

The Official High School Thespian Point System

The International Thespian Society is the only organization to honor secondary school students for outstanding work in theatre. The resolution with which the Society approaches this role is evident in its focus on the students; their achievements, involvement, and access to quality theatre arts instruction are basic concerns of ITS.

Thespian membership is granted for the performance of meritorious work in theatre arts which meets the Society's general guidelines. Specifically, students become members by earning points for their work. Any student who has participated in at least two productions for a total of one hundred hours of work is eligible for Thespian Society membership.

Sponsors should notify their theatre arts students, production participants, or drama club members that records of their activities will be maintained and that Thespian membership may be conferred when qualifications have been met. The troupe secretary or clerk is ordinarily responsible for maintaining these records, which should be available for students' review. You can download point record sheets in the member services section of EdTA's website.

A Thespian moving to another affiliated school is entitled to transfer his or her membership by having the new sponsor verify the membership with the ITS home office. A new membership card and certificate may be secured by submitting the replacement credentials form, which is available from the EdTA website.

The points listed on the next page are the maximum that usually may be earned for a specific assignment. Sponsors may award two additional points for any task performed with exceptional merit, and should use their discretion in awarding points—from zero to the maximum—according to the quality of effort and work accomplished.

The following are general guidelines on the awarding of points:

- One point represents approximately ten hours of excellent work. Sponsors should use this formula in awarding points for items not specifically listed in the point system.
- To attain Thespian membership, a student must earn ten points, five of which must be acquired at the school where he or she is to be inducted.

- Thespian membership will be awarded on a democratic basis to all students who qualify according to the requirements of the point system. No student will be elected into the Society. No student will be denied membership if he or she has accumulated the required ten points and has fulfilled all membership requirements.
- A student must participate in at least two full-length productions, or one full-length and two one-acts, or four one-acts. Participation should be in at least two of the listed categories, for example, acting and production.
- Students may earn up to five points toward membership through participation at the middle school level (through an ITS Junior Thespian troupe), in community, children's or professional theatre, or in other activities in the performing arts. They may earn additional points after induction at the sponsor's discretion and upon proof of participation.
- When students qualify for membership, they should be notified that they may join the International Thespian Society. Membership notification cards are available from the home office (see the member services page of the EdTA website for complimentary troupe supplies). Students should be informed of the cost of the membership fee and date/site of the induction ceremony. No hazing of student candidates is permitted. Induction ceremonies, ranging from the very informal to formal styles, are described in the sponsor handbook available on the website.

After Thespians have attained membership, further recognition for their outstanding work in theatre arts may be indicated by awarding stars for each additional ten points—or one hundred hours—earned (to a maximum of four stars). Students may wear stars on Thespian jewelry to indicate their rating in the troupe. Star ratings should be designated on the student's membership certificate under "Thespian Stars Earned." Gold stars suitable for this purpose may be purchased from EdTA's online store at www.edta.org or through the home office.

		One Act	Full Length			One Act	Full Length
Acting	Major role	4	8	Writing	Original play (produced)	5	8
	Minor role	3	5		Orig. radio script (prod.)	4	6
	Walk-on	1	2		Orig. TV script (prod.)	4	6
	Chorus	1	3		Orig. play (unproduced)	1	2
	Dancer	1	3		Orig. radio script (unproduced)	.5	1.5
	Understudy	1	2		Orig. TV script (unprod.)	.5	1.5
Production	Stage manager	4	8	Miscellaneous	Oral interpretation		2
	Stage crew	2	4		Duet acting scenes		2
	Lighting technician	3	6		Participation in theatre festival or contest		3
	Lighting crew	2	3		Attending a performance or festival		1
	Set designer	4	5		Assembly program		1
	Set construction crew	3	5		Officers	President	
	Costumer	3	6	Vice president			4
	Costume crew	2	5	Secretary			5
	Properties manager	3	5	Treasurer			4
	Properties crew	2	3	Clerk			4
	Sound technician	3	5	Website develop/maintenance			4
	Sound crew	2	3	Other		2	
	Video editor	1.5	2				
	Video crew	1.5	3				
	Makeup manager	3	5				
	Rehearsal prompter	2	4				
Pianist	3	6					
Musicians	2	3					
Business	Business manager	4	6	Honor Thespians	Award	Total Points	
	Business crew	2	4		One star	20	
	Publicity manager	3	5		Two stars	30	
	Publicity crew	2	3		Three stars	40	
	Ticket manager	2	4		Four stars	50	
	Ticket crew	1	3	Honor Bar	60		
	House manager	2	4				
	House crew	1	2				
	Ushers	1	2				
	Programs	1	3				
Program crew	1	2					
Directing	Director	4	8	<p>The Official High School Thespians Point System is a publication of the International Thespians Society. ITS is a division of the Educational Theatre Association. For more information about EdTA and ITS programs for students and teachers, contact us at:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EdTA/ITS 2343 Auburn Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45219-2815 Voice: (513) 421-3900 Fax: (513) 421-7055 Website: www.edta.org</p>			
	Assistant director	3	6				
	Vocal director	3	6				
	Video producer/director	3	4				
	Assistant vocal director	2	5				
	Orchestra or band director	3	6				
	Assistant orchestra or band director	2	5				
	Choreographer	4	7				
	Assistant choreographer	3	5				