

# **Thespian Troupe 2017 Constitution**

## **2020-2021 Officers**

**President: Jacob Sullivan**

**Vice President: Michaela Davis**

**Secretary: Evan Zeleny**

**Treasurer: Dajuan Hawkins jr.**

**Technical Representative: Conner Jones**

**Officer-at-Large: Bray Cross**

## **Article I. Name and purpose**

**Section 1.** The organization shall be called Troupe 2017 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 Del City High School.

**Section 2.** All active members must have participated in at least two (2) full-length plays for the current calendar school year and have earned a minimum of ten (10) points, i.e., 100 hours of superior work in the Theatre Department for the current calendar school year. Also, active members must be enrolled in grades 9 – 12 in a theatre arts class and/or participate in Del City Theatre Department productions for the current calendar school year. If any of these requirements are not met, students will be considered inactive members.

**Section 2b.** Inactive members may retain their status on the roll of Thespian Troupe 2017. However, their participation in, attendance at, and the conferring of any and all awards/honors at any Thespian activities is dependent on Section 2 above. The Theatre Banquet is a Thespian activity.

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

**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.** Del City High School Troupe 2017 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, with the exception of the Freshman Representative, must be an active member of the troupe for at least one school year, and at the time of election must be enrolled in grades 9 – 12 in a Theatre Arts class.

**Section 3.** The elected officers are to have the following duties:

- **President**—this student presides at all meetings, appoints all standing and special committees, and directs and supervises troupe activities. This student is the direct liaison between the directors and the students.
- **Vice President**—this student presides in the absence of the president and is responsible for the induction of new members.
- **Secretary**—this student keeps the records of the meetings and attends to troupe correspondence, will also be tasked with keeping track of Thespian points.
- **Treasurer**— acts as business manager of Thespian productions. This student also coordinates fundraising for the Troupe.
- **Historian**—this student works directly with the directors and the parent booster historian to keep a scrapbook of news clippings, posters, programs, etc. to document the success of the department throughout the year.
- **Publicity Chair**—this student works directly with the director and the parent booster publicity chair to help promote productions by designing and distributing posters, flyers, programs, postcards, video/film commercial announcements, etc.
- **Technical Representative**—this student works directly with the Troupe Directors to recruit students for crew positions for all productions. In addition, this student is a liaison to the Technical Theatre students and reports to the board about technical progress and needs in a current production. They may offer insight to the Publicity Chair about technical elements in a production that may be used for press releases and publicity purposes. This student will coordinate front of house positions and volunteers for those positions for productions such as ushers, programs, ticket takers, and concessions. In addition, this student will also be the liaison to the upperclassmen and help establish a buddy system for the incoming Freshmen.

**Section 4.** The duties of the sponsor/director 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.

**Section 5.** The Board of Directors shall be composed of the sponsor/director, all elected officers, and any honorary members appointed by the sponsor.

#### **Article IV. Meetings, Department Participation, and Attendance**

**Section 1.** Meetings shall be held for the Thespian Board to plan activities for the year. These meetings will be scheduled by the sponsor/director.

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

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

**Section 4.** Any Thespian Board officer who is absent two meetings per school year or any Thespian member who is absent more than the allotted number of rehearsals during a current production (please refer to audition information per show), unless they have an excuse considered valid by the sponsor/director, or who does not participate in at least 2 current calendar year productions, which would earn ten or more points, shall be dropped from active membership, or replaced on the current year's Thespian Board, or be removed from the designated production, depending on the level of the offense as determined by the sponsor/director. Prompt communication regarding attendance is mandatory, either by emailing the director and/or Thespian Board Secretary.

Any member who causes deliberate dissension (quitting productions, dropping out of a Theatre Department Class, discrediting/negating DCHS Theatre Department students, directors, and the DCHS Theatre Department, etc.), as determined by the sponsor/director, that would disrupt the workings of any production, business meetings, and/or the DCHS Theatre Department shall be dropped from active membership by the consent of the sponsor/director. Students who are forced to leave productions due to grade ineligibility are exempt from losing their active status.

Any member requesting re-admittance to active status, based on the criteria noted in the above paragraphs, must have the consent of the sponsor/director. However, if the member is readmitted to active status, he/she will be ineligible for any and all awards/honors for the current calendar year.

## **Article V. Dues, etc.**

**Section 1.** There shall be a one time \$30 induction fee as provided by the International Thespian Society Board of Trustees, unless determined by a two thirds vote of the membership at the regularly yearly election.

