

NOTICE OF THESPIAN FESTIVAL

Dear Thespians,

We will be attending the Texas Thespian State Festival in Grapevine on November 16-19, 2022.

The Festival will be held at the Gaylord Texan Resort Hotel & Convention Center.

The costs for the Thespian Festival is as follows:

Registration: \$175/person

Commuter Fee: \$50/person

Transportation: \$50/person

Total: \$275.00 per person (NOT INCLUDING COMPETITION FEES)

At the festival, you will need to bring money for meals outside the dinners provided by the Thespians.

In the first weeks of school, students will receive the **Registration Form and Consent & Acceptance Form**. To attend, please return these with parent/guardian signatures by **9/2/2022** along with your total payment to secure your spot. Fees will be paid online using Online School Fees. **ONLY STUDENTS IN AN ADVANCED COURSE (OR THOSE NOT IN ADVANCED WHO HAVE BEEN SPECIALLY APPROVED BY YOUR DIRECTORS) ARE ALLOWED TO ATTEND.**

At the festival, your badge will be pulled if you are found loitering, hanging out, sleeping in the hallways, sitting around, and/or not involved in a workshop or performance. If your badge is pulled, you and I will have to go before the Chapter Director. If we have to meet with the Chapter Director, we run the risk of not being allowed to attend the Festival next year. Please read and follow all the rules!

As a member of our troupe, I expect the following from you:

- You will represent our school as an outstanding Thespian!
- You will fold your Consent & Acceptance Form and place it behind your name tag
- You will wear your nametag above the waist at all times!
- You will be respectful to all Festival Staff and Student State Board members
- You will follow all rules of our school and you will abide by Festival Rules
- You will exhibit GREAT audience etiquette! This is not the place for "arena" behavior!! ➤

During performances and workshops, proper theater etiquette includes:

- no talking
- no texting
- no eating
- no sleeping
- You will be a FANTASTIC audience member

Should you have additional questions, please email me or go to www.texasthespians.org.

- Jami Sauls

saulsj@friscoisd.org

THESPIAN FESTIVAL EXPECTATIONS/FORMS

All participants are required to participate in all major Festival events which include attending morning main-stage productions, afternoon workshops or play marathon presentations, auditions, evening main-stage productions, etc.

1. **All Directors and Chaperones must take full responsibility for the conduct of their troupe delegation during Festival weekend.** This includes audience behavior in all performances, as well as behavior in workshop rooms, the dining hall, hallways, common areas, and hotels.
2. **“Lights-out” when told.** Please take curfew enforcement seriously—hotel security does! Students leaving their rooms or hotels after curfew will be in violation of local ordinances and will be ticketed. This is essential to student safety. Students should not leave their rooms after curfew. If violations occur, students and Directors will be required to attend a security panel interview the next morning, and may be sent home.
3. Please do not conduct troupe meetings in the lobbies or hallways of the hotel on guest floors. Troupes can meet during meal times, or directors should schedule time in their hotel rooms.
4. **No photography will be allowed during the performances.** All electronic recording devices will be taken up if they are used during a performance.
5. **Badges are to be worn (above the waist) at all times, in all public areas, including hotel lobbies and hallways.** Admission to all events will depend upon presentation of the badge to ushers and security team members. Don't forget to put a copy of the **Consent & Acceptance Form** in with the badge.
6. **Delegates must sit in their assigned seats for Main Stage performances.**
7. The color of your badge cover will identify your Meal time. ***Saving spots and cutting in any line is prohibited.***
8. The Festival buildings are a no-smoking area. Local ordinances will be enforced.
9. The Texas Thespians Festival has a ***zero tolerance policy regarding alcohol, drugs, inappropriate physical contact, weapons and violence.***
10. Defacing or causing damage to property and facilities will not be tolerated.
11. **Students may not congregate in the vicinity, or inside of buildings or locations not used for Festival activities without a Director being present.** Badges will be pulled for loitering or not participating in Festival activities.
12. Students may not leave the Festival venues without a Director or Chaperone.
13. **Inappropriate behavior during performances, workshops or any part of the Festival will result in the delegate's removal from the performance space and in being sent back home at the expense of their parents or guardians. Repeat offenses may result in the entire troupe being denied registration for Festival 2021.**

Texas Thespian Convention Code of Conduct

Texas Thespians have security on site during the entire festival. A delegate who violates the Festival Rules will have to deal with the consequences of his/her behavior. Please understand that we take your safety and security very seriously. Security team members will use the following guidelines when dealing with all violations at the security panel interviews to be held during Festival daily.

The violations are divided into three categories:

- **MINOR INFRACTIONS,**
- **MAJOR INFRACTIONS**
- **IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE FESTIVAL**

The Security Chairpersons reserve the right to determine the magnitude of any violation of the Security Policies. It shall be left to the discretion of the Security Chairperson to determine action to be taken regarding any violation not covered herein. SECURITY INFRACTIONS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT limited TO THE FOLLOWING:

Minor Infractions

Badge removed- if delegate accumulates TWO (2) minor infractions, she/he will be assigned to mandatory close supervision by the troupe sponsor or chaperone.

1. Found outside hotel room after curfew
2. Posting messages in the convention center or hotel (except in designated area)
3. Throwing food or inappropriate behavior in the dining hall
4. Causing disruptive audience behavior during a performance
5. Failing to bring official Festival sponsor to court
6. Using abusive language or profanity
7. Public Displays of Affection
8. Found outside of Festival Program area without Director knowledge OR permission
9. Not participating in Festival activities or workshops.

