

Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts
Theatre Department
501 South Sapodilla Avenue, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

THEATRE DEPARTMENT

HANDBOOK

2024-2025

This Handbook was created by Beverly Blanchette in 1994.

Since, revisions have by created by:

Wade Handy, 2012

Bruce Linser, 2013

Brad Barfield, 2016

Michelle Petrucci, 2017

Andrew Gilbert, 2019

Savannah Whetsell, 2023

We are grateful for the many educators who have contributed to the success of this department and their knowledge encapsulated herein.

It is the responsibility of every Theatre student, every student participating in Theatre Department activities, and their parents/legal guardians to read, understand, and safeguard this handbook. Failure to abide by the policies and procedures set forth in this handbook by the Dreyfoos Theatre faculty could result in poor grades and/or dismissal from the Dreyfoos Theatre Department.

How to use this Handbook

Please use the navigation on the side of this Google Doc to open the Outline. This will open the navigation to each important section of this handbook.

You should click this button on the left hand side of the document:



Directory

Theatre Department Faculty

Kristina Leljedal	Dean, Acting, Aice Drama, Improv	kristina.leljedal@palmbeachschools.org
Sandra Christie	Musical Theatre Dance	sandra.christie@palmbeachschools.org
Nathaniel Rayman	Technical Supervisor, Stagecraft & Design	nathaniel.rayman@palmbeachschools.org
Stephanie Nixdorf	Musical Theatre	stephanie.nixdorf@palmbeachschools.org
Savannah Whetsell	Acting, Theatre History, Devised	savannah.whetsell@palmbeachschools.org
Penny Williams	Costume Design (Artist-in-Residence)	penny.koleos@palmbeachschools.org
Cate Green	Company Manager (Artist-in-Residence)	catherine.green@palmbeachschools.org
Hannah Sherrod	Technical Theatre (Artist-in-Residence)	hannah.sherrod@palmbeachschools.org

The Theatre faculty kindly requests that students and parents use only the above-listed email addresses to communicate. Please refrain from contacting faculty via private lines, home email addresses, or online social media sites. Students and parents may receive private phone numbers and email addresses for field trip purposes only; please promptly delete these numbers and email addresses following such trips.

Thespian Troupe #4990 Officers

Brooke Meyerson	President
Sophia Papayannis	Vice President
Alanis Gonzalez	Secretary
Payton Borowski	Treasurer
Gilly Pacheco	Historian
Elle Ruyack	Public Relations
Audrey “Tate” Walker	Officer in Training

The Vision, Mission, and Philosophy of the Dreyfoos School of the Arts Theatre Department

Vision: Students graduating from the Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts Theatre program will be the innovators and leading practitioners in the next generation of American theatre.

Mission: The Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts Theatre Department will provide students with the comprehensive theatre arts studies and practical experiences necessary to enter prestigious college, university, or conservatory theatre programs as well as the professional industry.

Philosophy: Theatre is an all-or-nothing proposition. Our students’ classroom instruction is supplemented and enhanced by our extracurricular production experiences – process applied to product. Consistent and committed participation in both classroom and after-school activities is necessary for a complete theatrical education.

Selected Departmental Accomplishments

- Educational Theatre Association Outstanding High School Theatre Program
- Sixteen Florida State Thespian Festival Mainstage Productions
- Two-time winner of Southeastern Theatre Conference Secondary School One-Act Play Festival

- Four-time winner of Florida Theatre Conference Secondary School One-Act Play Festival
- Most awards for a single school at District Thespians Individual Events Festival
- Recognition of students through the NFAA YoungArts program
- Recognition of students through the Arts for Life and Palm Beach Post Pathfinder scholarship programs
- Graduates accepted to college/conservatory theatre programs, including: Boston Conservatory, Boston University, Berklee School of Music, Carnegie Mellon, DePaul, Elon, Florida State University, Ithaca College, Juilliard, New World School of the Arts, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Northwestern University, Pace, Penn State, Point Park, Southern Methodist University, SUNY Purchase, Syracuse University, Texas State, University of the Arts, North Carolina School of the Arts, University of Southern California, and Webster University.

