



Troupe #984 Constitution

Adopted September 2017

Article I: Name, Purpose, and Governance

Section 1. Name: This organization shall be called Troupe #984 has been chartered by Liberty High School (LHS). The charter affiliates it with the International Thespian Society (ITS).

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 and scholar distinctions shall receive recognition of their exemplary accomplishments.

Section 3. Governance: This troupe constitution and its bylaws are two components of a hierarchy of documents that govern members of the International Thespian Society and its parent organization, the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA). The documents affecting troupes, in order of authority, are: the EdTA Code of Regulations, the membership policy, the troupe handbooks, the troupe constitution, and troupe bylaws. This constitution may not be altered in any way that conflicts with a superseding 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/bylaws. The Thespian point system is the official guide for awarding 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, and second Vice President. 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 (e.g.: May)

Article III: Meetings and Participation

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

Section 2. 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:

- Given a warning by the ITS Board with the Troupe Directors knowledge. This is meant to identify behavior(s) of a student that may put them at risk for suspension from the troupe.
- 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.
- In extreme cases a Thespian's status as a member in good standing of the local troupe may be suspended or withdrawn by the Troupe Director for just cause. Such decisions are subject to oversight by the school administration. This may affect any or all participation rights and benefits that require the Troupe Director's authorization, but will not affect membership and benefits that come directly from the ITS national office.

Article IV: Dues and Fees

Section 1. Dues: At the time of induction, the troupe member shall pay his/her troupe dues. Dues shall be used to purchase honors, awards, and student membership.

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 Board at a regular troupe meeting. The school and its Troupe Director may also assess user fees in accordance with school policy.

Article V: Induction, Eligibility, and Maintaining Membership

Section 1. Eligibility: Any student who fulfills the following requirements will be inducted into the International Thespian Society (ITS) Troupe 984.

- A. Student must be enrolled at Liberty High School (LHS).
- B. Student must have earned a minimum of 12 points, 6 of which must have come from participation in LHS Drama productions.
- C. Student may not begin to accumulate points until after the fall of the student's freshman year at LHS (summer points will only count after freshman year).
- D. Student has participated in at least two different areas of theatre (e.g.: acting, production, design crews).
- E. Student must have significantly participated in LHS productions: two full length production, or one full length and two substantial one acts, to be inducted.
- F. Student must participate in a LHS drama related class and substantially participated in one LHS full length production or have substantially participated in two full length LHS productions each year following induction to remain an active Troupe 984 member.

- G. Student must maintain a 2.75 weighted GPA in all academic classes or they will be put on probation until student's GPA improves.

Article VI: Submission of Points

Section 1. Accuracy: Any student who fulfills the following requirements will be ensured their points will be counted towards becoming a member of Troupe 984 or maintaining the student's existing membership requirements.

- A. Student may begin collecting ITS points starting the fall of his/her freshman year. These points can accumulate over time (e.g.: they don't expire).
- B. Students who are involved with a professional theatre productions in which he/she was directly compensated financially (e.g.: the student received a paycheck or money for services rendered for a show/production), may be awarded up to two (2) times the number of Liberty ITS points for the role that he/she served in . Examples where this may apply but not limited to: acting or run crew at a Toby's Dinner Theatre production, running tech for a community theatre/companies, etc. Along with submission of these points, documentation of what the students responsibilities were and the number of hours rendered would need to be turned in with their ITS point submission. The Troupe Director and ITS board will determine final points based off the description provided and knowledge of the type of production.
- C. Student must complete a point submission form for each season in order for the student's points to be considered and counted.
- D. All ITS points are due by midnight of the designated date set forth by the ITS Board at the beginning of the academic year. If for some reason the date(s) need to be adjusted, it is the ITS Boards' responsibility to notify members of the Drama Club and ITS.
- E. Student will enter points either online through the website or via point sheet prior by the due date and time. If for some reason the website is unavailable, the student's ITS points should be documented in an email addressed to Troupe 984 (the email is listed on the LHS Drama website).
- F. In order for ITS points to be considered and counted, the student must turn in his/her points for the designated season (e.g.: summer, fall, winter, spring). Failure to turn in points within the designated time will result in the points not being counted and considered invalid.
- G. Student must provide proof for any productions outside of LHS drama productions. (e.g.: other company shows, dance and vocal performances).

H. Student must ensure that he/she has identified any drama classes and the associated grade for the class with their ITS point submission. If points are due prior to the end of the marking period, the student should place the current/expected grade in that class which can be validated by the Troupe Director.

Section 2. Invalid Points: Any students who fail to comply with the regulations in Section 1 will have their points classified as invalid for that season and not negotiable. The invalid points may not be resubmitted under a different season.

- The ITS Board shall provide the student in writing the rationale as to why points were classified as invalid within one week of points being posted.

Section 3. Appealing Points: If a student believes there was a miscalculation of his/her points, the student must submit concerns in writing with proof of all points submitted within 2 weeks of the points being posted for that current season.

- Thespian Board and the Troupe Director will re-evaluate points and provide the student with written explanation of the decision made to either deny or approve the points in question.
- This second review process requested by the student will result in a final decision and cannot be overturned.

Article VII: 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, membership policy, troupe handbook, troupe constitution, or school policy or procedures.

Section 2. Adoptions and Amendments: The Troupe Director and Thespian Board 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 VIII: Amendments

Section 1. Exclusion: 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 or the ITS Troupe 984 Board 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.

Revised from August 2015 Troupe 984 Constitution/Bylaws and Adopted Septemer 2017

Troupe Director: Danielle Dickstein

Signature: _____

Troupe President: Lexi Twilley

Signature: _____