



# Arkansas Thespians

## STATE THESPIAN OFFICER CANDIDACY PACKET 2025-2026

Thank you for your interest in becoming an Arkansas State Thespian Officer! Please ensure that you complete this application **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 5TH, 2025**. Incomplete or late applications will result in disqualification of the candidate.

### **STO (State Thespian Officer) CANDIDATE NOMINATION GUIDELINES**

One thespian from each troupe may run as an STO. Arkansas Thespians State Student Board has up to six Student Board Officer positions. Final voting will occur at the Arkansas State Thespian Festival on February 12-14, 2026. The new STOs will be announced at the closing ceremonies.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

In order to be a candidate for State Thespian Officer, a student must meet the following qualifications:

1. Must be a current Sophomore or Junior in good standing with your troupe, school, EdTA, and have a 2.5 GPA or higher.
2. Must be an active thespian registered with the EdTA.

#### **APPLICATION**

Please upload all materials to this [Google Form](#) NO LATER THAN 11:59 p.m. on Friday, December 5th, 2025 in order to be considered for candidacy.

1. Two minute video submission including:
  - a. Introduction of self
  - b. Description of leadership skills
  - c. Explanation of what you would bring to the table as an STO
2. Two page essay including:
  - a. How has Theatre positively impacted your life?
  - b. Why do you believe advocating for Theatre Education in Arkansas is important?
3. Headshot
4. Completed Candidacy Consent Form
  - a. Please print off, complete, scan, and upload this document to the Google Form

*If you have any questions, please email [sto@arkansasthespians.org](mailto:sto@arkansasthespians.org)*

## **CANDIDACY PROCESS**

1. Complete and submit the application by the deadline. Candidate application packet can be found under the STO tab on the state website: [www.arkansasthespians.org](http://www.arkansasthespians.org).
2. All applications will be reviewed by the STO and their coordinators.
3. Candidates will be notified by January 9, 2026 informing them if they have been selected as a semi-finalist candidate.
4. All semi-finalist candidates will participate in a Zoom interview with STO and their coordinators.
5. Candidates will be notified before January 23, 2026 informing them if they have been selected as a final candidate.
6. Final Candidates will complete the "STO Homework" document before February 6th, 2026
7. Final Candidates will attend a Zoom meeting to discuss expectations during the Arkansas State Thespian Festival.
8. All final candidates are **required** to be registered for Festival Leadership Seminar.
9. Candidates must be present at all General Assemblies and will be used as STO interns by assisting current STO as asked during Festival.
10. Each Candidate must participate in the Leadership Seminar at Festival and be prepared to give a two-minute election speech and answer prompted questions from the STO.

## **ELECTIONS**

At the end of the Candidates' speeches during Leadership Seminar, a QR code linked to a Google Form will be shared with each troupe present. Each troupe will have the ability to vote for their top 6 STO Candidates. Please note that votes are based on troupes registered for Leadership Seminar, not individuals registered for Leadership Seminar. *In order to be eligible to vote, a troupe must register for and attend **both** sessions of Leadership Seminar at Festival.*

## **DUTIES**

The main duties of the Student Board Officers are as follows:

1. Attend the Leadership Training over the summer (date TBA).
2. Run the ARThespians Instagram account with relevant, timely, and engaging material.
3. Plan and host events for leadership students for Fall Meeting.
4. Decide on the theme and logo for the Arkansas State Thespian Festival.
5. Review and discuss STO Candidates.
6. Host Leadership Seminar I and II at the Arkansas State Thespian Festival.
7. Host Opening Ceremonies and all General Assemblies at the Arkansas State Thespian Festival.
8. Attend Advocacy Day at the Arkansas State Capital.
9. Attend monthly zoom meetings.
10. Raise funds for the Nancy Brown Leadership Scholarship.
11. Attend performances and events hosted by troupes around the state when possible.
12. Other duties as assigned by the STO Coordinators or the AR EdTA Executive Board.

## **TERMS OF OFFICE**

Terms begin on June 1st, 2026 and will continue through May 31, 2027.

**Parent/Guardian Consent and Health Form for Arkansas State Thespian Officer Candidate 2026**

Thespian's name \_\_\_\_\_ Troupe# \_\_\_\_\_

Student's email \_\_\_\_\_ Student's cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Troupe Director's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Person to contact in case of emergency: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency numbers(\_\_\_\_)(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Allergic reactions to: \_\_\_\_\_

Medications presently being taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Any past illnesses or other information that would be useful in the event medical treatment is necessary:

*Please provide a copy of your insurance card.*

Payment will be made by: (parent, student, or insurance company) \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance information-Policy number: \_\_\_\_\_ Group number: \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned hereby releases and agrees to hold harmless the Arkansas Educational Theatre Association and its respective agents, employees, and representatives from any and all claims, demands, actions and causes of action, which the undersigned may have as a result of the student listed above participating in the activities as an AR State Chapter Officer. The undersigned student agrees to be responsible for him/herself while participating in activities including any personal expenses incurred by the student, caused by the student and/or any personal injuries which may occur to the student. The undersigned further understands that should a major medical problem arise, the parent/guardian will be notified by telephone. In the event s/he cannot be reached, s/he hereby gives consent to such medical treatment as deemed necessary, including x-ray examination and anesthesia to be rendered by a licensed physician or physicians. The undersigned certifies that s/he has read and fully understands this authorization.

**As an officer, s/he will have duties that must be fulfilled for AR Thespians. Officers will be expected to have constant communication with other board members and STO Liaisons throughout the year. Officers not fulfilling their roles and/or responsibility may be removed from their position at the discretion of the Student Chapter Liaison(s) and the State Chapter Director.**

Yes, I give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to travel on their own, or with Amy Pumphrey/Justyn McEntire, the STO Liaisons while attending Arkansas Thespian related events and training. There will be one weekend in the summer of 2026 and other one day events throughout the school year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Troupe Director/Contact number Email

**HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION please fill in below.** I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree that this student has

the leadership skills necessary to serve as a State Thespian Officer. I will support this student in the event he/she is elected to serve our state organization. I understand that this position may include up to three (3) excused absences throughout the 2026-2027 school year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of School Principal Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name/Contact number Email address

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Counselor Signature Candidate GPA