Selected Alumni Accomplishments

- Founding theatre/film companies: Randi Berry, Wreckio Ensemble; Kimberlea Kressal, EstroTribe; Nick Ciavarella, Sound and Space Theatre; Paul Leopold, Descent Artists; Adam Cronin, Bama Productions
- Performed on and off-Broadway (inc. tours): *Wicked* (Talia Suskauer and Olivia Dei Cicchi), *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (Jacquez Linder-Long), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Jana Jackson), *Tootsie* (Alec Ruiz), *Pretty Woman* (Becca Suskauer), *RENT* (Makenzie Rivera)
- Worked on and off-Broadway: Megan Larche, Casting Director with Binder Casting, Associate Producer of *Bring It On!*; Jessica Weeks, Assistant Sound Designer of *Nice Work if You Can Get It*,
- Worked in Television and Film: Joshua Harto, Coleman Reece in *The Dark Knight* and writer/producer of *Memphis Beat* and *The Lifeguard*; Erin Krakow, *Army Wives*; Sharon Pierre-Louis, *The Lying Game*, *Django Unchained*; Ben Yanette, *Royal Pains*; Reid Ewing, *Modern Family*
- Designed professionally: Pamela Kupper, Lighting Design at Radio City Music Hall; Caitlin Hunt, assistant costume designer, *In the Heights*; Michael McClain, scenic design at St. Louis Opera
- Commercials: Deprece Reddick and Franchesca Tosti for Pepsi, Maritte Go for Ford
- Self-promotional/stand-up work: Franchesca Ramsey (MTV's Decoded)

2024-2025 Theatre Department Calendar

This calendar contains all of the important dates for DSOA Theatre in the 2023-2024 school year. Please familiarize yourself with this calendar and be sure to bookmark it. This is a living document and always subject to change.

[Click Here for the Calendar!](#)

DSOA Theatre Weekly Magic Maker

On Sunday each week, a “Magic Maker” email will be sent out to all students detailing all events of the week ahead. These emails are very important and helpful references for all students. If you are not receiving the weekly Magic Maker, please contact Ms. Green.

Academic and Artistic Honesty

Cheating includes any method of assistance on any assignment for which assistance is not allowed. Always assume that you may not receive assistance on an assignment/quiz/test, unless the teacher instructs you otherwise.

Plagiarism is defined as “presenting someone else’s work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not.” This includes the idea of “working together/sharing ideas.” “Someone else’s work” means anything that is *not your own idea* even if it is presented in your own style. It includes material from books, journals or any other printed source, the work of other students or staff, information from the Internet, designs and ideas. It also includes the organization or structuring of any such material.

With regard to theatrical designs, remember that it is considered plagiarism if you use someone else’s design as your own. For example, if you are designing sets or costumes for a play and use a design from another production as your own (even if you make “changes”), it is considered plagiarism.

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated in any class; violations will result in the receipt of no credit on the assignment and possible disciplinary action.

Callboards

Bulletin boards (callboards) are located throughout the hallways of Building Seven. Each board is devoted to certain topics important to the operation of the Department, and labeled as such. Students must check each callboard at least twice per day. “I didn’t know” is not a valid excuse. Students may not post anything on a callboard without permission from the Dean or the director of a given production.

The Main Callboard is located outside of the main entrance to the Black Box Theater. This callboard contains information related to students including class assignments, important messages from teachers, calendar dates, and general department information. Across from the Green Room and next to the Costume Shop, is the Thespian callboard. This callboard contains information related to Thespian Troupe activities such as District & State IEs.

Production Callboards are also located in the hallway outside of Room 7-110. Each Meyer Hall production shares one board, while the board opposite contains information related to Brandt Black Box Theater

productions. Other callboards throughout the halls include information regarding Design/Production, Costumes, College Applications & Auditions, Summer Programs, Outreach and Current Theatre Events.

Other important department information may be posted on the Theatre Department Google Classroom page and website. It is imperative that you stay up to date with all methods of Theatre Department communication. Joining the Theatre Department Google Classroom is mandatory.

