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The Circle of Belmoor

BELMOOR: A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

The Incorporeal Principality of the Circle of Belmoor is a micronation founded in 2020.



- Demonym: Belmooran
- Founded: 5 September 2020
- National Anthem: "Our Flag Full Unfurled"

We're a self-declared country that claims no land; instead, our nation is held together by our shared values and community care. Inspired by old-world nobility and fictional kingdoms like Genovia and Narnia, we focus on supplying each other with support, community, and equality. It's a small-scale version of more well-known nations; though we're not officially recognized by other countries or international organizations, we do maintain active relationships with other micronations and the micronational community as a whole.

- Belmoor was founded on September 5, 2020, when Princept Anna Averi I and the other Founding Citizens signed the Writ of the Circle.
- The Writ of the Circle, Belmoor's founding document, outlines the governmental structure as well as ranks of nobility and honors such as knighthood.
- All titles in Belmoor are genderexpansive.
- Nobility titles are hereditary by blood (to the next of kin) or by choice (to a chosen successor).



OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of the Circle of Belmoor is to provide three things for its citizens:

Firstly, Belmoor exists to provide an outlet for creative and social pursuits. We believe that one of the most necessary things for personal happiness is the opportunity to work with people we love at work worth doing. Whether that work is art, music, business, hospitality, or anything else, it is important to be able to share the fruits of one's labor with a group of enthusiastic and caring colleagues. Because of this, we believe that one's personal creative pursuits, and sharing one's accomplishments socially, are critical to the personal pursuit of happiness long considered a human right. With an eye toward community care, we seek to fulfill ourselves while uplifting others.

Secondly, Belmoor exists to provide an opportunity to fulfill childlike and long-dormant dreams. Many children dream of being knights, dukes, or monarchs. What use, we ask, is adulthood if not for becoming the kind of person we wanted to be as a child? There is a childlike eccentricity inherent in any micronational endeavor: one which we strive to embolden, not dampen. We use this childlike creativity to better the world around us.

Finally, Belmoor exists to provide an association for personal and professional betterment. Networks like universities, fraternal societies, and clubs have all become ways to rub shoulders with like-minded people who are positioned to offer aid and advancement. Throughout history, these circles have been open only to those with the privilege of race, gender, and class. We seek to become such a circle for those who have been historically disenfranchised: LGBTQ+ people; Black people, Indigenous people, and other People of Color; Disabled people; Poor people; and anyone else who seeks to better themselves and care for others. We strive to ensure that everyone who needs help gets it, and everyone who can help does.

We believe that these goals reinforce and enhance each other. One of these functions, pursued alone, would ring hollow. Together, we believe that these functions will allow us to fulfill not only our own needs, but those of others as well. The structure of a Nation favors our pursuit of becoming a people bound not by a shared geographic location or ethnic identity, but by a set of shared ideals and values. We choose to commit to ourselves and each other, to imagine what our world could be, and who we could be in that world—for ourselves and for each other.

GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE

Belmoor's head of state is the Princept. The Princept chairs the ruling council, and is advised by the dual electorates.

Ruling Council

The ruling council is made up of experts in each field. In addition to the Princept, there are six councilors. In addition to their other duties, Councilors can also propose bills to be sent to the Prime Electorate and can, in dire times, depose a ruling Princept.

- Councilor for the Arts: oversees arts endeavors, including the armorial and artifacts, and recommends people for the title of Beloved.
- Councilor for the Sciences: oversees scientific endeavors, including health education, and recommends people for the title of Beloved.
- Councilor for International Welfare: oversees treaties, ambassadors, and social justice efforts. Also organizes interior welfare initiatives.
- Councilor for Ceremonies and Protocols: schedules and oversees State events.
- Councilor for the Treasury: oversees the treasury and budget.
- Councilor for the Electorate: coordinates the annual election and presides over the Prime Electorate.

Dual Electorate

The Prime Electorate

The Prime Electorate is a representative body, which helps to clarify and finalize details of governance.

The Great Electorate

The Great Electorate is a voting body made up of all citizens of Belmoor. The Great Electorate can levy taxes and propose bills by a public initiative of 1% (which are then drafted by the Prime Electorate and returned to the Great Electorate for ratification).

ABOUT THE PRINCEPT

Princept Anna Averi I was born in Missouri, USA, and traces their lineage to immigrants who arrived in the United States from Germany before World War II. Anna Averi earned a Master's degree from Oxford University in the United Kingdom and is an accomplished playwright, poet, and librettist.





NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

ELECTION DAY

The national election is held to select primaries to serve in the prime electorate, a representative body. The date of each election is announced by the Princept, in consultation with the Councilor for the Electorate.

MARCH 20-23: OSTARA

Ostara, the spring equinox, is celebrated with the investiture of the peers who were announced the preceding Yule.

JUNE 20-23: LITHA

Litha, the summer solstice, is celebrated with bestowing the Order of the Circle.

SEPTEMBER 5: CIRCLEMAS

Belmoor's founding holiday celebrates the anniversary of the signing of the Writ, which established the nation. It's a day of celebrating our national principles and culture.

SEPTEMBER 20-23: MABON

Mabon, the autumn equinox, is celebrated with the admittance of citizens to noble titles of Belmoor.

DECEMBER 20-23: YULE

Yule, the winter holiday, is celebrated with the announcement of peerage appointments and bestowing the Order of the Circle.

