



SCS

International Thespian Society

CONSTITUTION

troupe #6868

Article I. Name and purpose

Section 1. This organization shall be called Troupe #6868 of the International Thespian Society, a branch of the Educational Theatre Association.

Section 2. The purpose of this troupe shall be the advancement of standards of excellence in the theatre. More specifically, the troupe shall encourage students to attain a better mastery of the theatre arts.

Section 3. The organization forbids secrecy; membership is given as recognition for meritorious work in the theatre arts.

Article II. Membership

Section 1. All nominees for active membership shall be regularly enrolled as students of Southwest Christian School.

Section 2. All active members must have participated in at least two full-length high school plays, **and** have earned a minimum of ten points during their high school years, i.e., one hundred hours of superior work. Also, active members must be enrolled in grades 9–12 for High School Troupes.

Section 3. Final authority concerning membership requirements shall be vested in the troupe sponsor.

Section 4. Honorary membership may be granted to adults for extraordinary and worthy assistance in the promotion of the theatre in the school and the community.

Article III. Officers

Section 1. Southwest Christian School Troupe #6868 shall elect officers once a year in the first full month of the school term at a regular business meeting.

Section 2. Requirements for all elected officers are as follows: Each student must be an active member of the troupe for at least one school year, and at the time of election must be enrolled in grade 10 or higher.



Section 3. The elected officers and their duties are as follows:

President---The President will be held responsible for:

- Obtaining direction from the troupe sponsor
- Representing the troupe when presented to administrative staff
- Beginning, running, and ending all troupe quorums and officer meetings following the first troupe quorum and officer meeting run by the sponsor
- Creating quorum agendas
- Acting as a point-person on-stage and off-stage
- Managing all troupe events
- Attending all troupe events unless otherwise excused by the sponsor in advance.

Vice-president---The Vice President will be held responsible for:

- Enforcing the responsibilities of all officers in a checks-and-balances system
- Recording attendance for troupe quorums and officer meetings
- Managing the active membership of troupe members
- Organizing the induction ceremony
- Acting as a point-person on-stage and off-stage
- Assisting the President for any duties
- Attending all troupe events unless otherwise excused by the sponsor in advance

Secretary---The Secretary will be held responsible for:

- Assisting the President to create quorum agendas
- Recording troupe quorum and officer meeting “minutes”
- Assisting the Publicity/Social Chair in maintaining the troupe calendar of events
- Posting quorum and officer meeting “minutes” on the callboard
- Acting as an accessible source of information for all troupe members and candidates
- Being in attendance at all troupe events unless otherwise excused by the sponsor in advance

Publicity/Social---The Publicity/Social Chair will be held responsible for:

- Creating extracurricular activities
- Managing extracurricular contacts
- Maintaining the troupe calendar of events
- Educating the society on upcoming events
- Being in attendance at all troupe events unless otherwise excused by the sponsor in advance

Clerk--- The Clerk will be held responsible for:

- Assisting the Vice President in managing the membership of troupe members,
- Assisting the Vice President in organizing the induction ceremony,
- Ordering t-shirts, regalia, and honors for troupe members,
- Organizing the point system, point approval, and title promotion,
- Being in attendance at all troupe events unless otherwise excused by the sponsor in advance

Historian--- The Historian will be held responsible for:

- Taking photos during all troupe events
- Compiling all data into a digital scrapbook at the end of the year
- Managing activity of troupe alumni
- Managing activity of honorary parent members
- Overseeing that graduating seniors are allowed to paint a brick in the black box theatre
- Being in attendance at all troupe events unless otherwise excused by the sponsor in advance

Section 5. The duties of the sponsor will be to oversee all troupe activities, to be the final authority in selection of new members and to be the guide and inspiration of the group.

Article IV. Meetings and attendance

Section 1. Meetings shall be held once a month, during advisory. Officers meetings will be held once a month on Friday mornings at 7:15am.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the sponsor, any officer, or by a quorum.

Section 3. A quorum shall be fifty percent of the active membership and must include two officers.