Theatre Department Google Classroom Code for Students: uls3hyi

Casting Policy

The Theatre Department faculty casts school productions at open auditions as posted on the Callboards. Casting is done by a show's director, occasionally with the help of other faculty members. Only faculty members make casting decisions. While it is impossible to cast every student in any given production or school year, the faculty will make the best attempt possible to maximize performance opportunities for all students.

The faculty considers not only a student's audition for a particular play but also prior production performance and reliability, classroom behavior and performance, and grades (***students may not participate in a cast or crew if having lower than a 2.0 GPA, or are on academic or arts probation***). For productions that span two semesters but are cast in the first, a student on academic or arts probation may audition and be cast provisionally pending final first semester grades.

The faculty will not cast any student who is not a theatre major unless there is no student in the Theatre Department capable of carrying out the specific role. Therefore, Theatre Department auditions are limited to theatre majors unless otherwise specified.

Sometimes, when a choice between two students right for a part must be made, seniority may be considered. Additionally, there may be students who appear in multiple productions due to casting needs. Final casting consideration comes down to several factors including who is best for the role and the educational value for a particular student playing a role.

While not required, it is highly recommended that students audition and/or interview for every production (whether Mainstage or Black Box Series). Auditioning is like working out at the gym; the more you do it, the easier it becomes.

Casting is the most difficult part of any production. We believe in absolute fairness and do everything in our power to be both fair and consistent. If you have auditioned for a play or applied for a position and were not

chosen, a director may choose to provide feedback at their own discretion. A director may refuse to provide you with feedback.

Audition information will be posted prior to auditions on Google Classroom and on the show's callboard. Make sure you check the callboards to stay up to date on information about auditions, callbacks and casting.

Classroom Expectations

The Theatre Department is committed to providing a safe space for students to learn and grow as artists. Students will not be subject to any sort of ridicule for appropriate risks taken or work completed either in or out of class. As artists, we respect each other's creativity and freedom of expression. Additionally, the following classroom behaviors are expected from students:

- Punctuality: please be in your seat when the tardy bell rings and remain in your seat unless otherwise instructed.
- Preparation: please be prepared for class at the sound of the tardy bell.
- Presence and Attentiveness: please refrain from talking and other disruptive behavior--especially during performances.
- Personal Responsibility: please use the restroom and take care of other personal business during lunch or between classes.
- Respect: please respect yourself, your classmates, and your instructors. Practice exceptional audience behavior. Put away cellular phones and other electronic devices to prevent distraction.
- Decorum: please refrain from the use of inappropriate gestures, language, and prop weapons both on-stage and off.
- Good Citizenship: please do not deface or destroy school, classroom, or personal property. Please refrain from chewing gum, eating, or drinking in the building. Clean up after yourself when you leave a classroom or rehearsal. ***No food is allowed in theatre department spaces.***
- Follow all expectations set forth by DSOA and individual teachers.

We ask that students treat each other with kindness and respect at all times. The Theatre Department does not tolerate gossiping about others or bullying of any sort. If you notice any student bullying another, or talking behind someone's back in a harmful way, please report it to one of your teachers. Please do not hesitate to seek assistance from your teachers. We are here to help.

Dress Code

When actors/technicians work, rehearse, warm-up, and/or perform on the stage, they need to feel free to move. Some classes may have specific dress code requirements to help you get the most out of the curriculum.

It is important that you wear clothing conducive to the activities you are expected to do in class. Safety is also an important consideration (ie. no open-toed shoes in the Scene Shop). Please dress appropriately and professionally at all times. If you do not follow dress code requirements, you may not be able to participate in class activities for safety reasons.

All theatre classes have a dress requirement for class. Students should refer to each teacher's expectations given in class for such requirements. In the event a teacher requires students to dress out, students will be granted five minutes at the beginning and ending of the class period to change clothes, and access to the dressing rooms to do so.

Field Trips

Students will receive specific information regarding field trips well in advance of the trips. **Permission Forms must be completed and turned in before or on their due dates. No permission forms will be accepted after it is due.**

Parents and students are reminded that all School District of Palm Beach County and Alexander W. Dreyfoos, Jr. School of the Arts rules and policies are in place while on any field trip. Alcohol, drug, controlled substance, and weapon possession will not be tolerated. Any student caught in possession of any item that is not allowed will be referred to law enforcement authorities, and further disciplinary action will be taken upon return to school. Violation of any rule could mean that the entire school will be prevented from participating in athletic trips, conferences, festivals, or competitions.

