

## **IOWA THESPIAN BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Saturday, May 20, 2017

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

**Adult Board:** Sam Burns, Aaron Dean, Helen Duranleau-Brennan, Liz Hansen, Katie Howard, Mike Hunter, Nate Jorgensen, Leslie LaCorte, Bill Myatt, Elizabeth Powers, and Tom Stephens

**Student Board:** Maaz Ahmed, Oswaldo Ambrosio, Brady Booth, Melanie Comer, Ali Girsch, Isobel LaCorte (via FaceTime), and Kate Struble

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Colleen Babcock and Stacie Kintigh

**CALL TO ORDER:** 9:32 AM

### **GENERAL SESSION**

- A. Approval of March minutes (Myatt moved, Hansen seconded; approved)
- B. Board Reports
  1. Financial Report
    - Leslie presented the May update of the financial records
    - Total cash on hand is \$24,644.28
    - Hunter moved to accept financial report, Myatt seconded; approved
  2. Student Report
    - Student Board members have attended as many shows as possible across the state and plan to send letters to the schools that they were not able to attend. Mike recommends sending letters to the shows that *were* attended to increase visibility of the State Board.
    - Oswaldo announced that he is an ITO candidate
    - The Board is currently working on Festival theme and troupe recruitment
- C. General Board Items
  1. Upcoming EdTA events
    - International Thespian Festival June 19-24
      - Iowa troupes will be well represented in Lincoln
      - Dubuque Senior (chapter select) and Pleasant Valley (mainstage) are performing
    - Leadership Summit July 17-22
      - will include 2 additional days of theatre advocacy in Washington, D.C.
    - EdTA National Conference September 14-17
    - Advocacy Leadership Network
      - Helen is on this new national committee which has already met once and will continue to work on behalf of the arts
    - Transgender Studies Workgroup
      - Bill is on this new national committee and will keep us posted on implications at the local troupe level
  2. Updates on Iowa Send-a-Troupe
    - Helen, Leslie, and Sam will form a workgroup to look at other states (including Texas)
    - Students will brainstorm specifics of how to generate necessary funds

- This speaks to a larger discussion on our funding priorities as a Chapter
- Helen will ask EdTA for specific guidelines on fundraising at the Chapter level

#### D. Leadership Day

1. Finalize Leadership Day Registration Materials
  - Registration will be due July 22
2. Discuss Workshop Presentation Plan
  - Students have planned five workshop sessions of approximately 20 students in each session: Isobel/Maaz – conflict resolution; Oswaldo/Ali – advocacy; Kate – goal setting; Melanie – communication; Brady – time management
  - Only one ice-breaker (in session #1) rather than repeating throughout the day
3. Finalize Selection and Contract of Keynote Speaker
  - We have a short list, but no decision has been made yet
  - *Item tabled until committee breakout time*
4. Review Host School Details
  - August 5 is the same day as session 2 of Wartburg All-State camp, but Board concluded that it is still the best date for our event
  - Waukee can no longer host events outside of the school year
  - *Item tabled until committee breakout time*

#### E. Iowa Thespian Festival

1. Review Bid Proposals for 2018/2019/2020
  - Tom presented the 3 bids for discussion (UNI, ISU, and Cedar Rapids)
  - Leslie and Aaron will supply Tom with a list of questions for ISU to clarify
  - Vote deferred to June meeting
2. Review Festival Schedule
  - Aaron presented 4 schedule options for 2017 Festival
  - Hunter moved for a 4 show schedule, Howard seconded; passed 9-4
  - discussion reached consensus on using option #2 for this year (
3. Finalize Festival Fee Breakdown
  - troupe director \$0
  - student \$95 (**\$5 increase from 2016**)
  - chaperone \$75
  - IE fees \$20 solo / \$30 group
  - scholarship audition \$25
  - tech challenge \$30 per team
  - display table \$50 with electric / \$40 without (**\$10 increase from 2016**)
  - scholarship viewing admin fee \$25 (**new fee**)
  - IE adjudicator stipend \$100
  - Workshop presenter \$100 (if presenting both sessions)
  - Platinum advertising \$400
  - Gold advertising \$300
  - Silver advertising \$200
  - *new fees motioned by Hunter, seconded by Dean; passed*
4. Finalize Festival Designs, Theme, Logo
  - Colin Muenster designed Save the Date cards and is working on shirts, programs, etc.
  - students prefer orange/red palette for shirts to reflect the campfire theme
5. Contact List of Non-Attending Schools
  - Aaron has created a list of non-attending school with the intent of contacting troupes with a personal note or phone call to invite them to attend Festival.

## GENERAL SESSION – COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Student Board

1. Leadership day workshop plans
  - 30-45 min sessions with a spot left open for Keynote speaker to present
  - meet and greet with ITO candidates
2. “Thespian Games” activities
  - will there be coffee available?
  - delegates will pick team name and cycle through stations
3. Fundraisers
  - reached out to a Texas STO about Send-a-Troupe
  - pie an STO
  - Minute to Give It
  - t-shirt grab
  - silent auction
  - buckets
4. Troupe recruitment
  - will make a letter template and find out what troupes and drama clubs are doing on social media
5. Festival Theme Implementation
  - photo scavenger hunt
  - skits for podium speeches
  - make a promo video at International to show at Festival

### B. Leadership Day Committee

1. no set location yet; reaching out to options other than schools; Mount Vernon is a potential backup location
2. Liz reached out to Leon for keynote
3. registration form is ready to go live once location is finalized

### C. Junior Thespians Committee

1. To be held in Waukee on March 24, 2018
2. Schedule:

9:00	Registration
9:30-10:00	Welcome / State Board Kids
10:00-11:00	Workshop #1
11:00-12:00	Workshop #2
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-1:30	Workshop #3
1:30-2:30	Performance
2:30-3:00	Closing

### 3. Workshop Ideas:

- “Learn and Do” (We teach and they apply.)
- “What is technical theatre?” Apply with a min-tech challenge.
- “Auditioning for theatre” Apply with mini-auditions. Cold read in pairs in front of director
- Theatre games
- “What are IEs and how to compete”

### D. All-State Show Committee

1. looking at an opening show style revue rather than full mainstage production
2. potential schedule
  - audition in spring via online submission

- summer 2 day mini-camp, including viewing a touring show
  - Sept/Oct cohort rehearsal(s)
  - final rehearsal the Thu before Festival
3. questions:
- can we team with DMPA or a college?
  - what funds are required and how do we raise them?
  - is there professional talent we can tap to “anchor” the show?

E. Development

- position is currently unfilled; we need to identify people with that skill set to come onto the board and help with sustainability

F. Advocacy

- Helen will continue in advocacy role(s) with all of us promoting advocacy at the local level

G. Website

- transitioning to new Weebly site to which Aaron and Leslie will also have administrative access

### **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

- Thursday, June 22 at International Thespian Festival (12:00 PM and by Zoom)
- Saturday, July 29 & Sunday, July 30 – Site TBD (10:00 AM)
- **Leadership Day** Saturday, August 5 – Site TBD (10:00 AM)
- Saturday, October 14 at Waukee High School (9:30 AM)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 3:06 PM**