

Washington

## **QUICK LINKS**

2023-2024 Event Timeline and Checklist
Thespy Rubics and Guidelines
Google Calendar add WA Thespian Events to your calendar
State Thespian Festival Information
Apply as a Teaching Artist/Adjudicator
Join Our Team Become an Associate or Advisory Board Member

## WA Thespians December Newsletter

#### CHAPTER DIRECTOR MESSAGE

It's December which means the deadline for our Washington State THESPY events are here and the Jr. Thespian Festival is just around the corner! If you or any other theatre programs in your district haven't made the leap, we invite you to attend a Regional Thespy Festival or the Jr. Thespian Festival as observers or to go for it and have some kids submit material! For first time schools, the first 6 participants are FREE! Email info@wathespians.org for more info.

We are also excited for our first B-TAG (Bipoc Thespian Affinity Group) Zoom gathering Tuesday December 5 (TONIGHT!) from 7:00-8:00pm: Link HERE. More info below...please share the info and zoom link directly with the Black, Indigeneous, and Students of Color in your theatre program--they do not to be officially inducted Thespians to participate!

We wish you a warm and restful holiday season...only a few more weeks to go!

Greg Pschirrer and Ben Stuart



# GREG PSCHIRRER & BEN STUART

## **Co-Chapter Directors**

Lewis and Clark High School: Spokane Roosevelt High School: Seattle



Visit our Website

#### THESPYS REGIONAL REGISTRATION 2024

East/NW/SW Regional Events January 13 or 20, 2024

Registration Deadline: December 16

**REGIONAL THESPYS - CLICK HERE TO REGISTER** 

The Thespy Awards recognize student excellence in 21 categories of theatrical performance, technical theatre, writing, and filmmaking. Qualifying students from regional events are invited to audition for the Thespy Showcase at State in March and qualify to participate in Thespys are the International Thespian Festival in June.

**NEW!!!** Washington STO Thespy Submission Support Videos

THESPY LOCATION and NEW CATEGORIES PILOT IN WA

Washington State is piloting two new Thespy Categories for 2024. Check out for new FAQ's, details about PROPS and DIRECTING categories, and registration instructions!

NOTE: <u>These categories are pilots and are NOT part of the Thespy program at ITF.</u>Students can qualify and showcase at the State level, but there is no ITF component for these categories).

Stay up to date with changes to the restricted materials list. There are a few new publishers approved and changes have been made to the Concord red light list. Some material that was previously available is now restricted and NOT eligible for use in Thespy adjudication (Six the Musical for example).

#### **NEW NW LOCATION**

NOTE: Thespys Northwest will now be held at Liberty High School in Renton (Issaquah School District) on Saturday, January 20, 2024 (same date as originally announced).

### **UPCOMING SURVEYS AND EVENTS!**

## **ArtsEd Washington Survey**

ARTS ED

Together with renowned art teacher and advocate James Andrews, ArtsEd Washington will present "Clarifying Equitable Arts Education: Statewide Support of 5878 Implementation." The goal of this programming is to support implementation of 5878's requirements and improve students' access to quality arts experiences. In a series of webinars, we will identify common challenges, celebrate successes, and lead conversations about progress throughout our State.

Please complete this Arts Educators Survey, and share with your fellow arts educators, by December 8.

SB-5878 Implementation Survey

#### JUNIOR THESPIAN FESTIVAL

We are happy to announce that this year's Junior Thespian Festival will take place on Saturday, February 3rd from 9 AM to 4 PM at Nelsen Middle School in Renton, WA. The Festival, a fun-packed day of sharing, skill-building, and connecting with theater loving Junior Thespians from across Washington State, includes Jr. Thespys (with feedback provided by professional teaching artists), performance and technical theater workshops, and the opportunity to share your school's Works in Progress or showcase your current show. Registration will open in mid-December. Please contact Julie Olsen at julie.olsen@wathespians.org. with any questions about the festival or the registration process. See you at the Festival!

#### **Introducing**

#### BIPOC THESPIAN AFFINITY GROUP (BTAG)

WA Thespians is thrilled to introduce students and teachers to the leaders of our new BIPOC Thespian Affinity Group (BTAG), Rosy Allen & Ella Newborn, two WA Thespian alumni from the class of 2021! Rosy and Ella will be facilitating 3 zoom gatherings this year for all theatre students of color (inducted Thespians or future Thespians) from around the state. The purpose of this group is to come together, celebrate each other's accomplishments, and share out experiences. Rosy and Ella will also be attending the WA State Thespian Festival in March to host an in-person BTAG gathering. The first Zoom gathering is Tuesday December 5 from 7:00-8:00pm: Link HERE. The other two calls this year are Tuesday January 30 Link HERE and April 30 Link HERE 7:00-8:00pm. If you have questions email info@wathespians.org!



## ELEMENTARY and MIDDLE SCHOOL RESOURCE KITS

Washington Thespians, in partnership with OSPI, has created three Resource Tubs full of scripts, supplies, and materials all aimed at building Theatre feeder programs in our Elementary and Middle Schools across the state. We would love to get these FREE resources into the hands of Elementary and Middle School Teachers across our state

For more information, contact Kristina Cummins at kcummins@wathespians.org. These bins are currently located in Olympia, but we hope that the resources will be utilized across the state!



#### JOIN OUR REMIND!

If you want to receive periodic updates and reminders about events and deadlines, join our text Remind by texting:

@wathespian to 81010



Take a little time to navigate our updated site!

https://www.wathespians.org/

#### THESPIAN EVENTS

#### 2023-2024 THESPIAN EVENTS

This event checklist lists events, deadlines, and a potential checklist for how you can involve your school and your students in all Thespian opportunities this year.

October 13, 2023 - Teacher In-Service, Level, Seattle

October 28, 2023 - INTAF, North Central High School, Spokane

January 13, 2024 - East Thespys, Lewis & Clark High School, Spokane

January 13, 2024 - SW Thespys, Capital High School, Olympia

January 20, 2024 - NW Thespys, Liberty High School, Renton

February 3, 2024 - Jr. Thespian Festival, Nelson Middle School, Renton

March 15 - 16, 2024 - State Thespian Festival, CWU, Ellensburg

March 20 - 23, 2024 - USITT Conference, Seattle

\*June 23 - 28, 2024 - ITF, Bloomington IN (International Event)\*



2023-2024 Events Checklist

## STO LEADERSHIP UPDATE



Greetings from your 2023-24 STO!

For students still trying to decide what categories to submit to, check out the Washington Thespians Instagram @washingtonthespians for videos from fellow thespians describing multiple categories. For student questions about how to become an STO, what being an STO looks like, or generally interested in leadership positions, make sure to check out the leadership class being held at State this March, and stay connected with our Instagram for future livestreams and takeovers discussing this topic. With many more shows opening this month, tag us in your

promotional posts to continue building our communities of thespians. Keep an eye out for our State theme announcement coming soon!

Below is a link to our STO Thespy Support Videos on our Instagram.

STO THESPY SUBMISSION SUPPORT VIDEOS FOR CATEGORIES

Share Your Season Here

Connect with us!









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