

International Thespian Society

Thespian Troupe # 6028/Drama Club Constitution

Adopted: May 20, 2002

Article I: Name, Purpose, and Governance

Section 1. Name: This organization shall be called Troupe # 6028. The troupe has been chartered by Apex High School. The charter affiliates it with the International Thespian Society (ITS), a division of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA).

Section 2. Purpose: The troupe is the honors component of the school's theatre program. Its purpose shall be the advancement of standards of excellence in theatre. More specifically, the troupe will encourage students to attain a better mastery of the theatre arts and will reward those who achieve it with induction into the troupe. Thespians achieving honor ranks shall receive recognition of their exemplary accomplishment.

Section 3. Governance: This troupe constitution and its bylaws are two components of a hierarchy of documents that govern the Educational Theatre Association and its membership. The documents affecting troupes, in order of authority, are: the Educational Theatre Association Code of Regulations and Membership Policy, the troupe handbooks, the troupe constitution, and troupe bylaws. This constitution may not be altered in any way that conflicts with a superceding document or school policies and procedures.

Article II: Organization and Officers

Section 1. Membership: Membership is achieved by complying with all induction criteria as defined in the troupe handbook. The ITS Thespian point system is the official guideline for awarding induction points. Any changes to induction criteria, including the Thespian point system, must be adopted as a troupe bylaw.

Section 2. Officers: The Thespian troupe shall have the following officers: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and clerk/scribe. Duties shall be defined in the troupe's bylaws.

Section 3. Elections: The troupe shall elect officers for the next school year in the last full month of the current school term.

Article III: Meetings and Participation

Section 1. Meetings: Thespian troupe meetings shall be held monthly throughout the school year. Special meetings may be called by the troupe director, any officer, or by a quorum of Thespians.

Section 2. Thespian troupe meetings and Drama club meetings will be held concurrently.

Section 3. Quorum: A quorum shall be a majority of the troupe's active membership.

Section 3. Denial of participation: Any Thespian who causes deliberate dissension or disruption of any

production or business meeting may be denied participation in troupe activities by a vote of two-thirds of the troupe's membership and the consent of the troupe director. Any member requesting reinstatement of participation rights may have them restored with the consent of the troupe director and two-thirds of the troupe's membership.

Article IV: Dues and Fees

Section 1. Dues: There shall be no mandatory dues for Thespian induction except as provided by the Educational Theatre Association Board of Directors.

Section 2. Fees: Troupes may approve additional fees for local Thespian troupe participation. This requires consent of the troupe director and a two-thirds vote of the active troupe members at a regular troupe meeting. The school and its troupe director may also assess user fees in accordance with school policy.

Article V: Bylaws

Section 1. Purpose: Bylaws provide additional guidance for the governance and operations of the troupe. No bylaw may be in conflict with the EdTA Code of Regulations, EdTA policies, troupe handbook, troupe constitution, or school policy or procedures.

Section 2. Adoptions and amendments: The troupe director may adopt or amend bylaws as deemed appropriate. Bylaws may also be added or amended by approval of a simple majority of the troupe's active membership and the consent of the troupe director.

Article VI: Amendments

Section 1. Exclusions: Article I may not be amended.

Section 2. Procedure: Articles other than Article I may be amended by approval of two-thirds of the troupe's active membership with the consent of the troupe director. This constitution and its amendments shall be subject to change according to any or all requirements of the International Thespian Society.

Thespian Troupe # 3028 Amendments

Adopted: May 20, 2002

Amendment to Article II: Organization and Officers

Section 2. Officers: The Thespian troupe shall have a leadership team of no less than five members. Duties shall be defined in the troupe's bylaws.

Section 3. The troupe leader shall appoint the leadership team from a roster of interested and qualified members for the next school year in the last full month of the current school term.

Thespian Troupe # 3028 Bylaws

Adopted: May 20, 2008

Article 1: Attendance

Section 1. Students will receive credit toward induction by attending Drama Club meetings and AHS productions. Students must be present for the entire meeting to receive credit. Members must sign in at the beginning of the meeting and attendance will be taken at the end of the meeting.

Section 2. Regular after-school meetings will begin at 2:45p.m. Changes will be posted by 2 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Section 3. Attendance shall be considered in the Thespian points award system.

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. After induction points will be awarded for theatre-related work/classes outside the school's theatre program under the following guidelines: Apex High School shows must take priority. If not cast in an AHS show, you will receive points for an outside show that rehearses and or runs concurrently with an AHS show. An outside show done simultaneously with an AHS show will earn points for both shows. To qualify for points, a copy of the program or other verification must be provided.

Section 3. Students earn an AHS Letter in Theatre Arts by earning 16 Thespian Points. Attending plays and theatre-related work done outside AHS are not counted toward a letter.

Section 4. Students earn Honor Thespian Status at 55 points.

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. Induction fees are the responsibility of the inductee. The troupe will pay for honors items.

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

Section 4. The troupe director and leadership conduct inductions.

Article 5: Leadership Team

Section 1. Duties are defined below. The troupe director may assign other duties.

1. Preside at all meetings, appoints all standing and special committees, and directs and

supervises troupe activities.

2. Keep the records of meetings and attends to troupe correspondence. Posts records online.
3. Keep the point records of all activities: plays, production dates, casts, crews, and work accomplished as provided in the official point system.

Section 2. Requirements for all team members are as follows: each student must be an active member of the troupe for at least one school year, and at the time of appointment must be enrolled in grades 10 or 11, and must be registered for a theatre class.

Section 3. Students must apply if interested in serving on the leadership team. The current leadership team will prepare a slate of possible applicants.

Section 4. Members will be announced at the yearly induction ceremony.

Section 6. Missing more than 2 meetings during a school year without excuse is grounds for dismissal from the leadership team.

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.

Section 2. Meetings of Troupe 6028 and Drama Club meetings will be held concurrently.

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 6: Conflict Resolution

Section 1. In the event issues/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.