



Through the Honor Troupe program, Georgia Thespians seeks to recognize troupes for their many achievements and endeavors during the school year—**July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026.**

Below are the guidelines for submissions and for awarding points to troupes.

Changes in the guidelines and points system for the 2025-2026 school year appear in RED.

To be evaluated and considered for an Honor Troupe award, the troupe must submit a slideshow portfolio, **using the Google Slides template provided on the Georgia Thespians website**, to present evidence of the troupe's accomplishments and endeavors. Portfolios that do not follow the format of the slideshow template will NOT be accepted and scored. **The slideshow portfolio will be reviewed and scored by a trained adjudicator.**

Slideshow portfolios must be uploaded through the gathespians.org online submission platform as a PDF. Google Slide presentations or other web based links will not be accepted.

The portfolio slideshow reflecting the troupe's activities during the 2025-2026 school year must be submitted electronically via the Georgia Thespians Website **by 5:00 p.m. on the date of LEADCON 1, in September 2026.** [Note: The submission window opens on August 15.]

Troupe Directors will be able to view their score report beginning October 1 by logging into the submission platform. The score report will show the total score for each section of the slideshow, along with notes from the reviewer. Questions or concerns about the score report should be sent to the Honor Troupe Program Director Robby Davis at robby.davis@brookstoneschool.org

All Honor Troupe award winners will be announced via Georgia Thespians' social media accounts in October/November 2026 and at the Georgia Thespians Conference in February 2027. Honor Troupes will be designated as GOLD, SILVER, or BRONZE Honor Troupes, based on the amount of points awarded to each troupe by a trained portfolio evaluator.

Troupes receiving a GOLD, SILVER, or BRONZE honor may purchase a plaque to commemorate their accomplishment. **Troupe Directors will be able to order their Troupe's plaque online through the Thespians Conference registration portal. The deadline for ordering a plaque is the Georgia Thespians Super-Deadline date in December 2026 .**



Portfolio submissions must be organized using the structure and order of the Google Slides template provided. Each entry in the portfolio must include sufficient accompanying evidence or documentation. Evidence and information must be easily accessible and discernable to the reviewer. Keep in mind that photographs rarely serve as sufficient evidence. Photos should be accompanied by clear explanations and supporting documents.

The current 2025-2026 template should be used to ensure accurate scoring of the portfolio slideshow. (Each year brings changes and adjustments to the guidelines, based on input from Troupe Directors and observations from portfolio scorers.)

Additions and corrections to portfolio slideshow may not be made and cannot be accepted once the portfolio is submitted.

Slideshow portfolios must be uploaded through the online submission platform as a PDF. Google Slide presentations or other web based links will not be accepted.

Note that because submissions will be PDFs, you may not embed or attach files or images using QR codes or links. The reviewers will not be able to access those files to retrieve information. All evidence for review MUST ACTUALLY APPEAR in the slideshow.

ONLY TROUPE DIRECTORS may submit slideshow portfolios. The Troupe Director's gathespian.org password is required to complete a submission form and upload a portfolio.

Involving students in the process of completing the Honor Troupe slideshow portfolio is acceptable, but it is the Troupe Director's responsibility to review the portfolio before submission and to submit the reviewed portfolio.



PORTFOLIO SECTIONS

SECTION 1: Thespian Standards – Must show sufficient and appropriate evidence of each for the portfolio to be accepted and scored.

- ✓ Troupe inducted Thespians
[The template provides a table for entering a list of inductees' names, induction dates, Thespian ID numbers and current grade levels.]
- ✓ Troupe awarded and recorded students' Thespian points using an established Thespian point system based on the EdTA guidelines.
[Show evidence that the Troupe awards points properly and maintains a points record.]
- ✓ Troupe conducted Thespian Troupe meetings.
[Suggested evidence: announcements of meeting dates, attendance records, agendas, photos, emails, social media posts. Meeting dates are an important inclusion.]
- ✓ Troupe attends the 2026 Georgia Thespian Conference in Columbus.
[Must show registration documentation. You may include other evidence, such as photos of members wearing their Conference badges.]



SECTION 2: Theatre Productions

Maximum value 30 points

(Evidence/documentation might include playbill pages, posters, tickets, renderings, design photos, news articles, etc.)

