How to earn induction into the Notre Dame Thespian Troupe

1. Actively participate in 2 shows in 2 different categories at NOTRE DAME SAN JOSE (can be over multiple years; the categories are Acting, Technical Theater, Leadership/Management, and Business/Marketing)
    a. ONE show must be “Mainstage” (Fall Play or Spring Musical)
    b. Other shows include the Winter Showcase, Thespian One Act, Children’s Touring Show, and Spring Showcase.
    c. Thespian Induction does NOT count as a qualifying show, although you do get 1 thespian point if you perform or work house/tech for it.
2. Apply for induction before March 1st of your induction year
    a. Fill out the Thespian Induction application by 3/4
    b. Pay Thespian induction dues of $50.00 (payable by Wufoo at this link).

If chosen to join the Thespian society at Notre Dame you will go through an induction process consisting of:

1. Individual Sponsorship
    a. You must find a current Thespian to sponsor your membership. They will lead you through the ways of the Thespian society and answer any questions you have. During induction week, they will also decide your induction tasks.
2. Induction Tasks
    a. During induction week, you will be assigned one task per day of induction. These will involve participating in dress-up days during induction week, as well as creating wearable “T”s, and will have the purpose of increasing the profile and **positive** reputation of the International Thespian Society at Notre Dame High School. ***These are NOT hazing***. Every task will showcase your dedication to the thespian pledge and ideals. Your sponsor will perform every task WITH you.
3. Pledging
    a. You must memorize the International Thespian Society’s Pledge and be willing to recite it on command. It is on the bottom of this page. Yes, Mr. Ringsted will randomly find you in Pardini and the LC and force you to say the pledge. Constantly. No really. Any thespian officer can ALSO make you say the pledge (although they have to say it WITH you)

Once these tasks are complete, you will be inducted into Notre Dame’s International Thespian Society Troupe during the Senior Showcase awards ceremony. Only inducted thespians may run for Thespian Officer and Leadership positions. If you have any questions on these procedures, you may contact Troupe Sponsor Bryan Ringsted at bringsted@ndsj.org

THESPIAN PLEDGE

I promise to uphold the aims and ideals of the International Thespian Society.
I am a student of theater and excellence is my ideal.
I promise to perform my part as well as I can;
To accept praise and criticism with grace;
To cooperate with my fellow Thespians
And work for the good of the troupe;
And to share my love of theater.

Induction procedures ratified on 4/3/23 by Thespian Troupe # 8196

Thespian Point Awards

NDSJ Thespian Points Updated 1/27/26

(see the *Thespian Troupe Handbook* for details)

Thespian points earned	Thespian rank	Grad Swag
10 1 0	Thespian	Thespian induction. Membership certificate and induction pin awarded. Cords given at graduation
6 0	Honor Thespian (5-star Thespian)	Stole given at Graduation
120	National Honor Thespian (11-star Thespian)	Medals Given At Graduation
1 80	International Honor Thespian (17-star Thespian)	Honor Cords given