



IOWA  
THESPIANS™

AN EDUCATIONAL THEATRE ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE

*November 2020*

# Giving Thanks



*Fun Fact:* The term “cornucopia” dates back to the 5th century, B.C.

While some of our senior thespians see November as the month of college applications, we all can acknowledge that a very important event falls near the end of November: Thanksgiving. And while thanksgiving will look a little different this year, it is important to remember what we, as thespians, are thankful for. In this month’s newsletter, the Iowa STO share some things that they are thankful for, important things to remember, and even some fun games! Happy reading, Iowa Thespians!

# FIVE Things to be Thankful for this Year

*Amid all this COVID craziness,* we understand that it can feel nearly impossible to see anything good come out of 2020. Even though our world looks way different than it ever has been, there are plenty of great things happening all around us and tons of things to look forward to in 2021. I have compiled a lovely list of things that you can always look forward to:

- **Weekends:** Whether your school is following a hybrid schedule or you are an 100% online student, weekends serve as a nice break from the craziness of this COVID world that we live in. Make sure to catch up on school, relax, and take some time for yourself each weekend!
- **Music:** Are you an Apple Music fan? Or a Spotify fan like myself? Or maybe you listen to the radio? Music is everywhere and there are new songs and albums coming out all of the time. Listening to new artists can spark an interest in a type of music that you never knew you had. Check out something different sometime soon!
- **Family:** It might be hard to see distant family this year for the holidays, but apps like Zoom, GoogleMeet, and GoogleHangouts (plus many more) are great alternatives to seeing your family in a safe way!
- **Friends:** Many friends are just a call or text away. Make sure to socially distance and wear masks when you are in activities with others!
- **Theatre:** Live events may be difficult this year, but theatre goes on! We are so excited to bring the 2020/2021 Virtual Iowa Thespian Festival to all of you in March. I can't wait for each and every Iowa Thespian troupe to get back to doing what they love real soon!

-Erica Heiselman, STO Secretary

## A Few Reminders...

*Hello, Iowa Thespians!* It's November! That means we are only two months away from 2021! Isn't that crazy? With it being November, it is also the month of Thanksgiving! For my newsletter this month, I want you guys to really think about what/who you're thankful for, and be appreciative of it/them. This month, I want to challenge you to show your appreciation for someone or something everyday. Whether that be voicing your appreciation for someone by telling them thank you, writing them a letter, doing some extra chores around the house so your parents or guardians have less on their plate, etc. just show you are thankful! Especially in these times, this insane year, living for the present and showing those

you love that you love them has never been more important. We all need a little extra love right now, so if I can have everyone that reads this spread a little extra love, that will be more than enough. For example, this past week was Bettendorf's last week of in person school for the next couple of weeks due to covid, so in one of my classes, we dedicated almost the entire class to writing "thank you" notes to whoever we chose. I wrote some to my friends, some to my teachers, some to secretaries, etc., anyone who I felt I needed to show my appreciation to. It's something that even goes out of my mind sometimes, "well they know I'm thankful for them, I don't need to voice it and make it a big deal," but you never really know. What's the harm in making sure? I hope you guys can safely see your families this month, and have a nice break. Until next time, Happy Thanksgiving, Iowa Thespians!!

-Hannah Wilson, STO Membership

## Word Search

*Hello, Iowa Thespians!* Times are crazier than ever. This said, if you need a little something to relax your brain here is a word search:

**Word Search**

L T M A D E L I N E  
C E H K T F W C H S  
B A A E P Y G A A T  
A E R D S T C S N E  
R I R N E P F E N P  
R H M I I R I Y A H  
E L L A C V S A H A  
T S U T R A A H N Y  
W M I O V I S L I S  
F E S T I V A L P P

leadership	carnival	Barret	thespians
festival	Erica	Maria	Steph
Madeline	Hannah	Casey	Luis