Students are responsible for expenses related to food, ground and air transportation, lodging, and other miscellaneous incidental costs. Financial assistance may be available to students in the form of scholarships from the Theatre Parents Association or the School of the Arts Foundation.

Important Field Trips:

Please refer to the DSOA Theatre Calendar for important dates. Updates about these field trips will be given on Callboards and at ITS Meetings.

District Thespian Individual Event Festival

This is our District-level International Thespian Society competition day – It is all all-day field trip that typically takes place on a Saturday. **Students must first qualify at Mini-Fest at DSOA and be selected to go to competition.** Students interested in participating should check the callboards and attend Thespian meetings for important information.

Florida State Thespian Festival – (Typically in Tampa, Florida)

This trip will take place in March in Tampa. Students who rank highly at the District Thespian Individual Event Festival can be selected to participate in this multi-day field trip which features the state-level competition, as well as workshops and mainstage productions. In the event that more students qualify to attend the trip than competitive slots available, the theatre faculty will consider seniority, specific critiques from District IE judges, and educational value for students.

Florida State Thespians

Participation in the District 15 Thespians Individual Events and Florida State Thespian Festivals are governed by the rules of Florida State Thespians and the policies of the Dreyfoos School of the Arts Theatre Department. For information regarding Florida State Thespians, please visit: <http://www.flthespian.com>.

Grading Policies in the Classroom

Most theatre courses are performance-based in that students are graded primarily on performances and presentations done while in class. Faculty will establish rubrics and communicate their components prior to final performance or presentation. Each theatre teacher will set their own grading policies, as well as policies around late and makeup work. It is important that you refer to your class information for grading policies.

Juries and Lab Hours

Included in the grade calculation for each semester are juries and lab hours. Lab hours count as 10% of the overall exam grade. The jury is a performance/project-based assessment that is used as the semester exam grade. Special circumstances will be considered by Mrs. Leljedal, dean of Theatre, if a student cannot complete their lab hours. This request must come early in the semester.

Students will present a jury in one of the following categories: Acting, Musical Theatre, Dance, Set Design, Prop Design/Construction, Lighting Design, Sound Design, Costume Construction, or Costume Design. These projects must correlate with the theatre classes in which the student is enrolled.

Fall Juries: Sophomores and Juniors

Spring Juries: Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors

Senior Showcase will serve as the jury project for all Seniors.

The Lab Hour requirement is a common practice at arts schools nationwide. Its purpose is two-fold: to provide educational experiences that cannot normally be provided in the classroom and guarantee that all students are well-rounded theatre collaborators both on and off stage. The Dreyfoos Theatre faculty will only accept Lab Hours for time spent working on Dreyfoos Theatre Department productions, within the Dreyfoos Theatre Department, or through a Dreyfoos Theatre Department sanctioned activity.

Freshmen: 30 hours for school year

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors: 30 hours per semester

Detailed information including rubrics is available in this document: *When updated, the document will be posted in Google Classroom and sent via Magic Maker.*

Outside Work / Training

Theatre students and parents should use due diligence when pursuing outside theatrical work. If you are looking for agency representation, please do a proper web search to ensure that the agency is SAG-AFTRA or AEA affiliated and do not pay them anything until they book you for a job. When pursuing outside work, take into consideration your commitments at DSOA Theatre.

Thanks to the intensive training that our program provides, Dreyfoos theatre students should not feel obligated to pay for outside training. We encourage students to take full advantage of our class offerings and faculty.

Petition to Change Tracks

Once you are here at DSOA, we encourage you to take full advantage of what your “track” (Acting, Musical Theatre or Tech) has to offer. However, you are not barred from taking classes due to your track. We will not be allowing students to switch tracks, but we can be flexible when allowing students to choose classes. Talk to us if you’re interested in taking a class outside of your track.

Rehearsal & Performance – Attendance & Participation Policies

All DSOA Theatre-initiated performances, whether presented on-campus or off, are subject to the preview and approval of the Dean.