➤ Full-length Production (5 points)

- Student-directed/choreographed (+2) [This does not mean that a student assisted the teacher but served as principal director. Show playbill listing as evidence.]
- Re-producing a previously or subsequently performed full-length show as a one-act show (+2)
- Presented a preview or promotional performance of scene/selections (+1)
- Taking the show on tour or off-campus. Does not include a competition (+3) [If your troupe/school always or regularly performs at a site other than your school, please do not apply for these bonus points.]
- Presented as a BENEFIT PERFORMANCE or SCHOOL-DAY PERFORMANCE (+2) [Provide a complete explanation and show evidence.]
- Original script composed by student(s) (+5) [Show evidence, perhaps an accessible link to a copy of the script.]
- New, innovative or special aspect of production (+2)
- Student-designed technical element [MUST provide designs and playbill listings as evidence.] (+2)
[These points/this show cannot be counted elsewhere on the application]

➤ One-Act Production--30-60 minutes in length (3 points)

- Student-directed/choreographed (+1) [This does not mean that a student assisted the teacher but served as principal director. Show playbill listing as evidence]
- Taking the show on tour or off-campus (+2) [If your troupe/school always or regularly performs at a site other than your school, please do not apply for these bonus points.]
- Presented in a BENEFIT PERFORMANCE or SCHOOL-DAY PERFORMANCE (+1) [Provide a complete explanation and show evidence.]
- Original script composed by student(s) (+3) [Show evidence, perhaps an accessible link to a copy of the script.]
- New, innovative or special aspect of production (+1)
- Student-designed technical element [MUST provide designs and playbill listings as evidence.] (+1)
[These points/this show cannot be counted elsewhere on the application]

➤ One-Act Production--10-29 minutes in length (2 points)

- Student-directed (+1) [This does not mean that a student assisted the teacher but served as principal director. Show playbill listing as evidence]
- Taking the show on tour or off-campus (+1) [If your troupe/school always or regularly performs at a site other than your school, please do not apply for these bonus points.]
- Presented in a BENEFIT PERFORMANCE or SCHOOL-DAY PERFORMANCE (+1) [Provide a complete explanation and show evidence.]
- Original script composed by student(s) (+2) [Show evidence, perhaps an accessible link to a copy of the script.]
- New, innovative or special aspect of production (+1)



Georgia 2025-2026 Honor Troupe Points System & Submission Guidelines

Thespians

[For use documenting the 2025-2026 school year.]

- Student-designed technical element [MUST provide designs and playbill listings as evidence.] (+1)
[These points/this show cannot be counted elsewhere on the application]
- Class project with public performance (2 points)
[These points/this show cannot be counted elsewhere on the application]
- Dinner Theatre production—short show featuring a full meal provided to patrons (4 points)
- Radio/audio play (3 points, bonus points possible based on description)
- Variety/holiday show for the public (3 points)
- Improvisation show for the public. (2 points)
[These points/this show cannot be counted elsewhere on the application]
- Coffee House/Open-Mic Night/Student Showcase for the public or for students only (2 points)
- Hosting/sponsoring a school-wide talent show/competition --or-- having 5 or more Thespians in a school talent show/competition (3 pts) [If the show is a beauty or scholarship pageant, receive 2 points, but must show evidence of talent performances as a component of the pageant.]
- Other production/performance (1-5 points) [Provide a full explanation and documentation]



SECTION 3: Community and School Service

Maximum value 25 points

(Evidence/documentation might include photographs, official documents and registrations, letters from the service organization, newspaper articles, etc.)

