**Thespian Troupe #5952**

**Constitution**

*(Last updated 7/29/2021)*

**Preamble**:

We the members of the Savannah Arts Academy Thespian Troupe #5952 do hereby pledge to seek the enrichment of the performing arts in Savannah Arts Academy and Savannah community and to create a positive, exciting, and professional theatrical atmosphere throughout our troupe.

**Article I: NAME AND PURPOSE**

Section 1: This organization shall be called Troupe #5952 of the International Thespian Society, a branch of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA).

Section 2: The purpose of this troupe shall be the advancement of standards of excellence in the theatre. More specifically, the troupe shall encourage students to attain a better mastery of the theatre arts while maintaining high academic standards.

Section 3: The organization forbids secrecy. Membership includes community and educational awareness as well as the promotion of meritorious work in the theatre arts.

**Article II: MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: To become a member of Thespian Troupe #5952, one must:

1. Be enrolled as a student at Savannah Arts Academy (SAA)
2. Meet SAA eligibility requirements
3. Acquire at least ten (10) thespian points with one (1) point equaling then (10) hours of work, at least five (5) of which must come from SAA theatre productions. *(Points earned are based on the Points Scale Sheet located in the Thespian folders located in Room 111.)*
4. Participate in or Attend at least (2) SAA Mainstage productions.
5. Pay the International Thespian fees set in accordance with the International Thespian Society (Paid by Troupe #5952 Funds by the troupe sponsor.
6. Troupe members will pay a local due of $30.00 each year as part of their membership.

Section 2: To remain as an active member of the SAA Thespian Troupe, a member must:

1. Attend the business portion of Thespian monthly meetings
2. Work on all fund raising projects
3. Attend or work each mainstage production
4. Attend the induction ceremony
5. Pay any yearly local Thespian dues ($30.00 per year)
6. Participate in all mandatory community service activities
7. Lead a minimum of one (1) troupe activity or event
8. Meet or Exceed SAA Academic Standards

Section 3: Final authority concerning membership requirements shall be vested in the troupe sponsor.

Section 4: Honorary membership may be granted to adults for extraordinary and worthy assistance in the promotion of theatre at SAA.

**Article III: OFFICERS**

Section 1: The officers of Troupe #5952 include President, Vice-President, Secretary, Clerk/Social Coordinator, Historian, and State Representatives (2).

Section 2: Officer **eligibility** requirements are:

1. An active member of the troupe for at least one school year
2. An active member who meets or exceeds SAA Academic Standards
3. An active member whose troupe participation has been exemplary

Section 3: Officer **duties** include:

**President**:

Prepares monthly meeting agenda

Presides at all meetings

Place meeting reminders the week before regular meetings

Schedule officer meetings the week before regular meetings

Oversees all committees, projects and other officers

Responsible for any new troupe projects

Represents the troupe to other schools

Other duties as assigned by the sponsor

**Vice-President**:

Preside over meetings in the absence of the president

Responsible for preparations for Thespian Induction

Responsible for preparations for awards night

Other duties as assigned by the president or sponsor

**Secretary**:

Record minutes to every meeting

Post the minutes the day after the meeting on Drama board

Provide a copy of the minutes to the Historian

Corresponds for the troupe including: thank you notes, invitations, newsletters, and newspapers

Assists the sponsor with fundraisers

Other duties as assigned by the president or sponsor

**Historian**:

Prepares the scrapbook that represents SAA Troupe #5952

Represents the troupe at the state conference for Honor Troupe

(The scrapbook must be updated and ready for presentation at any time throughout the school year. It must be prepared strictly according to the guidelines/rubric of Georgia State Thespians. The scrapbook provides a history of the activities and productions of the troupe.)

**Clerk/Social Coordinator**:

Maintains Thespian points records

Communicates point information to troupe

Periodically updates points records for members

Prepares a theatre activity for each monthly meeting

Organizes all aspects of social projects

Organizes snacks and drinks for monthly meetings

Other duties as assigned by president or sponsor

**State Representatives**:

Attend two (2) Thespian Conference (ThesCon) preparation meetings

Report information attained from ThesCon meetings in written and verbal form to the troupe

Serve as ambassadors of SAA at ThesCon

Other duties as assigned by president or sponsor

**Officer Elections**

Section 4: Officer **election** procedures are as follows:

1. At the March business meeting each candidate completes an Officer Application Form which must be signed by the candidate and one of his/her parents/guardians
2. An interview of each candidate will be conducted by the troupe sponsor
3. A roster of candidates will be prepared after eligibility requirements and the interview process are completed
4. An election will take place at the May business meeting following induction
5. Each candidate will be given the opportunity to speak on their behave at the election
6. Voting will be by secret ballot
7. The ballots will be counted by the troupe president, sponsor, and one Thespian Representative
8. All Thespians will be allowed one vote for each office
9. A tie vote will result in a revote for that office
10. A second tie vote may be broken by the sponsor
11. All officers must be elected by a majority of the vote
12. Only active Thespians will be permitted to vote

Section 5: Officer **probation** or removal will occur when:

1. An officer misses the business portion of any meeting without sponsor approval prior to the meeting
2. An officer misses two meetings without prior approval from the sponsor
3. An officer does not remain on the active Thespian status and/or
4. An officer does not fulfill his/her official duties
5. An officer does not maintain a 3.0 GPA
6. An officer does not participate in club functions
7. Proper notice procedures must be followed for excused absences

**Article IV: DRAMA/THESPIAN CLUB MEETINGS**

Section 1: Drama/Thespian Club meetings will be held the second Thursday of each month after school.