For DSOA Theatre productions, rehearsal schedule guidelines have been established by the Theatre Faculty to meet the requests of students and parents involved in the department’s productions. With these guidelines, it is expected that students attend all rehearsals/performances, while fulfilling the expectations of the production director, without allowing grades to suffer. All ITS rehearsals are student-driven, and are at the discretion of the ITS participants.

Because directors will abide by these guidelines, it is expected that students involved in productions will not use rehearsals and performances as excuses to stay out late or miss class, homework, tests, or projects. Students may NOT request time out of any class to rehearse, work on scenery/lighting, etc. The department will not support any student who chooses to miss class. Teachers, likewise, must be conscientious of student time and will NOT take advantage of it by asking them to leave class to rehearse.

Similarly, we request that parents not use rehearsals/performances as something to take away from the child as a punishment. Once the student and parent agree to participate in a production, it should be considered a serious commitment as one would a job.

Students are expected to read show audition and technical participation contracts thoroughly, as some requirements may differ for specific productions.

Guidelines for Students & Parents:

1. School work / class work comes first. Do not use the show as an excuse to miss assignments, extend due dates, etc. You must be in class whenever possible. When you know you're going to be absent, ask for assignments in advance, and do them.
2. Attend your classes. **You may not attend any after-school activities if you are absent more than ½ of the school day. We will monitor this.**
3. Don't use the show as an excuse to: stay out late, miss class, miss deadlines, miss homework. The show should help you manage your time.
4. Don't ask to be excused from ANY class to "work on the show." If we need you, we will ask for you. When you take advantage of the production, it hurts our ability to pull you when we need you.
5. Don't lie to your parents. Don't say you were at rehearsal when you were not. This hurts our ability to pull you into rehearsals when we need you.
6. Just say "NO!" to other extra-curricular activities. Once you've accepted a position on a show that must be your first and only extracurricular priority.
7. You must attend rehearsals when you are called. If you are unable to attend a rehearsal, you must give a director at least 24 hours notice. Tech rehearsals are mandatory, and there are no allowed absences during the tech process. If you miss a certain amount of rehearsal time, you may be removed from a show. Refer to each director's preferences for more information on this.
8. Ask your parents to help with volunteering! We need help with: concessions, Box Office/Group Sales, donations, or meals. Parents - please offer to help; we need producers and volunteers for every show to keep ticket costs down and situations running smoothly.

Guidelines for Production Directors:

1. Do everything possible to limit rehearsals, stay on schedule, end rehearsals on time, and keep parents informed of changes. Should a director feel that extra time is needed, he/she will ask the cast/crew for approval. Then, the stage manager will meet privately with the cast/crew for a secret vote. The director will accept the decision without repercussions.
2. Avoid keeping students past scheduled times at all costs. If emergencies arise & students are needed to stay past scheduled times, then directors will send out email messages and/or make personal phone calls.

3. Avoid rehearsals on holidays.
4. Avoid time out of class.
5. Avoid rehearsals during lunch, breaks, or any other free student time.
6. Allow breaks at 10 minutes per 90 minutes of rehearsal (Equity rules).
7. Create a professional atmosphere during the rehearsal/production process.
8. Follow the below approximate production time frame, although directors set their own start times:

4:15 to 6:30 pm for blocking/staging rehearsals (4-5 weeks) - 6:51pm Tri-Rail

4:15 to 7:30 pm for cleaning/polishing rehearsals (2-3 weeks) - 7:46pm Tri-Rail

4:15 to 8:30 pm the week leading up to tech/dress rehearsals (1 week) - 8:46pm Tri-Rail

Tech/Dress rehearsals will run later in order to allow for adequate pre-show preparation and to ready students for the challenge of performing a show in the evening. These longer rehearsals are necessary to fit in entire runs of the show in costume.

Rehearsal & Performance – Theatre Etiquette

To provide the most professional atmosphere possible, everyone involved in the play production process, whether on stage or off, is expected to adhere to the following rules and guidelines. Those who do not may be dismissed from the production.