**Section 2.** There shall be an annual \$10 paid by each active member at the beginning of the year. This will go towards paying for all Troupe Events and Shirts.

## **Article VI. Amendments**

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

## **BYLAWS.**

### **Article 1. Attendance**

**Section 1.** Late arrival to or leaving early from meetings or rehearsals without a reason considered valid by the theatre director/sponsor will be notated on attendance records. Three such offenses will be counted as an absence from a meeting/rehearsal without excuse.

**Section 2.** Regular after-school meetings will begin at the time scheduled by the sponsor/director. If there is a change of time and/or date, the sponsor/director will post a special notice on the theatre callboard/website.

**Section 3.** Irregular attendance indicates a lack of interest; therefore any Thespian Board member who is absent two (2) Thespian Board meetings per school year will forfeit their position on that year's Board. Also, any member who is absent more than the allotted number of rehearsals during a production (please refer to audition information per show) without a valid, written excuse/phone message submitted to the sponsor/director the day of, after the scheduled rehearsal shall be automatically dropped from that particular show.

**Section 4.** Attendance shall be considered in the point award system.

**Section 5.** Absences shall accumulate for only one school year at a time.

## **Article II. GPA**

**Section 1.** All active members must maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher in order to remain in active status. A violation of this article will result in the following:

**1.1** A written letter sent home to the parents informing them of their student's drop in GPA. (Eligibility follows the school time frame, 1st offense is probation.)

**1.2** The student will be removed from membership.

## **Article II. Inductions**

**Section 1.** Inductions shall be held once each year, or as often as deemed necessary by the sponsor/director.

**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 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.

**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. Exceptional hours and level of commitment may be rewarded to active Thespian members by the sponsor/director.

## **Article V. Elections**

**Section 1.** Officers shall be elected at a business meeting in the month of August for the coming fall term. All officers for the coming school year shall be elected within five school days of the beginning of the school year.

**Section 2.** Nominations for officers are to be made by filling out a Thespian Board Interest form (See attachment) and approved by the sponsor/director. The officer candidate who has the most votes will be elected to office. In the case of a tie, the sponsor/director may choose to either elect both candidates to a Co-office or break the tie with his/her vote. The following constitutes the main points of these documents:

**The mission of the International Thespian society, founded in 1929 as the National Thespian Society, is to promote and strengthen theatre in education. The ITS provides benefits and services for high school and middle school students and their educators through Junior Thespian and High School Thespian troupes.**

**The Thespian troupe at a school is designed to be an honorary organization that recognizes and rewards excellence among the participants in the theatre arts program. A formal troupe organization with officers gives students opportunities for leadership and responsibility, and active student officers can assist the Troupe Directors in numerous ways: establishing and administering a code of conduct to govern all students participating in a production/retaining active membership at Classen School of Advanced Studies, planning cast parties and social activities, planning and helping to decorate induction ceremony activities, planning and fundraising for trips, productions, and scholarships; the officers also set goals for establishing scholarships for graduating seniors. Troupes must elect student officers who are capable of and willing to carry out specific duties on their own initiative. Due to the importance of direct communication, it has been decided that all elected Thespian officers need to be enrolled in a Theatre Arts class. It is expected that all student officers act in consultation and agreement with the Troupe Directors.**

**Section 3.** Voting will be done by secret written ballot.

**Section 4.** Three members, including one officer, may request in writing to the sponsor, a recall election of all or any elected officers. This written request must state the need for such an election. The only acceptable need for a recall election would be a community event/natural disaster that hindered a large majority of the membership from being able to attend to vote for the respective officers. Upon approval of the sponsor/director, a special meeting will be scheduled within five school days upon receipt of the request, for the purpose of voting on whether or not a recall election is necessary. Two thirds of the membership is required to mandate a recall election. If a recall election is necessary, election of officers will follow the procedure set in Article V. Section 2.

## **Article VI. Installations**

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

## **Article VII. Adoption**

**Section 1.** The current Thespian Board will vote during the school year to adopt this constitution. The constitution from other schools Thespian Troupe and used as an example constitution.

## **Article IX. Conflict Resolution**

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

**Section 2.** In the event issues/conflicts arise between two members of the troupe. They and the Troupe Director will attempt to resolve the situation. If it cannot be resolved, the offending member will have their membership removed.