Section 4. Any member who is absent two meetings per school year, four rehearsals during a current production, unless they have an excuse considered valid by the sponsor/director or who does not participate in a current production, which would earn one or more points, shall be dropped from active membership. Any member who causes deliberate dissension, which would disrupt the workings of any production or business meetings, shall be dropped from active membership at the sponsor's discretion. Any member requesting readmittance after suspension must have the consent of the sponsor and two-thirds of the membership.

Article V. Dues, etc.

Section 1. There shall be no dues for the troupe except as provided by the International Thespian Society Board of Trustees upon membership.

Article VI. Amendments

Section 1. All amendments to this constitution must have the vote of two-thirds of the troupe membership. This constitution and its amendments shall be subject to change according to any or all requirements of the International Thespian Society.

BYLAWS

Article I. Attendance

Section 1. All members should check in or out with an officer upon arriving late or leaving early from any quorum. Members arriving late to or leaving early from meetings or rehearsals without a reason considered valid by the theatre director/sponsor will be documented. Three such offenses will be counted as an absence from a meeting without excuse.

Section 2. Regular in school quorums will begin at the top of advisory. Officers meetings will be held once a month on Friday mornings at 7:15am.

Section 3. Irregular attendance indicates a lack of interest; therefore any member absent two meetings per school year without a written excuse submitted to the president or sponsor the day of, or after the scheduled meetings, shall be automatically suspended from the active roll or membership.

Section 4. Absences shall accumulate for only one school year at a time.

Article II. Inductions

Section 1. Inductions shall be held once each year, or as often as deemed necessary by the sponsor. Seniors may be inducted with approval by Sponsor at any time of their senior year.

Section 2. The time and place of induction as well as the form will be determined by the sponsor.

Section 3. The Vice President will be held responsible for the training of the new speakers of the induction ceremony, must schedule and rehearse said speakers, as well as take care of the preparation of the stage and induction properties for both the induction dinner that will be held and the Fine Arts Banquet.

Article III. Troupe activities

Section 1. The troupe is not a secret organization, so faculty and students interested in theatre, as well as honorary members and alumni, shall be invited to its meetings.

Section 2. At least one business meeting a semester of Troupe #6868 shall include an open invitation to all students for the purpose of playing theater games and creating improvisations.

Section 3. The troupe shall sponsor at least one "Good Neighbor" program a year for the purpose of establishing good relationships with nearby organizations.

Section 4. The troupe shall cooperate with all other departments and clubs in the school in helping them with their programs in any way it can.

Article IV. Point award system

Section 1. The theatre director/sponsor will determine the exact number of points to be awarded in all theatrical and non-theatrical participation.

Section 2. Points will be awarded as suggested by the point system of the International Thespian Society.

Article V. Elections

Section 1. At the end of the school year Juniors (next year's Seniors) should gather together in a meeting and discuss plans for troupe #6868 during the summer "off season". Plans should be made to schedule events that would further benefit the troupe as well as recruit eagle players of the beginning of next year.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected at a business meeting in the month of September for the existing term.

Section 3. Nominations for officers are to be made by a committee headed by the sponsor, with additional nominations being permitted from the floor. Officers will be elected by a majority vote.

Section 4. Voting will be done by secret written ballot.

Article VI. Installations

Section 1. Officers shall be installed at the second social or program meeting of the school term.

Article VII. Adoption

Section 1. 100% of the current voting members are needed for adoption and election of officers.

Article VIII. Class representatives

Section 1. Each grade shall have one elected representative. Said representatives will be elected the second business meeting of the school year. Freshman who are not yet inducted into the society will also be allowed one class representative for the school year.

Section 2. The duties of each representative will be to distribute newsletters, collect order forms and candidacy forms, inform his/her grade of any new information, promote meeting attendance, and aid any officer if requested to do so.

Article IX. Conflict resolution

Section 1. In the event issues/conflicts arise between a Thespian and a Sponsor which can not be solved through communication between the two parties, the issue should be resolved by the school administration.

