

LSA Policy on Inclusiveness and Human Dignity

The Lute Society of America is committed to the principles of inclusion and access, and it rejects discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, or marital status.

The LSA believes that neither the rarified nature of our instrument, nor the historic milieu in which it flourished, entitles us either to erect barriers to inclusion, or to remain ignorant of such barriers. We openly and actively welcome all who wish to learn about the lute and related plucked instruments, and who desire to learn to play them. To create an environment where all can learn and contribute, the following Code applies:

1. The LSA does not tolerate discrimination or harassment on the basis of any of the criteria listed above. Discrimination and harassment include but are not limited to any unwelcome physical or verbal conduct, comment, or display that is insulting, humiliating, or degrading to another person, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.
2. The LSA does not tolerate sexual harassment. Sexual harassment includes but is not limited to unwelcome sexual advances or physical contact, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature.
3. In LSA communications, be they written or verbal, we will show respect, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity and consideration. We expect the same from all attendees of events and meetings that take place under the auspices of the LSA, including those organized by Local Chapters.
4. Anyone who refuses to comply with this policy may be subject to sanctions including but not limited to a warning; expulsion from the LSA event at which the code is violated (with no refund for an attendee who is expelled; no payment if faculty or staff); or a permanent disqualification from LSA membership and/or a permanent ban on attending future LSA events. The President of the LSA or a designee shall investigate and the President shall then determine the consequences.