Major Infractions

*Badge removed – if delegate accumulates TWO (2) major infractions **OR** ONE (1) major infraction and TWO (2) minor infractions she/he will be sent home from the Festival at her/his own expense.*

1. Causing excessive noise/disruption in hotel
2. Throwing an object out of the hotel
3. Found off the hotel grounds after curfew
4. Using fireworks
5. Failing to show up at a Security Court Meeting at a designated time
6. Severely disruptive behavior during a performance, at any Festival event or in the hotel
7. Found in the vicinity of buildings or areas not used by the Festival without a Director
8. Acts of vandalism or disregard for/damage of property

Immediate Removal From Festival at Own Expense

Upon first offense, immediately sent home from Festival

1. Found in possession of or under the influence of drugs or controlled substances
2. Found in possession of or under the influence of alcohol
3. Found with a firearm or other weapon in his/her possession
4. Willful setting off a false alarm
5. Theft

TEXAS THESPIAN FESTIVAL SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

We encourage students, teachers, guest artists, and all other delegates to learn and grow from each other to become better Thespians. Social media is a great tool to use, but can also be misused in ways deemed inappropriate by Texas Thespians. Below is the policy approved for Texas Thespiean Festival that must be followed by all of our delegates. **If anyone is found breaking these rules there will be disciplinary actions taken which could result in your removal from current or future Texas Thespiean State Festival.**

Use of Social Media

- ❖ Delegates are encouraged to always exercise the utmost caution when participating in any form of social media/online communications, both within the Texas Thespiean community and beyond.

- ❖ Delegates who participate in online interactions must remember that their posts reflect on the entire Texas Thespiean community and, as such, are subject to the same behavioral standards set forth by the Texas Thespiean Board of Directors

In addition all delegates are expected to abide by the following:

- ❖ Delegates may not use social media sites to publish disparaging or harassing remarks about Texas Thespiean members.

- ❖ Delegates who choose to post editorial content to websites or other forms of online media must ensure that their submission does not reflect poorly upon Texas Thespians.

Texas Thespiean Social Media Comments and Participation Policy

Comments to Texas Thespiean, such as its Website via blogs, online forms, etc., or other social media sites, are welcome and encouraged, and we look forward to hearing from you. To promote respectful discussion within this forum, we request that you be courteous and productive and avoid comments that are profane, obscene, offensive, sexually explicit, inappropriate, inflammatory or otherwise objectionable. Blogs often foster debate of an issue; users are to engage in such exchanges with mutual respect for others' opinions.

For the privacy of users and their families, please assume that all postings to Texas Thespiean sponsored social media will be publicly available on the Internet and therefore publicly accessible without limitation or protection of any kind. Please consider how much personal information to share, with the understanding that this information may be linked to your name and published on the Internet.

By posting a comment or other material to a Texas Thespiean social media outlet as outlined above, users give Texas Thespians the irrevocable right and license to exercise all copyright, publicity, and moral rights with respect to any content you provide, which includes using your submission for any purpose in any form and on any media, including but not limited to: displaying, modifying, reproducing, distributing, creating other works from, and publishing your submission. Texas Thespians reserves the right to review all comments before they are posted, and to edit them to preserve readability for other users.

Texas Thespians further reserves the right to reject or remove comments for any reason, including but not limited to our belief that the comments violate this Comment Policy, to determine in its sole discretion which submissions meet its qualifications for posting, and to remove comments for any reason, including but not limited to our belief that the comments violate this Policy. Any submissions that fail to follow this Policy in any way or are otherwise irrelevant will be removed and disciplinary actions will be taken.

We also reserve the right to amend this Policy from time to time in our judgment to address issues that may arise and changes in our operations or the law.

Posting or Tagging on Social Media

In posting or tagging on Texas Thespian sponsored social media, you agree not to:

- ❖ Post material that Texas Thespians determines is threatening, harassing, illegal, obscene, defamatory, slanderous, or hostile towards any individual or entity.
- ❖ Post phone numbers, email addresses or other confidential information of student delegates, adult delegates, or any other person other than yourself. If you choose to post your own contact information for any reason, please be aware that the information will be available to the public and is, therefore, subject to misuse.
- ❖ Post material that infringes on the rights of Texas Thespians or any individual or entity, including privacy, intellectual property or publication rights.
- ❖ Post chain letters, post the same comment multiple times, or otherwise distribute “spam” via the Texas Thespian sponsored social media.
- ❖ Allow any other individual or entity to use your identification for posting or viewing comments.
- ❖ Post comments under multiple names or using another person’s name.

Consequences for actions deemed inappropriate

1. Remove or edit comments at any time, whether or not they violate this Policy
2. Ban future posts from people who repeatedly violate this Policy. We may affect such bans by refusing posts from specific email addresses or IP addresses, or through other means as necessary.
3. Disciplinary actions that is decided on by the Texas Thespians Board of Directors
4. Removal from Festival

Failure to abide by this Policy, as with other policies at Texas Thespians, may result in disciplinary action determined by the Texas Thespian Board.

Acceptance of Policy - User agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Texas Thespians, its affiliates, directors, employees, successors and assigns against any damages, losses, liabilities, judgments, causes of action, costs or expenses (including reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs) arising out of any claim by a third party relating to any material user has posted on Texas Thespian sponsored social media. By posting a comment or material of any kind on a Texas Thespian-sponsored site, the user hereby agrees to the Policy set forth above.