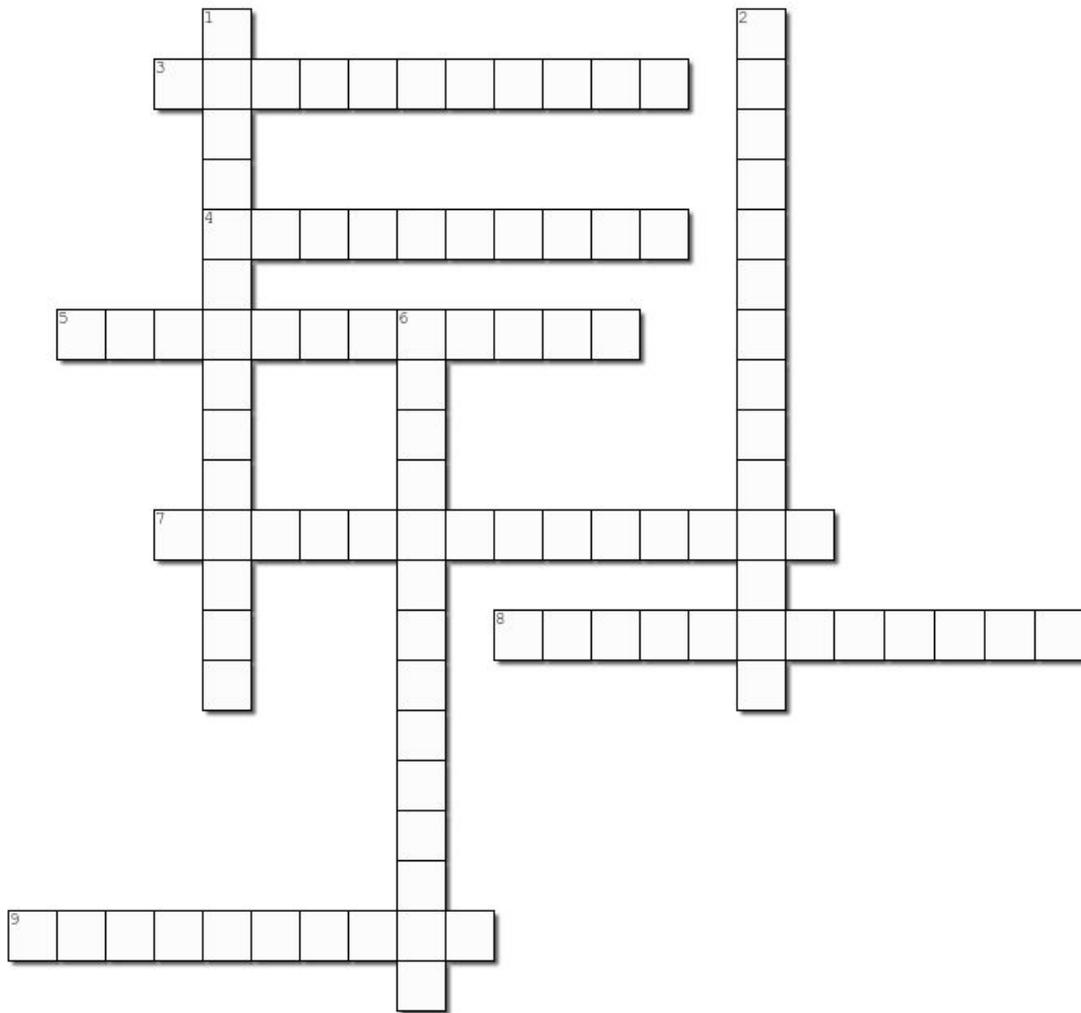
I hope you are all staying safe and making the best out of this year. I miss seeing all of you and can't wait for what the future holds for Iowa Thespians!

# CROSSWORD

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Iowa STOs

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

### Across

- 3. Goes to Dubuque Senior; Junior Thespians STO
- 4. Goes to South Tama; Advocacy STO
- 5. Goes to Bettendorf; Membership STO
- 7. Goes to Pleasant Valley; Secretary STO
- 8. Student Leadership Coordinator/STO MOM
- 9. Goes to Davenport North; STO Chair

### Down

- 1. Goes to Davenport Assumption; Special Projects STO
- 2. Goes to Grinnell; Communications STO
- 6. Iowa Thespians Instagram

-Luis Avalos, STO Advocacy

## Holiday BOPS

*If you're anything like me,* you love to snuggle up with a blanket and fuzzy socks and have lazy days during the winter months. To keep you occupied during chilly, stay-at-home days, here are some great holiday musicals to add to your playlist!

- Elf the Musical
- Frozen the Musical
- White Christmas
- Holiday Inn
- A Christmas Carol the Musical
- She Loves Me

I know these musicals will be frequently played at my house this holiday season. Remember- if you come up with any additional ideas or want to show off your new playlist, tag @la\_thespiansto on your Instagram story to be featured!

-Madeline Murphy, STO Special Projects

## STO Update

*The colder weather is approaching, thespians!* Usually November means breaking out the winter gloves, Thanksgiving, and even putting up holiday decor for some. For the Iowa STO, however, it meant more of our biweekly student board meetings and a chapter board meeting with the executive Iowa Thespians board to discuss Thespian Festival for this year.

We also had the incredible opportunity to meet with STO candidates for the next year. We are so excited to speak more with them at festivals and are looking forward to getting to know them more before then.



Additionally, November meant Iowa Thespians Spirit Week! We challenged you to daily scavenger hunts from November 8th to November 14th and you certainly pulled through! Based on the highest percentage of troupe participation, Oskaloosa Thespians, troupe #228 logged the most engagement! Congrats! Further, we had a fun virtual kahoot at the end of the week for those who participated!

The STO have so many exciting plans in the works for festival this year, and though it will look different than it has in the past, we are getting very excited to start unveiling what we have in the works in the coming months.

- Casey Scott, STO Chair

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