Section 2: Officer meetings shall take place the week preceding the troupe meeting

Section 3: Attendance at Thespian meetings is mandatory for inducted Thespians.

Section 4 ***A written excuse submitted to the Sponsor two (2) days prior to meetings and required Thespian events will be considered for an excused absence.*** Legitimate excuses include school-related or school excused absences. Work conflicts will not be considered excused when ample notice to coordinate schedules is provided. Ample notice will be defined as a minimum of two (2) weeks. Other situations will be handled on a case by case basis.

**Article V: PROBATION**

Section 1: Thespian probation means a Thespian member is on the inactive list.

Section 2: Thespian probation occurs when a Thespian fails to:

1. Attend a regularly scheduled monthly meeting
2. Attend or work all mainstage shows and/or a class production
3. Attend the Thespian induction ceremony
4. Fail to work the club fundraisers
5. Fail to attend Thespian community service activities
6. Proper notice procedures must be followed for excused absences

Section 3: If placed on the inactive list a Thespian will not be able to attend any club social events, to include Thespian Conference, audition for SAA theatre productions, attend the Thespian Induction/Awards Night, or vote in the election at the end of the year.

Section 4: To return to active Thespian status, a member must earn three additional Thespian points (30) hours of work. These points cannot be gained by seeing productions.

Section 5: If a Thespian returns to the inactive list a second time within one school year, he/she may not regain active status that year.

**Article VI: FUNDRAISERS**

Section 1: All Thespians are required to assist in the major money-making projects designated by the troupe sponsor.

Section 2: In the pursuit of troupe improvement, officers may add mandatory events if ample notice is provided.

Section 3: Failure to participate will result in being placed on the inactive status list.

Section 4: The current mandatory fundraisers is/are determined each year based on interest.

**Article VII: COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Section 1: All Thespians are required to assist in all of the community events approved by the troupe.

Section 2: In the pursuit of troupe improvement, officers may add mandatory events if ample notice is provided.

Section 3: Failure to participate will result in being placed on the inactive status list.

Section 4: The current mandatory community service events include:

1. Trick-or-Treat So Kids Can Eat; around Halloween each year

**Article VIII: HONOR THESPIANS**

Section 1: An SAA Thespian may receive the status of Honor Thespian upon completion of seventy-five (75) thespian points.

Section 2: Honor cords may be worn at graduation by Thespians who:

1. Completed seventy-five (75) Thespian points
2. Meets or exceed SAA academic standards
3. Are in good standing with SAA and Troupe #5952
4. Participated in all mandatory activities/events for Troupe #5952

Section 3: An SAA Thespian may receive the status of Honor Scholar Thespian.

Section 4: Honor Scholar Thespian Cords may be worn at graduation by Thespians who:

1. Completed seventy-five (75) Thespian points
2. Earned a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA
3. Are in good standing with SAA and Troupe #5952
4. Participated in all mandatory activities/events for Troupe #5952

**Article X: AMENDMENTS**

Section 1: The Constitution may be amended with the approval of the sponsor and a consensus of the officers.

**SAA Troupe #5952 Constitution Agreement Document**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, of Troupe #5952 have read the constitution and agree to comply with all Articles, Sections, and Guidelines contained therein for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ school year. I also understand the consequences of not complying with these Articles, Sections, and Guidelines and further agree that if placed on probation status I will follow the reinstatement policies listed in the constitution.

Thespian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the parent of the Thespian noted above, have also read and understand the constitution of Troupe 5952 and will support the members, officers, and the sponsor in order for the program to run as efficiently and equally for all members.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This form is to be returned to the sponsor signed and dated by both parties regardless of age. Thespians that do not turn in the form will be immediately placed on inactive status and subject to the outcomes of such status until the form is turned in.

**Thespian Officer Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Office Sought \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Theatre Experience at SAA Only Responsibilities

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Please explain in 100 Words OR Less why you would be a good officer.

I understand the responsibilities of the office for which I am applying and I understand that if I fail to complete my duties, the consequence will be removal from that office. Officer duties include: attending Thespian/Drama Club meetings (one general and one officer meeting each month), participating in club social events, working on fund raisers, community service, and working or attending all SAA theatrical productions.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my son/daughter to apply for the above Thespian Troupe Office.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_