**2007 Media Consortium Membership Mandate**

*Draft* 4/14/8

In order to be considered for membership, potential organizations must be in line with the charitable purpose/mission statement of The Media Consortium. Current criteria include:

* Amplifying the power of the independent media in order to foster a more informed, just and open society;
* Promoting the gathering and dissemination of news about current affairs in communities underserved by mainstream media;
* Supporting “mission-driven” media outlets whose missions encompass promoting the public interest in political, social and/or cultural diversity; or
* Encouraging the participation of underrepresented communities in civic affairs by enhancing their connections with opinion leaders and policy makers.
* Research and development on innovative approaches to media production and distribution
* Enhancing the practice of journalism in the public interest. DOES THIS INCLUDE ORGANIZATIONS THAT DO NOT DIRECTLY PRODUCE JOURNALISTIC ITEMS?
* Organizations that on whom participation would confer a non-incidental private benefit are excluded from membership.

Criteria to be added includes:

* Identifying potential membership roles of organizations that may not fall under “pure-play journalism.”
* Include categories for allies and individuals
* Pace for growth-how many members a year? Where should we cap 2008?

**Membership Screening Criteria/Questionnaire:**

1. Tell us about your organization’s mission and vision.
2. Who is your primary audience? Where are they located?
3. What mediums do you primarily work with?
4. What kind of an impact do you feel your organization has made?
5. What are the 5 and 10-year goals of your organization? (Maybe good for smaller groups?)
6. How does your organization fit into the progressive media network? (media producer, distributor, monitor, policy-maker)
7. What perspective does your organization bring to the table? (race, gender, age, etc) THIS MIGHT BE A LITTLE TOO DIRECT.
8. Do you have the staff and resources to participate/contribute to Consortium discussions and projects?