

International Thespian Society Constitution

Thespian Troupe #7973 Constitution: Last revised 8/15/2023.

Article I. Name and purpose

Section 1. The organization shall be called Troupe #7973 of the International Thespian Society, a branch of the Educational Theater Association.

Section 2. The purpose of this Troupe shall be the advancement of standards of excellence in the theater. More specifically, the Troupe shall encourage students to attain a better mastery of the performing arts and share their talents with the community at large.

Article II. Membership

Section 1a. All nominees for active membership shall be regularly enrolled as students of Dallastown High School or a school entity within our district with no Troupe. All nominees shall be freshmen, sophomores, juniors, or seniors who have met all the requirements established by the Educational Theater Association.

Section 1b. 7th or 8th grade students who have met all the requirements established by the Educational Theater Association are eligible to be inducted as Junior Thespians within the Dallastown ITS Troupe #7973.

Section 2a. All active members must have earned a minimum of ten (10) points, roughly equivalent to one hundred (100) quality work hours, and maintain continual participation in every performance for the current calendar school year. If these requirements are not met, students will be considered inactive members and disqualified from graduation regalia.

Section 2b. Inactive members may retain their status on the roll of Thespian Troupe #7973. However, their participation in, attendance at, and the conferring of any and all awards/honors at any Thespian activities is dependent on Section 2a above.

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 theater in the school and the community.

Article III. Officers

Section 1. Dallastown Troupe #7973 shall elect officers (Thespian Board) once a year in May for the following school year. In the first month of each school year, the officers will nominate representatives from each grade. Nominees will be elected via general membership election at the conclusion of the first show.

Section 2a. 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 9 – 12. To retain their office, officers must have an active role in every DPAC/ITS production in the school year.

Section 2b. Requirements for all appointed representatives are as follows: Each student must be an active member of the Troupe, and at the time of election must be enrolled in grades 7 – 12. To retain their appointments, representatives must have an active role in at least one DPAC/ITS production.

Section 3a. The elected officers are to have the following requirements and duties:

- **President**—Must be in 12th grade. 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. This student also regularly updates and maintains the Remind 101 and the Troupe Twitter account. The President is the main officer in charge of the fall play.
- **Vice President**— Must be in 10th or 11th grade. This student presides in the absence of the president and is responsible for the announcement of new members. The Vice President is the main officer in charge of the winter dinner theater.
- **Secretary**— Must be in 10th, 11th, or 12th grade. This student keeps the records (such as contact information of all members, ITS hours, makeup shades, etc.), takes minutes of each meeting, and states the minutes of the previous meeting at the beginning of each meeting.
- **Treasurer**— Must be in 10th, 11th, or 12th grade. This student keeps the Troupe's books and pays bills and may act as business manager of Thespian productions. This student also coordinates fundraising for the Troupe and gives a treasurer's report at each meeting.
- **Historian**— Must be in 10th, 11th, or 12th grade. This student works directly with the directors to keep a scrapbook of pictures, news clippings, posters, programs, etc. to document the success of the organization throughout the year. This student also regularly updates and manages the Troupe's social media accounts and shall compile a presentation for inductions, state thespian festival, and the end of the year picnic.
- **Webmaster**—Must be in 10th, 11th, or 12th grade. This student regularly updates and maintains the Troupe website and keeps track of current cast and crew members, and works with the Historian to help promote Troupe-sponsored events.

Section 3b. The nominated representatives who choose to accept their nominations are to have the following requirements and duties:

- Convey information to their grade-level peers about DPAC/ITS events and

- opportunities.
- Attend regular meetings with the Thespian Board as necessary.
- Bring member questions & concerns to the Board's attention.

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.

Article IV. Meetings, Participation, and Attendance

Section 1. The first meeting, held in the summer prior to the start of the school year, shall be held for the Thespian Board to plan activities for the coming year. This meeting will be scheduled by the president. All meetings during the school year will be scheduled by the sponsor/director. All meetings shall include 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 ITS membership and must include two officers and/or the sponsor/director.

Section 4a. 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 all current school calendar year productions, shall be dropped from active membership, and/or replaced on the current year's Thespian Board, and/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 bethany.yuninger@dallastown.net and/or Thespian Board officers or leaving a message with sponsor/director at 717-240-4021 EXT. 3120.

Section 4b. Any member who causes deliberate dissension (quitting productions, discrediting/slandering/libeling students, directors, and other DPAC members), as determined by the sponsor/director, that would disrupt the workings of any production, business meetings, and/or DPAC activities shall be dropped from active membership by the consent of the sponsor/director and forfeit all associated privileges/honors. Students who are forced to leave productions due to DAHS academic ineligibility are placed on temporary probation and cannot participate until such time as they recover their grades.

Section 4c. 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, they will

be ineligible for any and all awards/honors for the current school year, and if the student is a current officer they will be stripped of the office for the remainder of the current school year.

Article V. Dues

Section 1. There shall be no dues for the Troupe, unless so voted upon at a general membership meeting. However, all members are expected to actively participate in troupe fundraisers.

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 I. Attendance

Section 1. Late arrival to or leaving early from meetings or rehearsals without a reason considered valid by the theater 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/wildcat period meetings will begin at the time scheduled by the sponsor/director. If there is a change of time and/or date, the president will send the change in Remind 101.

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, without a reason considered valid by the sponsor/director, 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 reason considered valid by the sponsor/director, 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. 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 of induction will be determined by the sponsor/director.

Section 3. The 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 III. Point award system

Section 1. The theater 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 IV. Elections

Section 1. Officers shall be elected in the month of May for the coming fall term. All officers for the coming school year shall be elected before the end of the previous school year.

Section 2. Nominations for officers are to be made to and approved by the sponsor/director. All nominees will have the opportunity to deliver a one-minute campaign speech answering the question: "What will I do to improve DPAC in the coming school year?" 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 their vote.

Section 3. Voting will be done by confidential ballot.

Section 4. Three members, including one officer, may request in writing to the sponsor/director, a recall election of all or any elected officers. This written request must state the need for such an election and must be approved by the sponsor/director. Upon approval, 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 ($\frac{2}{3}$) 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 IV. Section 2.

Article V. Installations

Section 1. Officers shall be installed at the annual DPAC Picnic.

Article VI. Adoption

Section 1. The current Thespian Board will vote during the school year to adopt this constitution. The constitution from the previous school year is in effect until this vote is taken.

Article VII. Conflict Resolution

Section 1. In the event issues/conflicts arise between two Thespians, which cannot be solved through communications between the two parties and/or the sponsor/director, the issue should be resolved by the Dallastown school administration.

Section 2. 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 Dallastown school administration.

Article VIII. Troupe Motto

Section 1. Thine motto states: All Drama stays on the stage ✓

Section 2. The Dallastown International Thespian Society motto shall be stated at the end of each meeting.