

Dear Sir or Madam:

Congratulations on your acceptance into the Union of Magical Child Care Professionals! We are delighted that you will be joining us in our noble endeavor to help children grow through careful application of magic. Be you fairy godmother, sapient dog, enchanted automobile, or sorcerous nanny your membership in the union extends to you the full benefits of our Contract. Though it is highly recommended you familiarize yourself with the complete text of the Contract, I would like to point out to you several key responsibilities and benefits it describes:

- As a member of the union you will be assigned magical guardianship over one or more child, referred to as your **ward(s)**. Though this guardianship may or may not correspond to legal custody of the children, you will be held ultimately responsible for their continued **growth and wellbeing**.
- Due to the nature of our Contract, wards will not grow if they continue their normal life; a ward's growth can only be ensured by taking them on **adventures**. Adventures include any activity in which wards **face adversity** and are required to **take action** in order to overcome it.
- It is the responsibility of a **dispatcher** to determine what adventures are available at any given time, and describe these adventures to union members. Though a dispatcher cares for no wards, they play a critical role in any adventure, describing the places, events, and people with which you and your wards will interact.
- Because opportunities for adventure are limited and social interaction so important for the growth of wards, you are encouraged to join with other union members to form a **class**. A class is composed of two to six members and their collected wards. Though you are free to interact with any ward in the class, when they **take action** you may only assist your own wards.
- So long as your wards are in your custody, you and they are protected entirely from any physical harm or death. Though adventures are meant to be thrilling, a ward should always feel safe with their caretaker. Do note, however, that this provision requires you be in the physical presence of your ward, and no longer applies if you become **separated**.

As our membership grows, so too does its diversity. We have members of many races, creeds, species, and temporal points-of-origin. Each of us has a unique **flair**; this flair describes how your magic manifests itself when you call upon it; you might command the elements, communicate with animals, or transform into fantastic shapes. Anything is possible, and though some might have more impressive flair we are all equally formidable in caring for our wards.

Our members also hold many things in common. All members of the union have a **magical tool**, through which we focus our talents to aid our wards. Though many of us use standard tools, such as wands, books, or rings, some prefer ancient lamps, brightly colored hats, or common umbrellas. It is a cruel twist of fate that separates a member from her tool, leaving her without access to magic, so take care to keep your magical tool safe and on your person at all times.

As you are well aware, our organization exists solely to help our wards grow into mature young ladies and gentlemen. At the beginning of your career you will likely be entrusted with a single ward of no exceptional talent. During the course of an adventure it is inevitable your ward will **face adversity**, in which success is not guaranteed. This is their chance to **take action**! In such a situation, a ward who has not yet had a chance to grow under your tutelage will have a roughly 50% chance to succeed. In other

words, were you to roll one of the six-sided dice found commonly in board games your ward would fail if the die showed a 1, 2, or 3 and succeed if the die showed a 4, 5, or 6. Two avenues are available to you should you wish to bolster the chances of your ward's success: you may **sing a song** or **enlist help**. Though very few members are trained musicians, it is not very difficult to come up with a **song** catchy enough to impress a child; only a bar or two is necessary, and I have found that **dispatchers** are very good judges of what will impress a child. My experience indicates a song can increase the odds of success by almost 17%. Imagine again the six-sided dice that represent your ward's action; singing a song would allow success on 3, as well as 4, 5, and 6. A much more favorable rate! **Enlisting help** requires there be amenable third parties in the vicinity that you can convince to lend aid to your ward. The Contract prohibits union members from helping wards in this way, but should you convince someone else to help (I find **dispatchers** to be very reliable indicators of whether an argument will successfully sway a helper), they will do their best to aid the ward. I have found this help also has a 50% chance of success; going back to the dice, in this scenario you would roll two dice and should either succeed the ward prevails!

It is when your ward fails that your magic is most useful. So long as you are with your ward and in possession of a magical tool you can use your magic to ameliorate the effects of your ward's failure. I recall an occasion upon which my own ward attempted to daringly jump the gap between two adjacent roofs; being only eight years old at the time he missed by a large margin, but with a tap of my cane a bulbous balloon bounced him along to his destination. Beware overuse of this form of magical help; a child who is given too much magical assistance will never learn to do things on their own. This will impact their **wellbeing** and they will become **spoiled**. Forgive my overuse of the metaphor, but if you were to roll a six-sided die when you helped a failing ward using your magic, the child would become spoiled should the die show a 1. At the Union of Magical Child Care Professionals we find that the best way to treat a spoiled child is discipline; as such our Contract provides for prompt, automatic **time-out** for any child becoming spoiled. A ward in time-out will be transported to a pocket dimension for five minutes, where they will have to think about how they should not rely upon magic to provide for their every whim. I will remind you that when you are **separated** from your ward the contractual provision guarding you from physical harm and untimely demise no longer applies, so take care to avoid this situation.

Upon completion of an adventure you may help one of your wards who succeeded in taking action at least once to **grow** as a person. How you choose to guide your wards is up to you, but there are generally three ways in which they can grow. A ward can become **careful, helpful, or brave**. A **careful** ward can overcome initial failure, rerolling their metaphorical die when they fail. A **helpful** ward can lend their aid to others in their class, acting like the third party helpers I previously described. **Brave** wards can face the dangers of an adventure without constant coddling from their guardian; as such if your ward grows brave you may assume guardianship over an additional ward. The goal of our work is to help our wards grow to be careful, helpful, and brave; should a ward grow into all three of these traits they will be a mature young lady or gentleman and will no longer have need of our services. It is a bittersweet time, but the greatest pride any member can feel comes when their ward grows out of their need for supervision.

Congratulations again for acceptance into the Union of Magical Child Care Professionals. We are excited to work with you in bringing children the best possible magical care.

Sincerely,

*Roger P. Stainton*

Acting President

Union of Magical Child Care Professionals  
Office of the President  
January 14, 1910

To whom it may concern:

The bearer of this letter, \_\_\_\_\_ (**name**), is a member of the  
Union of Magical Child Care Professionals in good standing. He/she/it can be recognized by  
\_\_\_\_\_ (**physical description**).

He/she/it is fully authorized to utilize \_\_\_\_\_ (**magical tool**) to focus magic  
that manifests as \_\_\_\_\_ (**flair**).

This individual has full magical guardianship of and custody over the following ward(s):

\_\_\_\_\_ (**name**) \_\_\_\_ (**age**) \_\_\_\_\_ (**gender**) **careful / helpful / brave**

\_\_\_\_\_ (**name**) \_\_\_\_ (**age**) \_\_\_\_\_ (**gender**) **careful / helpful / brave**

\_\_\_\_\_ (**name**) \_\_\_\_ (**age**) \_\_\_\_\_ (**gender**) **careful / helpful / brave**

\_\_\_\_\_ (**name**) \_\_\_\_ (**age**) \_\_\_\_\_ (**gender**) **careful / helpful / brave**

I thank you for treating caretaker and ward(s) both with all respect and ceremony befitting their  
station. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the conduct of these individuals, or their  
benefits as outlined in the union Contract, please direct them to my office.

Regards,  
*Roger P. Stainton*  
Acting President