

**Thespian /Happiest Stage/T3 Bylaws**

**Article 1: Attendance**

Section 1. A student arriving late to or leaving early from meetings or rehearsals without a reason considered valid by the troupe directors will receive a warning. Two tardies will be considered an absence. Three unexcused absences will warrant a demerit and/or expulsion from production.

Section 2. Regular after-school meetings/rehearsals will begin at 2:30 p.m. and evening meetings at 6:00 p.m. Unforeseen cancellations will be posted and notified with 24 hour notice.

Section 3. Irregular attendance indicates a lack of interest; therefore, any member absent three (3) meetings per school year without a written excuse submitted to the secretary, stage manager, or troupe directors shall be automatically suspended from troupe activities for the remainder of the school year. The troupe directors have sole authority to reverse the suspension.

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

**Article 2: Thespian Points**

Section 1. Induction points must be earned over the course of more than one production. In years when there is only one production, this requirement is waived.

Section 2. Induction points will be awarded for theatre-related work done outside the school’s theatre program. To qualify for points, a copy of the program or other verification must be provided.

**Article 3: Induction**

Section 1. An induction ceremony shall be held at the banquet at the end of each school year. Additional ceremonies may be held as often as deemed necessary by the troupe directors.

Section 2. Induction fees are the responsibility of the inductee. The troupe will pay for induction pins and other honors items.

Section 3. The troupe directors and booster club determine the time, place, schedule, and format of induction ceremonies.

**Article 4: Officers**

Section 1. Duties: Troupe officer duties are defined below. The troupe directors may assign other duties.

**A. The Presidents**: presides at all meetings, assists in conflict resolution meetings within troupe 5744 members and is in charge of the community service projects, presides in the absence of the second president. They will also organize the Troupe 5744 bonding activities. Presidents also act as the secretary, when there is none present. Presidents are **APPOINTED.** All other positions are elected by majority vote.

**B.** **The Secretary**: keeps the attendance records and minutes of the thespian meetings and updates the class bulletin board. The secretary is also in charge of keeping a log with the demerits for every troupe member and will act as Event Coordinator.

**C. The Thespian Point Clerk**: keeps the thespian point logs of all members, calculates points at the end of the school year before banquet and induction ceremony and helps with purchase order for the awards.

**D. The Historian:** is in charge of all pictures throughout the year. The historian will then create the slideshow for the end of the year banquet and senior night Additionally, the historian is in charge of writing and sending out the monthly newsletter after approval by troupe directors/presidents. .

**E. The Treasurer:** is in charge of compiling all the items needed for the productions and writing the purchase orders. The treasurer is also in charge of filing and organizing the books for all productions.

**F. Class Representatives:** will confer with their grade level peers and will represent them at all meetings. Will also disseminate the information to the aforementioned peers. Other duties may be assigned at the troupe directors discretion.

**G. Booster Liaisons:** Are in charge of relaying information between the booster club and the troupe directors and club members. Must attend all monthly booster meetings.

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 grades 10, 11, or 12.

Section 3. Nominations for officers can be made with a first nomination, with additional nominations being permitted from the floor. Students cannot self-nominate.

Section 4. Elections will be conducted at the last troupe meeting in April or early May. A letter of intent must submitted by anyone running for a **President** position.

**Article 5: Troupe Activities**

Section 1. Club meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of every month during lunch time.

Section 2. Troupe 5744 will host a minimum of two community service projects per year which will be the responsibility of the troupe presidents however any active member may introduce a new project to participate in.

Section 3. Troupe 5744 will have an outing every two months as a way to bond that will be organized by the troupe presidents.

**Article 6: Demerit System**

Troupe 5744 will implement a demerit system in order to maintain a troupe that promotes the enhancement of theatre arts. All active members will be given a maximum of 5 demerits before expulsion from the troupe will occur.

The offenses that will warrant demerits and the weight of each offense is as follows:

Section 1. 3 unexcused absences to rehearsals or meetings= 1 demerit **AND** expulsion from the production. An unexcused absence is any absence that is not reported to the troupe director or one of the officers PRIOR to the absence. Not after OR during. Tardies will also accumulate and cause a demerit. (see article 1 and/or production contract)

Section 2. Progress report and report card copies will be submitted to the troupe directors. For every academic D or F, the troupe member will receive a demerit. However, said demerit will be removed as soon as the grade is improved to a C or higher.

Section 3. Indoor suspensions= 1 demerit

Section 4. Nudity, lewd behavior, child pornography (i.e. nude photos posted on social media)= 3 demerits.

Section 5. At overnight field trips, members who are found in rooms not assigned to them =1 demerit.

Section 6. Bullying or harassing whether to another troupe 5744 member or a student outside of troupe 5744 reported to the troupe directors by another faculty member or administrator=3 demerits.

**Several offenses are not up for debate and are grounds for immediate expulsion following a thorough investigation conducted by the administration and troupe directors. If members are found with any of the following offenses, parents/guardians will be contacted to remove members from the overnight or afterschool activity.**

**They are as follows:**

1. **Drug/Alcohol Abuse**
2. **Weapons**
3. **Sexual Activity**
4. **Theft**
5. **Physical Violence against a troupe 5744 member or student outside of the troupe.**
6. **Outdoor suspensions**

**Article 7: Conflict Resolution**

Section 1. In the event issues/conflicts arise between a Thespian and a troupe director that cannot be solved through communication between the two parties, the issue should be resolved by the school administration as indicated in the troupe handbook.

Section 2. Conflict resolution between two troupe 5744 members will be dealt with by the troupe directors and the troupe presidents.

**Article 8: Awards**

Section 1. At the banquet, awards will be given in several categories including but not limited to, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress, Best Thespian (all around), Best Techie, and Most Improved.

Section 2. Nominations will be held in the last meeting before the banquet and results will be announced at Banquet in May. Voting will be done by secret ballot.

Section 3. The Thespian Banquet will be held every May and will be organized by the underclassmen and Troupe Directors.

**Article 9: Thespian Rankings**

Induction- a member must reach a minimum of 20 points to be inducted into the troupe at the EOY banquet

Honor Thespian- all members who have 60-119 points will receive the Honor ranking. Seniors will receive the blue honor cord at senior night.

National Honor Thespian- all members who have 120-179 points will receive the National honor ranking Seniors will receive the gold honor cord at senior night.

International honor Thespian- all members who have 180-274 points will receive the International honor ranking. Seniors will receive the blue and gold honor cord at senior night.

Best Thespian- all members who have 275 points and above will receive the Best Thespian honor ranking. Seniors will receive the blue and gold braided honor cord at senior night and are the ones considered for hall of fame. Hall of Fame inductees are at the Troupe Directors discretion.

Adopted:(date)0 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Troupe Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Troupe Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Troupe President Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Troupe President Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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