

All About: Thespian Inductions

Many people ask “what is the difference between a ‘thespian’ and a ‘non-thespian’?” The answer....about 100 hours of service.

To become a thespian means that you have been inducted into The International Thespian Society. It’s an honor and a privilege that is bestowed only on those who are dedicated enough to put in the time and energy to become not only a better actor, but also a better person!!

WHAT IS THE INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY?

The International Thespian Society (ITS), an honorary group for middle and high school theatre students, is a division of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA). The mission of ITS is to honor student excellence in the theatre arts. Thespian troupes are just a component of a school’s theatre program. ITS membership offers many valuable benefits, services, and opportunities to troupe directors and Thespians alike.

Thespian induction is a great motivator for students to become more active in their school’s theatre program. Whether or not these students pursue careers in the performing arts, the skills that they learn through theatre and Thespian activities are invaluable and ensure that future generations will appreciate and support the arts in our communities. We thank our troupe directors for caring enough to provide their students with this meaningful opportunity.

HOW TO INDUCT

Inducting into the International Thespian Society is different everywhere you go. In Troupe 7485 specifically, **you have to obtain 10 points: either 6 acting 2 tech (for actors), 6 tech and 2 acting (for techies) and 2 in fundraising.** How do you get these points? By participating! For example, you can get acting points by ACTING in a One Act. To keep track of how many points you have, you use a **Point Sheet**. The **Point Sheet** is also what you turn in to the officers at the end of the year to find out if you're eligible to be inducted! On the sheet, you must list the Production, your Role or Job, and the Date, so keep track of all this so you aren't scurrying the day before sheets are due trying to remember that one day you went to a tech day in the beginning of the year. Now it isn't as simple as "Acted in One Act = 4," there's a system! To check point values, there is a new, updated **Point Value Sheet**. Keep in mind, if you signed up for something (ex: Sound Crew) and didn't end up doing anything/helping, you will not get those points. This may seem like a long, tedious process but if you're truly dedicated and want to become an official member of the International Thespian Society, this will be a piece of cake. If you have any more questions about inductions, ask the current officers!