- Troupe creates and leads an original school service/improvement effort (4 points) *[This refers specifically to a service project **created by and conducted by** the Troupe alone, NOT in collaboration with other school groups. **Projects that benefit the theatre program may NOT be included here, such as “costume closet clean out,” “painting the stage floor,” or “promoting theatre involvement.” Those events are Troupe activities.]***
- Troupe creates and leads an original community service/improvement effort (5 points) *[This refers specifically to a service project **created by and conducted by** the Troupe that is NOT under the auspices of another organization, such as the United Way. However, a local, state or national organization, such as Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS or your area food bank may be the recipient of the original service project's efforts.]*
- Thespian Troupe participates with other school groups in a **school service project** (3 points) *[This refers specifically to the Troupe participating with other school organizations **in an effort to serve the school, such as a festival to raise funds for the PTA. Projects that benefit the theatre program may NOT be included here, such as “costume closet clean out,” “painting the stage floor,” or “promoting theatre involvement.” Those events are Troupe activities.]***
- Thespian Troupe participates in a local, state, national or international **community service project** (3 points)
[For example, hosting a blood drive for the American Red Cross, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, collecting toys for Toys-for-Tots, or participating in a clean-up project along a local highway or a city park.]
- Thespian Troupe makes a simple monetary donation to a worthy organization or cause. [\$100-500, 3 points / more than \$500, 5 points]
- Thespian Troupe conducts an event to raise funds for the STO's 2025-2026 BC/EFA campaign. (\$100-500 raised, 3 points / more than \$500 raised, 5 points) *[This enterprise may be counted under COMMUNITY SERVICE or TROUPE PARTICIPATION, but not both.]*
- Thespians attend an STO Spirit Night restaurant fundraising event (1 point for each Thespian attending, 4 points MAXIMUM) *[This participation may be counted under COMMUNITY SERVICE or TROUPE PARTICIPATION, but not both.]*

Note: EdTA no longer sponsors the Trick-or-Treat So Kids Can Eat program. If your Troupe conducts a TOTS Kids Can Eat event, you may consider that event an original service project. Please indicate the organization that receives the food or money collected and data on the food or money raised.



SECTION 4: Troupe Participation

Maximum value 40 points

(Evidence/documentation might include programs, playbills, registration documents, photos, etc.)

- Troupe conducts a **public** Thespian Induction Ceremony (3 points) [MUST show evidence of an audience in attendance.]
- Troupe/program conducts a public year's-end awards program/event. [If the awards event includes a Thespian induction, count the induction as a separate event.] (2 points) [Show evidence of audience in attendance.]
[This event may be included under TROUPE PARTICIPATION or OUTREACH & ADVOCACY, but NOT both.]
- Troupe conducts a theatre-related field trip, including college or professional performances (3 pts)
[A trip to NYC, Chicago, London or similar distant location that involves seeing multiple shows and/or taking theatre-related tours earns 5 points. Do not count each show or tour of the trip separately.]
- Thespian Troupe conducts a non-theatre-related field trip or excursion (1 point)
- 5 or more troupe members attend another school's/troupe's production
(0-50 miles travel—1 point, more than 50 miles travel—2 points)
- Thespian Troupe holds a workshop with a guest artist
(LIVE—2 points, VIRTUAL—1 point)
- Thespian Troupe planned activity. This includes social events, but NOT attending shows as a Troupe. Show attendance should be documented elsewhere. (1-2 points)
- Thespian Troupe fundraiser for the troupe or the school's theatre program (2 points)
- Troupe (5 or more Thespians) attends a state/national theater **conference, other than the GA ThesCon** (4 points)
- Troupe (5 or more Thespians) attends a local theatre conference, **other than the GA ThesCon** (3 points)
- ITF Participation
 - Troupe member attends the June 2026 International Thespian Festival (1 point per member attending)
 - Troupe member performs in Thespys at ITF (2 points per student)
 - Troupe's show performed at ITF (5 points)
- Participation in school's regional one-act play competition (1 point)
- Participation in the state one-act play competition (2 points)
- Hosting a regional or state one-act competition. [Show paperwork, playbill, etc. to prove hosting.] (2 points)
- Troupe performed/competed in other local, state, national or international theatre **competition or festival** (2 points for local or state, 3 points for national, 5 points for international, such as the AHSTF at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. An individual performer from the troupe participating in a festival or competition without the Troupe earns 1 point each.)



Georgia Thespians 2025-2026 Honor Troupe Points System & Submission Guidelines

[For use documenting the 2025-2026 school year.]

