACK**/**IÉ LEE

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