



# INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY

HONORING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN THEATRE

## Official High School Thespian Point System

The International Thespian Society (ITS) is the honor society for secondary school theatre students. Membership is granted for the performance of meritorious work in theatre arts. High school Thespian induction eligibility requirements and procedures are detailed in the *Thespian Troupe Handbook*.

This Thespian point system establishes guidelines for logging the quality and quantity of student work. *Quality* may include the caliber of the work and the educational value of the experience. Troupes may adopt changes to the point system to meet their unique circumstances. Changes are recorded in the troupe's constitution. Troupe directors must notify students of all induction requirements and provide access to their point records. Only the troupe director may award points, but a troupe secretary or clerk is often responsible for maintaining point records. Point record sheets are available for download at [schooltheatre.org/troupedocs](http://schooltheatre.org/troupedocs).

### Recommended Thespian Point Awards

The chart on the following page provides a quick and easy way to calculate points. Numbers indicate the recommended maximum point awards for the duties listed. Troupe directors should use their discretion in awarding points—from zero to the maximum—according to the caliber of effort and work, and they may award up to two additional points for any task performed with exceptional merit.

### Guidelines for awarding of Thespian points

- The minimum eligibility requirement for Thespian induction is one hundred hours of quality work in theatre arts and related disciplines.
- One Thespian point represents approximately ten hours of quality work. Use this formula to award points for duties that aren't listed. Performing arts schools and others with mandatory participation may choose to change that to twenty hours or more to avoid point *inflation* and maintain the honorary nature of induction in that setting.
- Inductees must earn ten points, five of which should be for work done at the school where they will be inducted.
- Thespians moving to other affiliated schools are entitled to transfer their memberships. Transferring Thespians bring a minimum of ten points with them to the new school. See the *Thespian Troupe Handbook* for details.
- Induction points should be earned through participation in at least two full-length productions, or one full-length and two one-acts, or four one-acts.
- Induction points should be earned in at least two of the listed categories, for example, acting and production.
- Inducted Junior Thespians automatically begin their high school careers with half of the points needed for high school Thespian induction, normally five of the ten induction points required.
- Students may earn up to five points toward induction through participation at the middle school level; in community, children's, or professional theatre; or in other performing arts activities. They may earn additional points after induction at the troupe director's discretion and upon knowledge or verification of participation.
- Thespian membership will be made available on an equitable basis to all students who qualify. No student will be elected into the Society; and peers may not have a role in awarding points or deciding induction eligibility.

### Recognizing Thespian achievement after induction

Troupe directors can recognize exceptional Thespians after induction by awarding Thespian stars and honor ranks. The *Thespian Honor Rank Summary* chart on the following page outlines the basic system. Detailed information is available in the *Thespian Troupe Handbook*.

## Recommended Thespian Point Awards

<u>Category</u>	<u>Position/work done</u>	<u>One Act</u>	<u>Full Length</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Position/work done</u>	<u>One Act</u>	<u>Full Length</u>	
<b>Acting</b>	Major role	4	8	<b>Directing</b>	Director	4	8	
	Minor role	3	5		Assistant director	3	6	
	Walk-on	1	2		Vocal director	3	6	
	Chorus	1	3		Video producer/director	3	4	
	Dancer	1	3		Assistant vocal director	2	5	
	Understudy	1	2		Orchestra or band director	3	6	
<b>Production</b>	Stage manager	4	8	Assistant orchestra or band director	2	5		
	Stage crew	2	4	Choreographer	4	7		
	Lighting technician	3	6	Assistant choreographer	3	5		
	Lighting crew	2	3	<b>Writing</b>	Original play (produced)	5	8	
	Set designer	4	5		Orig. radio script (prod.)	4	6	
	Set construction crew	3	5		Orig. TV script (prod.)	4	6	
	Costumer	3	6		Orig. play (unproduced)	1	2	
	Costume crew	2	5		Orig. radio script (unprod.)	.5	1.5	
	Properties manager	3	5	Orig. TV script (unprod.)	.5	1.5		
	Properties crew	2	3	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Oral interpretation		2	
	Sound technician	3	5		Duet acting scenes		2	
	Sound crew	2	3		Participation in theatre festival or contest		3	
	Video editor	1.5	2		Attending theatre festival		1/day	
	Video crew	1.5	3		Assembly program		1	
	<b>Business</b>	Makeup manager	3	5	<b>Advocacy</b>	Participation in advocacy event		1/day
Rehearsal prompter		2	4	Local advocacy work			.1/hr.	
Pianist		3	6	<b>Officers</b>	President		6	
Musicians		2	3		Vice president, treasurer, or web editor		4	
<b>Business</b>		Business manager	4		6	Secretary/clerk		5
		Business crew	2		4	International Thespian Officer (ITO)		10
		Publicity manager	3		5	State Thespian Officer (STO)		8
		Publicity crew	2	3	<b>Audience</b>	Troupe directors may award points at the hourly rate for attending productions, or they may award .5 point for attending <i>and</i> writing a critique or report reflecting the educational value of the experience.		
		Ticket manager	2	4				
		Ticket crew	1	3				
		House manager	2	4				
House crew		1	2					
Ushers	1	2						
Programs	1	3						
Program crew	1	2						

<b>Thespian Honor Rank Summary</b> (see <i>Thespian Troupe Handbook</i> for details)		
<b>Thespian points earned</b>	<b>Thespian rank</b>	<b>Honor may be signified by...</b>
10	Thespian	Thespian induction. Membership card, certificate, and induction pin awarded.
20-50	1- to 4-star Thespian	Induction pin and 1 to 4 Thespian point stars are affixed to ITS honors ribbon. 1 to 4 paper stars are added to membership certificate.
60	Honor Thespian (5-star Thespian)	All Thespian point stars removed from ITS honors ribbon. Honor Thespian pin replaces point stars. Paper honor bar added to membership certificate.
70-110	6- to 10-star Thespian	One point star added to honors ribbon for <i>each</i> additional 10 points earned.
120	National Honor Thespian (11-star Thespian).	All point stars removed from ITS honors ribbon. National Honor Thespian pin replaces Honor Thespian pin.
130-170	12- to 16-star Thespian	One point star added to honors ribbon for <i>each</i> additional 10 points earned.
180	International Honor Thespian (17-star Thespian)	All Thespian point stars removed from ITS honors ribbon. International Honor Thespian pin replaces National Honor Thespian pin.