- Participation in the Shuler Program (maximum of 4 points total)
 - accepted for adjudication (1 point)
 - nominated for an award (+1 for each)
 - performed number at award show (+1)
- Student **attends** Governor's Honors (summer) Program for theatre or dance (2 points per student)
- Student competes in any **Oral Interp** category or **any vocal-music category** at Region and/or State Literary Competition
(1 point per student, per competition—for example, two Thespians in a duo performance at both region and state would earn 4 points.)
[ONLY Oral Interp and vocal-music performances are given credit, not other Literary areas.]
- Georgia Thespian Conference (ThesCon) Participation
 - Troupe Director and 2 or more Thespians attend LEADCON 1 in September (2 points)
 - Troupe Director and 2 or more Thespians attend LEADCON 2 in January (3 points)
 - Junior student participates in GA ThesCon College Auditions **[Show documents as evidence.]** (1 point per student)
 - Senior student participates in GA ThesCon Scholarship or College Auditions **[Show documents as evidence.]** (1 point per student)
 - Student awarded a Thespian Scholarship **[Show documents as evidence.]** (2 points per student)
 - Troupe entry in GA ThesCon Thespys **[Show documents as evidence.]** (1 point per entry) *Enter participation in Thespys playwriting and short film below, not here.*
 - Troupe Thespys entry performs in the Thespys Showcase (2 points per entry)
 - Student runs for following year's STO--attends both LEADCONs and is on the official ballot (1 point)
 - Student elected to STO for the following year (2 points)
 - Student serves a term as a STO during the current year (2 points)
 - Troupe entry in GA ThesCon BACKstage Challenge (formerly Tech Challenge) **[Show documents as evidence.]** (3 points)
 - Troupe entry in GA ThesCon Design Challenge **[Show documents as evidence.]** (3 points)
 - Student auditions for All-State Theatre Opening/Closing Production **[Show documents as evidence.]** (1 point per student)
 - Student performs in the All-State Theatre Opening/Closing Production **[Show cast list from ThesCon program or email notification of casting.]** (2 points per student)
 - Troupe entry in GA ThesCon Freestyle Festival **[Show documents as evidence.]** (3 points)



Georgia 2025-2026 Honor Troupe Points System & Submission Guidelines Thespians

[For use documenting the 2025-2026 school year.]

- Troupe participates in GA ThesCon Improv Challenge (2 points per team entry)
 - Troupe enters a team in the GA ThesCon Quiz Bowl Competition (3 points per team)
 - [Troupe's team wins the competition---+3 points]
 - Troupe has a Thespy-Playwriting entry at ThesCon **[Show documents as evidence.]** (3 points per entry)
 - Troupe's Playwriting entry selected (+2 points per entry)
 - Troupe has a Film Festival entry at ThesCon **[Show documents as evidence.]** (3 points per entry)
 - Film Festival entry selected (+2 points per entry)
 - Troupe has a Thespys Short Film entry at ThesCon **[Show documentary evidence.]** (2 points per entry)
 - Student/Director/Troupe nominates an individual for a ThesCon Award (Hall of Fame, Admin. OTY, Educator OTY, Student Achievement, Student Tech Achievement. This does NOT include recognition of tech students made before a ThesCon performance.)
(3 points each.) *Show copy of nomination documents.*
 - [If nominated individual wins the award, +2]
 - Troupe participates in the Honor Troupe program the previous year [Show photo of plaque, listing from ThesCon program, or documentation received.] (3 points)
 - Troupe's show performs at the Georgia Thespian Conference (5 points)
 - Troupe conducts an event to raise funds for the STO's 2025-2026 BC/EFA campaign. (\$100-500 raised, 3 points / more than \$500 raised, 5 points) [This enterprise may be counted under COMMUNITY SERVICE or TROUPE PARTICIPATION, but not both.]
 - Thespians attend an STO Spirit Night restaurant fundraising event (1 point for each Thespian attending, 4 points MAXIMUM) [This participation may be counted under COMMUNITY SERVICE or TROUPE PARTICIPATION, but not both.]
 - Troupe Director and/or a chaperone who is not a Thespian Board member volunteers to work with ThesCon Safety & Security, House Management, or other ThesCon event. (2 points each)
 - Troupe participates in the STO's Theatre-in-Our-Schools Social Media Campaign by posting a Troupe message/image to #GAtheatreinourschools (3 points)
 - Troupe members participate in the "Beyond the Stage" statewide Zoom event. [1 point each participant, 4 points MAXIMUM]
 - Other GA Thespian Conference participation (1-3 points. Must provide explanation.)
- Troupe Director attends the 2025 GA Educators Conference in August **[Include documents as evidence.]** (3 points)



NOTE: EdTA's Theatre Education Conference will be held in July 2026, which is in fiscal year 2026-2027. Troupe Directors who attend that conference may not count their participation this year (2025-2026), but they will be able to count it for the 2026-2027 school year.

- A virtual or online troupe participation event (1-3 points)
- New, innovative troupe participation project (1-5 points. Must provide explanation.)