HONORS AND TITLES

O1 NOBILITY GRANTED BY THE PRINCEPT

Nobility titles are bestowed as a special honor of the Princept. Citizens may petition for admittance to a noble title. Such titles are hereditary by blood (to the next of kin) or by choice (to a chosen successor). Each member of the Nobility is entitled to wear a signifying brooch and diadem, and is addressed as His/Her/Their Grace.

O2 PEERAGE GIVEN UPON APPOINTMENT

Peerage titles are given to those appointed to the public service of Belmoor. Peerage titles are not hereditary. Each peer is entitled to wear a sash and is addressed as Lord/Lady/Lay.

O3 BELOVED GIVEN TO FRIENDS, EMISSARIES, AND ALLIES

The title of Beloved is given to friends, emissaries, and allied nations. The Title of Beloved is not hereditary. Each Beloved is entitled to wear a specially-designed pin. The title of Beloved is the only title which can be given to people who are not citizens of Belmoor.

O4 ORDER OF THE CIRCLE KNIGHTLY ORDER

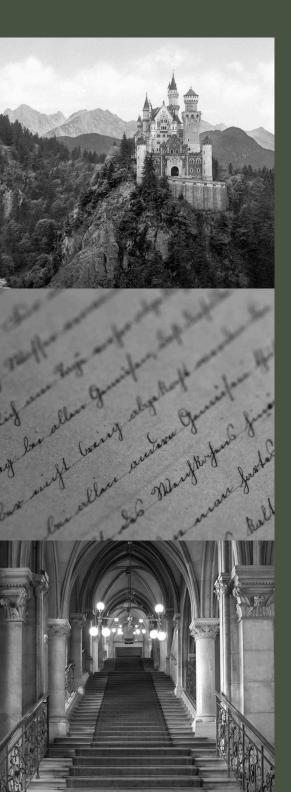
The Order of the Circle is a knightly order bestowed by the Princept. To commemorate extraordinary achievements in the arts, sciences, humanities, or public service. The Order of the Circle is not hereditary. Each knight of the Circle is entitled to wear a medal, along with a sword and is addressed as Sir/Ser/Sem.

O5 PRIMARIES ELECTED BY THE GREAT ELECTORATE

Primaries are elected to serve in the Prime Electorate, the representative body that develops bills, proposes levies, and assists in governance.



GET INVOLVED



PUBLIC SERVICE

- Join the Council: The Home Office may advise of open positions on the ruling council, and assist in determining suitability for appointment to such positions. Even if a council seat is filled, a councilor may require assistance with a subcommittee.
- Join the Prime Electorate: Anyone who is eligible to vote in Belmoor is also eligible to serve in the Prime Electorate. Members of the Prime Electorate are often first-in-line to fill council seats when needed.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

- Armorial: Belmoor maintains an armorial, which is a record of arms and titles granted by the Principality.
 The College of Heralds, under the Councilor for the Arts, appreciates assistance in compiling and keeping the roll of arms.
- Artifacts and Crafting: The Principality of Belmoor possesses a number of national artifacts and symbols. The Councilor for the Arts appreciates assistance in designing, sourcing, crafting, and maintaining the nation's relics.

THOSE WITH LIMITED TIME

 For citizens who wish to participate in the cultural life of Belmoor but have limited time and/or resources to involve themselves in volunteer pursuits, we encourage you to enjoy national events and holidays. Remember to stay abreast of national news and initiatives, and make sure to vote in your annual elections!

PROJECTS AND ENDEAVORS

O1 THE QUEER JOY POETRY PROJECT LIVE POETRY AT LGBTQ+ EVENTS

The Queer Joy Poetry Project is Princept Anna Averi's personal endeavor. They write custom poetry on-the-spot for people at LGBTQ+ events like Pride, parties, inclusive proms, weddings, and other occasions. The project focuses on and centers the transformative power of Queer Joy.

Princept Anna Averi documents the project and its poems on Instagram at @queerjoypoetryproj.

O2 FOREIGN DEVELOPMENT FRIENDSHIPS WITH OTHER MICRONATIONS

Belmoor strives to be active in contributing to the micronational community as a whole. We have friendships and treaties with other micronations, and attend events like MicroCon, which is held on odd years. Princept Anna Averi and Viscount Jordan attended their first MicroCon in 2023, which was held in Joliet, IL and hosted by the Royal Republic of Ladonia.

Since 2023, Belmoor has maintained an active internet presence and plans to attend future MicroCons.

O3 ARTS & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

One of Belmoor's most beloved projects is its Art and Cultural Development Endeavors. Using skills cobbled together by a variety of citizens, Belmoor has developed a flag, a national anthem, a founding document, a collection of crown jewels, and more.

Belmooran cultural development is largely inspired by historical European idealism, as well as fictional nations like Narnia and Genovia.





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

OI. Can I be a citizen of Belmoor and another nation?

Yes! We encourage plural citizenship. You are encouraged to maintain citizenship in your macronations, and can even join and start other micronations. We do ask that all citizencreated micronations refrain from enacting hostilities of any kind against Belmoor. We want to be friends!

O2. If I become a citizen, can I stop paying taxes to my macronation?

No, you must continue to pay taxes and dues to any nation which requires them of you. Belmoor exists in supplement to, and not in replacement of, other national citizenships and memberships.

O3. Can I move to Belmoor?

Since Belmoor is a people, not a place, you can't move here. Please do, however, feel free to schedule a visit with Princept Anna Averi at the Embassy, or join us at an event like MicroCon to chat in person!

O4. Can I overthrow the government of Belmoor?

We'd rather you didn't.



THE CIRCLE OF BELMOOR

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