

Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (National Spanish Honor Society)

http://blackboard.wcpss.net/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=courses&url=%2Fbin%2Fcommon%2Fcourse.pl%3Fcourse_id%3D_23693_1

Chapter name: We are the Carlos Gardel chapter of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica. This Chapter was established in 2005 to recognize outstanding students in Spanish and offer academics and travel scholarships to our members.

Purpose: The Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (SHH) is a national honor society that recognizes high academic achievement in Spanish by students in secondary schools, and promotes a continuity of interest in Hispanic studies. SHH establishes a core of students as leaders and models, especially for beginning Spanish students. Members inducted into the SHH are expected to volunteer hours after school in our peer-tutoring program. Members are inducted in the spring of each year.

Benefits of membership:

--At the national level, the College Board has entered the SHH scholarship program on its data base making it a recognizable award;

--The prestigious Joseph Adams Senior Scholarships are awarded in the spring of each year. Apex High School had an award winner in 2006.

--There are competitive, all expense paid travel awards for juniors to a Spanish-speaking country each summer. Apex High School had one of twenty student award winners, nation-wide, for the summer travel scholarship to Costa Rica in 2007. We had a winner for the summer trip to Mexico in 2008. We are also pleased and proud that we had yet another winner for the summer trip to Mexico in 2010.

--Cash awards are given to members whose work is published in the magazine *¡Albricias!*: \$50 for front-cover work, \$35 for poetry and prose selections. An Apex student's drawing was selected for the cover of the national magazine in the spring of 2008! Apex student writings were published in the fall of 2008, spring of 2009 and fall of 2010. More cash awards and recognition are given to those whose work is chosen as *Best of ¡Albricias!*

Criteria for membership:

- a. A candidate must be a student of Spanish for at least three (3) levels of Spanish who has maintained an honor average in Spanish. According to the national guidelines, students must have all A's in their Spanish classes or a combination of A's and high B's to qualify for membership. Apex High students are considered for membership after completion of the third level of Spanish. As one of the purposes of this organization is to recognize those students who continue with the language, students are expected to continue with their language classes. Any student who is inducted in the fourth level of Spanish and who does not continue with the language will maintain an Associate membership in the SHH, at the discretion of the SHH

- Sponsor. National guidelines require us to use semester grades, not end-of-year grades for consideration for membership. Associate members must participate in our tutoring program.
- b. Per national guidelines, no ninth grade students are inducted for membership. Tenth grade students must have earned an “A” in every semester of Spanish study to be inducted, and through the first semester of level three (Honors). Eligible tenth graders inducted are expected to show seriousness of purpose and are expected to continue with their Spanish studies. Please note that the national guidelines require us to use semester grades, not end-of-year grades.
 - c. Grades in classes other than Spanish are important as well. A student must maintain at least B’s in all other classes. If a student has one or two C’s in courses other than Spanish, the student’s performance in Spanish classes must be superior, as judged by the SHH Sponsor.
 - d. A student who demonstrates commendable integrity and character, a cooperative spirit, seriousness of purpose, honesty, and an appreciation for cultural diversity meets the second important qualification for membership. All Apex Spanish teachers are asked for input on these topics.

Important Notes:

- 1) Students are invited to apply for induction into SHH through their fourth-level and above Spanish classes.
- 2) Grades are verified by the Chapter Sponsor.
- 3) Removal of students is in order if honor grades are not maintained and/or if there are infractions to the requirements noted in Part “d” of Criteria above.
- 4) If an inducted member does not continue the study of Spanish, the student may remain in the Sociedad as an Associate Member until graduation, at the discretion of the Chapter Sponsor. Associate Members are expected to help with peer-tutoring.
- 5) Students are expected to help with our peer-tutoring program and to attend all meetings of the Sociedad.
- 6) There is a membership fee which is remitted to the Chapter Sponsor before the induction ceremony. Senior members who wish to wear the Honor cords pay for cords in their senior year.

Officers: We elect a President, Vice-President, and Secretary each year. The Secretary is responsible for maintaining our web page that posts who is responsible for peer-tutoring on which date and for communicating with all members and the Sponsor. The President is responsible for conducting all regular meetings. The Vice-President conducts meetings in the President’s absence and supports the President.

Meetings: We meet once a month for regular business.

Projects:

Our main project is the peer-tutoring program that we offer after school for students who need help with Spanish. During the 2010-2011 our members painted a mural re-creating a tiled courtyard, much like one would see in Southern Spain, complete with plants. Our goal was to beautify Apex High School and create a Spanish ambience. We are very grateful to our PTSA for their sponsorship of this project.