1. Respect one another. This includes directors, stage managers, designers, technicians, crew members, and actors. Never criticize or correct each other's work. Trust that everyone has a job to do and knows what needs to get done to make it happen. Focus on your own part of the collaborative process.
2. Speak only positively about the show. You are our best public relations firm. Sometimes during the process, it may seem like mass confusion, but it is really organized confusion. What's that we always say? "It all comes together!"
3. Do not give notes to each other. Notes are only to be given by a show's director, and possibly the assistant director with permission of the director.
4. Refrain from seeking side-coaching from other sources. Side-coaching is dangerous because it can confuse you as the actor and muddy your director's vision of the playwright's intent.
5. Your body is your instrument. Stay healthy. Make smart choices (i.e., don't party the night before a long rehearsal or a performance). Protect your voice and your body at all times.
6. Just say "NO!" to other extra-curricular activities. Once you've accepted a position on a show that must be your first and only extracurricular priority.
7. Be prompt and ready to work at the scheduled start time.

8. Call in advance if you must miss a rehearsal or arrive late. Be considerate of everyone's time. You haven't been excused from rehearsal until you've heard it from the director's mouth. Remember each director has their own policy for missed rehearsal!
9. Check callboards, emails, and phone messages for updates. You must be responsible. We might not have time to call you with changes, so pay careful attention to the callboards.
10. Review the rehearsal and performance schedules carefully. If you're with the show, you're with the whole show. There will be no substitutions of cast or personnel except in an emergency.
11. Mind all due dates.
12. Learn lines/songs immediately. Abide by all "Off-Book" dates.
13. Do your "homework" (research, character analysis, etc.) on your own. Come into rehearsal with knowledge already behind you. Don't wait for us to mold you. Make choices!
14. Accept a note quick and graciously – And feel free to ask the director for clarification.
15. Respond to a cue with a simple, "Thank you," or repeat the cue by simply stating, "Standing by".
16. Headsets are for show communications (cues and acknowledgements) only. Do not speak on the headsets about anything other than the show and the business relating to it.
17. During rehearsals, professional courtesy dictates that the wings remain silent so that those working on stage may focus. During performances, remain absolutely quiet at all times while offstage and backstage.
18. No gifts/thanks should be given from the stage; those who don't receive feel left out.
19. Do not touch props or costumes that are not yours. Return props to the prop table and hang all costumes neatly on the hangers provided when you are finished with them.
20. Keep dressing rooms, rehearsal halls, and theatre spaces neat and organized. Clean-up after yourself!
21. Maintain the (Dreyfoos) magic! The audience is not to see you during pre-show, intermission, or post-show. After curtain call, get out of costume and make-up before greeting your family and friends. No one is allowed backstage who is not involved with the production.
22. Leave your personal drama at home or at the stage door. The theatre and rehearsal halls are safe spaces in which to work and create. Being an artist doesn't give you permission to be the class clown, "act out," or make a fool of yourself or the Theatre Department in public. "Save it for the stage."

Showcases

Showcases provide expanded opportunities for students to present their creative work.

Attendance at every rehearsal and performance is mandatory. Failure to adhere to the rehearsal and performance etiquette and policies outlined in this Handbook will result in dismissal from the showcase.

Theatrical designs will be on display in the lobby with designers standing by to discuss their work with audience members during pre/post show and intermission. Technicians may be able to assist on the technical crews, as well.

Showcases for the 2024-2025 school year include:

Short-Attention-Span: This showcase will feature scenes, songs, monologues, and mimes receiving a Superior rating at the District 15 Thespians Individual Events Festival. All performance work must originate from the Dreyfoos Theatre Department.

Senior Showcase: This showcase presents the culmination of four years in the Dreyfoos Theatre Department. Students may audition any type of piece they'd like to have considered for inclusion in the showcase (solo, duet, small group, original material)

The Senior Showcase may also feature a Senior Slideshow of no longer than 7 minutes. Photos and video clips in the slideshow must be approved by the Dean prior to the performance. Inappropriate content will be removed from the slideshow with no questions asked.

Theatre Parents Association (TPA)

The Theatre Parents Association exists to provide essential support for Theatre Department activities and productions. Examples of support include: Season Playbill publishing, fundraising for department needs, trip scholarships for students with financial need, hospitality for adjudicators during auditions, and planning and execution of opening night parties.