SECTION 5: Theatre Outreach and Advocacy

Maximum value 25 points

(Evidence/documentation might include playbills, photos, letters, publications, newspaper articles, etc.)

- Show taken on tour or off campus for a special performance--other than to competition (3 points)
[Cannot count these points or this show elsewhere in slideshow portfolio.]
[If your troupe/school always or regularly performs at a site other than your school, please do not apply for these points.]
- Event or activity conducted to highlight the social-issue aspect of a specific production (3 points)
[This event/activity may relate to a show referenced in the Theatre Production section of the portfolio.]
- Specific aspect of a production or event involves cross-curricular support or collaboration within the school or the community (1-3 points)
- Creates and distributes an original cross-curriculum packet or a study guide for a production (2 points)
- Troupe conducts a public year's-end awards program/event. (2 points) [Show evidence of audience in attendance.]
[This event may be included under TOUPE PARTICIPATION or OUTREACH & ADVOCACY, but NOT both.]
- Special Advertising/Promotional Campaign or Strategy Employed for a Production or Event [1-5 points]
- Creates a promotional lobby display for a production. (1 point) [This refers to a display that features photos of the cast and crew, themed decorations, merchandise advertising, season advertising, etc.]
- Creates a dramaturgical lobby display for a production (3 points) [This refers to a museum-like presentation that displays information related to contextual elements of the show, its history, the history of past productions, the playwright/composer, the design of certain production elements, and other dramaturgical considerations.]
[Cannot count this as student-designed technical element also.]
- Hosting a professional touring company (1 point for each performance)
- Troupe works with **another Thespian Troupe** on a project or activity (2-5 points)
- Troupe members visit an elementary or middle school classroom for poetry/story reading, storytelling, creative dramatics activities, etc. (1 point)
- Troupe/program creates and conducts a theatre skills workshop for younger children (1 hr. or less—2 points, more than 1 hr.—3 points)
- Troupe/program conducts a theatre camp (5 days or longer) for younger children (5 points) [If theatre camp culminates with a public performance, +2 points.]
- "National Arts in Education Week" event(s) during the week of September 7-13, 2025 (1-2 points)
- "World Theatre Day" event(s) on March 27, 2026 (1-2 points)



[For use documenting the 2025-2026 school year.]

- “Theatre in Our Schools” Month school/campus promotion project throughout March 2026 (1-5 points) [Show details of events and activities conducted specifically to celebrate and advocate for the theatre arts during March.]
- 5 or more Thespians participate in a GA Thespians statewide advocacy event or endeavor. (3 points)
- Sponsors or provides outreach and support to a Junior Thespian Troupe (3-5 points) [Show evidence of collaboration and support.]
- Sponsors a school drama club for non-Thespians and aspiring Thespians within the high school (1 point)
- Sponsors a drama club for a local middle school or elementary school (2 points)
- Troupe maintains an official/sanctioned social media presence (1 point per platform—Maximum of 3 points)
- Troupe acquires a troupe t-shirt for the year (2 points) [Show evidence of original design for +1 point.]
- Troupe designs and acquires t-shirt promoting a specific production in the season [1 point]
- Thespians perform (unpaid) in a community theatre production (1 point for each, 5 points maximum) [Need not be one production. May be cumulative.]
- Thespian Troupe provides unpaid technical support to another school department, club or community entity (1 point for each, 3 points maximum) [Need not be one event. May be cumulative.]
- Troupe participates in a parade or community event (1 point)
- Thespian graduates wear Thespian identifier (stole, tassel, medallion, collar, cord) at commencement exercises (1 point total—NOT 1 point per graduate.) [May show photos and/or invoice.]
- Troupe sponsors an improv troupe/club that performs publicly [Show evidence of public performance and club membership.] **[Cannot count these points or this show elsewhere in portfolio.]** (2 points)
- Troupe makes a theatre advocacy presentation to a civic organization or governmental body at any time other than March (2 points) **[Cannot be part of the “Theatre in Our Schools” Month project.]**
- School/theatre program hosts a student teacher from a college or university theatre-education program for their semester-long classroom practicum. [Provide photos and documents as evidence.] (2 points)
- Other outreach project (1-5 points)

Points Awards Scale for 2025-2026

Maximum of 120 points possible.

Award Levels: 120-90 points—Gold 89-80 points—Silver 79-70 points—Bronze