



# INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY

HONORING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN THEATRE

## Troupe By-Laws

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### Thespian Troupe 10042 Bylaws

Adopted: August 23, 2021

#### 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 director will receive a demerit. Three such offenses will be counted as an absence from a meeting without excuse.

**Section 2.** Regular after-school meetings will begin at 2.45 p.m. and evening meetings at 5 p.m. Changes will be posted by 2 p.m. the day of the meeting.

**Section 3.** Irregular attendance indicates a lack of interest; therefore, any member absent four (4) meetings per school year without a written excuse submitted to the secretary, stage manager, or troupe director shall be automatically suspended from troupe activities. The troupe director has sole authority to reverse the suspension.

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

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

#### Article 2: Thespian Points

**Section 1.** Thespian points are awarded in accordance with the troupe handbook as determined by the director.

**Section 2:** 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 3:** Induction points are not required for honorary memberships which shall be bestowed upon any person with the consent of the director and a two-third vote of the membership.

### **Article 3: Induction**

**Section 1.** An induction ceremony shall be held at least once each year. Additional ceremonies may be held as often as deemed necessary by the troupe director.

**Section 2.** Each inductee must provide his or her current mailing address and email address. Individual inductees are responsible for their own induction fees unless payment has been prearranged by a booster group, fundraising, or other source. The troupe will pay for additional honor items that are included in its officially adopted recognition system. Students may ask the troupe director to purchase honor items on their behalf that are not included in the troupe's official system. Such items will be available at the troupe director's discretion and at each student's expense.

**Section 3.** The troupe director determines the time, place, schedule, and format of induction ceremonies.

**Section 4.** The troupe director and president conduct inductions. The principal, superintendent, and/or like officials will be offered a role in the ceremony whenever possible. The vice president is responsible for training induction ceremony speakers, scheduling and rehearsing said speakers, and preparing the stage and induction properties as directed by the troupe director.

### **Article 5: Officers**

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

A. The president presides at all meetings, appoints all standing and special committees, and directs and supervises troupe activities.

B. The vice president presides in the absence of the president and is responsible for the induction of new members.

C. The secretary keeps the records of meetings and attends to troupe correspondence. The secretary also assists keeps the point records of all activities: plays, production dates, casts, crews, and work accomplished as provided in the official point system.

D. The treasurer keeps the troupe's financial record and may act as business manager of Thespian productions.

E. The historian keeps accurate record of the history of the Troupe and is responsible for documenting activities through photography and videography and creating slideshows and scrapbook for end of year activities. The historian to label and date all entries made in historian book showing the names of all club members and leaders each year, copies of the club program plans, news clippings, and pictures about club events and activities, etc The historian works with the school's yearbook committee to ensure school yearbooks accurately represent the activities of the Jordan Theatre Company.

F. The publicity officer creates publicity for day-to-day activities and events and helps the director maintain the department's social media.

G. Other offices such as Student Advocacy Works chair, and TOTS-EAT chair may be added at the troupe's discretion. All officer positions must be listed in the troupe's constitution.

**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 or 11 so that they serve as an officer whilst in grades 11 or 12.

**Section 3.** Nominations for officers are to be made by a committee that includes the troupe director, with additional nominations being permitted from the floor. Students may self-nominate from the floor. Officers will be elected by a majority vote.

**Section 4.** Annual elections will be conducted at a troupe meeting that is held at the end of the preceding school year. Recall elections will be conducted within five school days of a recall election being mandated.

**Section 5.** Voting will be done by secret written ballot at an official troupe meeting.

**Section 6.** Three members, including one officer, may request a recall election of all or any elected officers. This request must be submitted to the troupe director in writing and state the need for such an election. 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 and two-thirds of the membership is required to mandate a recall election. The director may mandate a recall election if any officer has been suspended or withdrawn from the troupe. If a recall election is mandated, election of officers will follow the procedure set in Sections 2 through 5 above.

**Section 7.** Officers who are elected at annual elections shall be installed at the last social or program meeting of the preceding school year, and officers elected at a recall election will be installed immediately after that recall election.

## **Article 6: Troupe Activities**

**Section 1.** The troupe is not a secret organization. All interested faculty, students, parents, Honorary Thespians, troupe alumni, and administrators are welcome at troupe meetings. Only active members have voting rights at meetings.

**Section 2.** At least one meeting or special event of Troupe 10042 shall include an open invitation to all students for the purpose of playing theatre 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 Thespian and Junior Thespian troupes and other dramatic groups.

**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 7: Class Representatives**

**Section 1.** Each grade shall have one elected representative. Said representatives will be elected the first business meeting of the school year.

**Section 2.** The duties of each representative will be to distribute newsletters, collect annual membership money from classmates, inform his or her grade of any new information, and aid any officer if requested to do so.

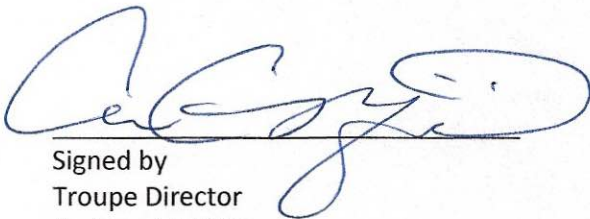
**Article 8: Fees**

**Section 1.** Induction fee. Each inductee to Troupe 10042 is required to pay a non-refundable \$35 induction fee to cover the cost of each inductee’s lifetime membership to the International Thespian Society and the certificate, card, pin and any other items that the inductee receives at their induction ceremony. If the EdTA Board of Directors at any time determines that the induction fee for thespian troupes should be less than \$35, the induction fee payable under this section will reduce accordingly.


**Section 2.** Membership fees. For each year of *active* troupe membership, every Thespian will pay an annual fee of \$20 to help defray the cost of troupe expenses and activities. This amount is payable within 30 days of the start of each new school year.

**Article 8: Conflict Resolution**

**Section 1.** In the event issues or conflicts arise between a Thespian and the 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.



Signed by  
Troupe Director  
Andrew Midkiff



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Signed by  
Troupe President  
Motewogbola Awobokun