

# INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY SUSQUEHANNOCK HIGH SCHOOL

## **Thespians Troupe # 4088 Constitution**

### **Article I. Name and purpose**

**Section 1.** This organization shall be called Troupe #4088 of the International Thespians Society, a branch of the Educational Theatre Association.

**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.

**Section 3.** The organization forbids secrecy; membership is given as recognition for meritorious work in the theatre arts.

### **Article II. Membership**

**Section 1.** All nominees for active membership shall be regularly enrolled as students of Susquehannock High School.

**Section 2.** All active members must have participated in at least one full-length play and one musical and have earned a minimum of ten points, i.e., one hundred hours of superior work. Also, active members must be enrolled in grades 9-12.

**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 the theatre in the school and the community.

### **Article III. Officers**

**Section 1.** Susquehannock High School Troupe #4088 shall elect officers once a year in the last full month of the school term at a regular business meeting.

**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.

**Section 3.** If not an elected officer, a Stage Manager will be appointed by the theatre director/sponsor and will serve during the current production.

**Section 4.** The elected officers are to have the following 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 all troupe correspondence.
- d.) The Treasurer keeps the Troupe's books and pays bills and may act as a business manager of Thespian productions.
- e.) The Clerk keeps the point records of all activities: plays, production dates, casts, crews, and work accomplished as provided in the official point system.

**Section 5.** The duties of the sponsor 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.

**Section 6.** The Board of Directors shall be composed of the sponsor, all elected officers, and any honorary members appointed by the sponsor.

#### **Article IV. Meetings and attendance**

**Section 1.** Meetings shall be held once a month, after school hours.

**Section 2.** Special meetings may be called by the sponsor, any officer, or by a quorum.

**Section 3.** A quorum shall be fifty percent of the active membership and must include two officers.

**Section 4.** Any member who is absent four meetings per school year, four rehearsals during a current production, unless they have an excuse considered valid by the sponsor or who does not participate in a current production, which would earn one or more points, shall be dropped from active membership. Any member who causes deliberate dissension, which would disrupt the workings of any production or business meetings, shall be dropped from active membership by a vote of two-thirds of the membership with the consent of the sponsor. Any member requesting readmittance after suspension must have the consent of the sponsor and two-thirds of the membership.

#### **Article V. Dues, etc.**

**Section 1.** There shall be no dues for the troupe except as provided by the International Thespian Society Board of Trustees, unless determined by a two-thirds vote of the membership at the regularly yearly election.

#### **Article VI. Amendments**

**Section 1.** All amendments to this constitution must have the vote of two-thirds of the troupe membership. 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.** Members arriving late to or leaving early from meetings or rehearsals without a reason considered valid by the theatre director/sponsor will be demerited. Three such offenses will be counted as an absence from a meeting without excuse.

**Section 2.** Regular evening meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. unless special notice be posted as to the change of time.

**Section 3.** Irregular attendance indicates a lack of interest; therefore any member absent four meetings per school year without a written excuse submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer, Stage Manager, or sponsor the day of, or after the scheduled meetings, shall be automatically suspended from the active roll or membership.

**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.

**Section 2.** The time and place of induction as well as the form will be determined by the sponsor.

**Section 3.** The Vice 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.

## **Article III. Troupe activities**

**Section 1.** The troupe is not a secret organization, so faculty and students interested in theatre, as well as honorary members and alumni, shall be invited to its meetings.

**Section 2.** At least one business meeting of Troupe #4088 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 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 IV. Point award system**

**Section 1.** The theatre 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.

## **Article V. Elections**

**Section 1.** Officers shall be elected at a business meeting in the month of April for the coming fall term. All officers for the 06-07 school year shall be elected within five school days after adoption of Troupe #4088 constitution.

**Section 2.** Nominations for officers will come from the floor during the April Meeting. Officers will be elected by a majority vote. Nominations will be accepted for the President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Clerk. The nominee for President with the second most votes will be the Vice President.

**Section 3.** Voting will be done by secret written ballot.

**Section 4.** Three members, including one officer, may request, in writing, to the sponsor, a recall election of all or any elected officers. This written request must 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. Two-thirds 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 V, Section 2.

**Section 5.** Any nominations may be vetoed by the Sponsor.

## **Article VI. Installations**

**Section 1.** Officers shall be installed at the last social or program meeting of the school term.

## **Article VII. Adoption**

**Section 1.** Two-thirds of the current voting members is needed for adoption of this constitution.

## **Article VIII. 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 membership money from classmates, inform his/her grade of any new information, and aid any officer if requested to do so.

## **Article IX. Conflict resolution**

**Section 1.** In the event issues/conflicts arise between a Thespian and a Sponsor which can not be solved through communication between the two parties, the issue should be resolved by the school administration.