The Official High School Thespian Point System

The International Thespian Society is the only organization to honor secondary school students for outstanding work in theatre. The resolution with which the Society approaches this role is evident in its focus on the students; their achievements, involvement, and access to quality theatre arts instruction are basic concerns of ITS. Thespian membership is granted for the performance of meritorious work in theatre arts which meets the Society's general guidelines. Specifically, students become members by earning points for their work. Any student who has participated in at least two productions for a total of one hundred hours of work is eligible for Thespian Society membership. Sponsors should notify their theatre arts students, production participants, or drama club members that records of their activities will be maintained and that Thespian membership may be conferred when qualifications have been met. The troupe secretary or clerk is ordinarily responsible for maintaining these records, which should be available for students' review. You

can download point record sheets in the member services section of EdTA's website. A Thespian moving to another affiliated school is entitled to transfer his or her membership by having the new sponsor verify the membership with the ITS home office. A new membership card and certificate may be secured by submitting the replacement credentials form, which is available from the EdTA website. The points listed on the next page are the maximum that usually may be earned for a specific assignment. Sponsors may award two additional points for any task performed with exceptional merit, and should use their discretion in awarding points—from zero to the maximum—according to the quality of effort and work accomplished. The following are general guidelines on the awarding of points:

- One point represents approximately ten hours of excellent work. Sponsors should use this formula in awarding points for items not specifically listed in the point system.

- To attain Thespian membership, a student must earn ten points, five of which must be acquired at the school where he or she is to be inducted.
- Thespian membership will be awarded on a democratic basis to all students who qualify according to the requirements of the point system. No student will be elected into the Society. No student will be denied membership if he or she has accumulated the required ten points and has fulfilled all membership requirements.
- A student must participate in at least two mainstage productions. Participation should be in at least two of the listed categories, for example, acting and production.
- Students may earn up to five points toward membership through participation at the middle school level in the SCS mainstage production season. They may earn additional points after induction at the sponsor's discretion and upon proof of participation.
- When students qualify for membership, they should be notified that they may join the International Thespian Society. Membership notification cards are available from the home office (see the member services page of the EdTA website for complimentary troupe supplies). Students should be informed of the cost of the membership fee and date/site of the induction ceremony. No hazing of student candidates is permitted. Induction ceremonies may range from the very informal to formal styles at the discretion of the sponsor. After Thespians have attained membership, further recognition for their outstanding work in theaters may be indicated by awarding stars for each additional ten points—or one hundred hours—earned (to a maximum of four stars). Students may wear stars on Thespian jewelry to indicate their rating in the troupe. Star ratings should be designated on the student's membership certificate under "Thespian Stars Earned."

Acting

Major Role 4 / 8
Minor Role 3 / 5
Chorus Role 2 / 3
Understudy 2 / 3
Walk-on 1 / 2

Directing

Director 4 / 8
Assistant Director 3 / 6
Vocal Director 2 / 4
Choreographer 3 / 6
Assistant Choreographer 2 / 4

Production

Stage Manager 5 / 8
Assistant Stage Manager 4 / 6
Crew head 3 / 5
Stage Crew 2 / 4
Light op 3 / 5
Light crew 1 / 2
Set design 3 / 5
Set construction 2 / 4
Costume design 3 / 5
Costume crew 2 / 4
Properties crew 2 / 4
Sound op 3 / 5
Sound crew 1 / 2
Make-up crew 1 / 2
Instrumentalist 3 / 5

Business

House manager 3 / 5
Publicity crew 2 / 3

Business (cont.)

Box office Manager 3 / 5
Box office personnel 1 / 2
Concessions 1 / 2
Ushers 1 / 2
Programs 1 / 2

Writing

Original play (produced) 4 / 8
Original play (unproduced comp) 3 / 4

Miscellaneous

TAPPS competitive speech event 2
Theatre festival attendance 1
Theatre festival performance 2

Officers

President 6
Vice President 4
Secretary 4
Clerk 4
Social 3
Historian 3

AWARD TOTAL POINTS

SCS Thespian 10
SCS Honor Thespian ONE star 20
SCS Honor Thespian TWO star 30
SCS Honor Thespian THREE star 40
SCS Honor Thespian FOUR star 50
SCS Thespian Honor BAR star 60
SCS Thespian National Honor BAR 120
SCS Thespian International Honor BAR 180

The Official High School Thespian Point System is a publication of the International Thespian Society. ITS is a division of the Educational Theatre Association. Southwest Christian School has modified the original points list to meet the needs and specifications of the Eagle Players. For more information about EdTA and ITS programs for students and teachers, contact us at:

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