The Season Playbill is the TPA's most expansive fundraising effort. Students and families are asked to sell advertising space in a book produced by the TPA. Season Playbill Ad Sales information may be found on our website: dsoatheatre.com.

For more information on the Theatre Parents Association, please contact Lori Meyerson, President at lorimeyerson12@gmail.com.

Thespian Troupe 4990

TROUPE CONTACT: Kristina Lejedal

The International Thespian Honor Society was established for high school students who excel in theatre arts. Membership in Troupe 4990 is based on volunteer hours served for **any DSOA Theatre Department production or activity starting with the 9th grade school year**. Hours are to be recorded on the Google Classroom Lab Hour Card assignment. Near the end of the school year in which 100 hours are recorded, students must pay a \$35.00 membership fee which entitles them to a Thespian membership card, pin,

certificate, and a one-year subscription to *Dramatics Magazine*. At graduation, members will receive an honor cord and seal on their diploma.

Once a member, a student may continue to report hours for membership in Thespian Honoraria, or the Honor Thespian league:

200 hours – honor bar	400 hours – two honor bars
300 hours – honor bar and star	500 hours – two honor bars & 1 star

Thespian members are eligible to audition for scholarships which are awarded at the district and state festivals.

Each member is invited to attend the Annual Thespian Banquet. This is our end of the year celebration where we celebrate the hard work and dedication of our faculty and students, and present some student awards.

Thespian Members should attend our monthly Thespian Meetings. It is each student's responsibility to stay informed of Thespian activities by reading the callboards and attending meetings.

Thespian Individual Events auditions will be held annually for participation in festivals. Any work presented for audition to represent Troupe 4990 at the District Individual Event Festival must originate in the Dreyfoos Theatre Department. Participation in District and State festivals is open to Theatre Department students only.

There are registration fees and drop charges for each festival. More information will be provided about the cost of these field trips at ITS meetings. Students may apply for scholarships from the Theatre Parents Association & the School of the Arts Foundation.

Only troupe/school approved delegates may attend festivals; no student may attend a festival without first qualifying at our Mini-Fest event. Students and parents may not purchase day passes for attendance at festivals without troupe/school approval. Any student who violates these policies will receive disciplinary action and will not be permitted to participate in any future Thespian events.

The Troupe sponsor reserves the right to dismiss any participant who does not fully meet expectations. The 2023-2024 Faculty Sponsor for Troupe 4990 is Mrs. Leljedal.

Thespian Elections

Elections for the following year's Thespian officers will take place during the month of May. Students must attend the Thespian Candidates meeting in April and must submit their 'intent to run' letter to the Theatre Faculty on the due date. Students may not post any posters/flyers on any bulletin board or engage in social

media campaigning without first receiving approval of the materials from the Dean. Once approved, campaign materials may only be posted in Theatre hallways of Building 7.

Seniors may not vote. All speeches and supplementary materials must be approved by the Dean prior to being given at this meeting. Students may not run or campaign on a collective slate (i.e. President and Vice President as one ticket). Students are again reminded that all campaign speeches and presentations must be appropriate for a general audience. Any student that fails to abide by campaign guidelines determined by the faculty will be removed from the ballot.

Pay attention to ITS Meeting and the Callboards for additional information and requirements for Thespian Elections.

Election results will be announced at the discretion of the faculty.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Dreyfoos Theatre Department's most frequently requested volunteer positions for parents:

Group Sales Marketing: Groups of 20 or more for the same performance receive a group rate. We need help getting the word out about our shows to local assisted-living facilities, church groups, civic groups, etc. Parties interested in purchasing tickets at the group rate should contact Belinda Castillo in the Box Office at (561) 802-6052.

Backstage Supervision: One of the joys of Dreyfoos Theatre productions is that students run the performances. Still, we always need additional eyes backstage to ensure the safety of our students.

Concessions Personnel: Join our Theatre Parents Association as they sell refreshments before our shows and during intermission.

Box Office Personnel: Be the first contact that Dreyfoos Theatre has with our dedicated patrons!