



Arkansas Thespians

Who's Who 2023-2024



Chapter Director - Daniel Stahl

director@arkansasthespians.org

The Chapter Director presides over the Executive Board meetings, oversees all Arkansas Thespians events, and coordinates communication with Troupe Directors,



Assistant Chapter Director - Hollie Shepherd

hollie@arkansasthespians.org

Arkansas Thespians Executive Board

The direction and management of the affairs of EdTA-Arkansas shall be vested in its Executive Board who shall have complete discretion over the business activities, funds and properties of EdTA-Arkansas, and who shall have complete authority with respect to the expenditures and disbursements necessary to carry out the purposes and activities of EdTA-Arkansas.

"S" Crew- Jessica Fisher

StageS@arkansasthespians.org



"T" Crew- Hollie Shepherd

StageT@arkansasthespians.org



"A" Crew- Beau Pumphrey

StageA@arkansasthespians.org



"G" Crew- Summer Scott

StageG@arkansasthespians.org



"E" Crew- Trevor Cooperescue

StageE@arkansasthespians.org



Professional Member- Jeff McLaughlin

jeffmcl@arkansasthespians.org



STO Liaison- Justyn McEntire

justyn@arkansasthespians.org



Treasurer- Michael Shepherd

treasurer@arkansasthespians.org



Secretary- Audra Bocksnick

secretary@arkansasthespians.org





Arkansas Thespians Coordinators- (Click the name to email)

Advocacy Coordinator- [Alisha Carson](#)

Description: The responsibilities of this coordinator are aimed toward adult advocates of theatre education. The primary objective of this coordinator is to keep informed on curriculum and advocacy issues in the state, report them to the board, and devise a method for disseminating the information to the Thespian troupe directors and adult supporters of theatre education in Arkansas. A secondary objective is to arrange opportunities for adults to voice concerns and dialogue about issues that promote excellence in theatre education. Specifically, this coordinator should plan workshops that address the growth and development of theatre education and gauge the impact of theatre education on adults and students.

Alumni Coordinator- *unfilled*

Description: The main responsibility of the alumni coordinator is to maintain accurate records of AR Alumni Thespians, communicate with them, record, and report. This coordinator's main goal is to track the success of our former students and keep them affiliated with our organization.

Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Coordinator - (moving to Executive Board position)

Description: DEI coordinators develop and promote strategies and best practices within the realms of racial, social, sexual, and gender diversity as it relates to theatre education, our chapter, and our festival. The primary objective of this coordinator is to promote an equitable and safe space for theatre practitioners that recognizes, promotes, and celebrates diversity and inclusion. The secondary objective of this coordinator is to keep informed on DEI issues in the state, report them to the board, and devise a method for disseminating the information to the Thespian troupe directors and supporters of theatre education in Arkansas. There will be one coordinator for the Junior Troupes and one coordinator for the Senior Troupes.



Junior Thespian Coordinator- [Summer Scott](#)

Description: The responsibilities of this coordinator is to maintain the current numbers, schools, and directors of Junior Thespian troupes active and non-active throughout the state as well as collecting information, communicating with those directors, and reporting to the board. The Junior Thespian Coordinator will also coordinate the two junior festivals (one for each side of the state to coincide with One Act Festivals).



Membership Coordinator- [Abby Curry](#)

Description: The coordinator will be responsible for assisting new troupe directors transition into their role of creating and managing a troupe, as well as issues relating to EDTA and Arkansas Thespians membership. The coordinator will make sure all troupe directors' memberships remain current. The coordinator will also be responsible for answering questions as needed, fielding questions and pointing troupe directors in the right direction to get problems resolved in a timely manner.



One-Act Preliminaries and State Showcase Coordinators- [Billy Ivey & Tony Terrell](#)

Description: This coordinator will plan one-act festivals and organize the state showcase at the State Festival.



Professional Development Coordinator -[Heather Hooten](#)

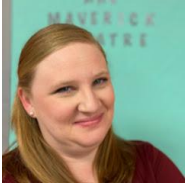
Description: This coordinator will oversee professional development certifications for Arkansas Thespians,



coordinate with presenters for professional development workshops, and communicate with and keep Arkansas Thespians in compliance with Arkansas Department of Education qualifications for professional development.

Public Relations Coordinator- Abby Curry

Description: The Public Relations Coordinator is responsible for building and maintaining relationships with board members, thespian troupe directors, and directors to ensure that all state “newsworthy” items are effectively communicated to the appropriate media. Also to disseminate information to our membership.



STO Leadership Coordinator(s)- Amy Pumphrey

Description: Five or six students are announced each year at state festival as our State Thespian Officers. They are led by the Student Liaison Coordinator(s). The Liaison is responsible for seeing that the STOs’ assigned festival tasks are completed. This includes conducting a leadership seminar, getting materials and being a liaison to the executive board.



Technical Coordinator- Beau Pumphrey

Description: Coordinates the technical aspects of Tech challenge, Opening number, the State Show, one-act preliminaries, and state one-act showcase. The coordinator sends information about rehearsals, etc. to all crew people when necessary and act as a liaison between the director and the student technical crews to ensure that students’ time will be used productively. This coordinator is the primary contact person about technical issues of state events.

Arkansas Thespians State Festival Chairs



Scholarships Chair- Courtney Shepard

Description: The responsibility of the auditions chair is to coordinate scholarship auditions and interviews at state festival.



Awards Chair- Lori Dial

Description: The responsibility of the Awards Chair is to coordinate awards for events.



Eventsential Chair- Justyn McEntire

Description: The Eventsential Chair collaborates with the Festival Coordinators to create the Eventsential guide for festival attendees.



Festival On- Site Chair (Festival Host)- Jeff McLaughlin

Description: The festival on-site chair is responsible for all arrangements that need to be made at the festival site. This includes preparations at the festival site.. The chairperson will work closely with the Chapter Director and/or festival coordinator in finalizing all details with the facilities and equipment. The host school will also be responsible for creating the festival atmosphere. This includes overseeing of



guides, signage, and working with the decorating committee and clean-up committee.

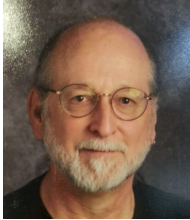
Information Chair- [Melissa Minton](#)

Description: This chairperson will be responsible for collecting information and staffing the information desk during the festival. This area needs to be accessible to the delegates throughout the festival and needs to be close to, but not in, the registration area.



Registration/OpenWater Chair- [Hollie Shepherd](#)

Description: The Registration Chair oversees registration, setting appropriate deadlines and making sure that all forms are consistent and clear. Create and coordinate online registration for all events throughout the year and provides information to the Webmaster. The chair develops AR Thespian OpenWater Platforms for festivals.



Security Chair- [Alan Malcolm](#)

Description: The Security Chair will work closely with the Festival On-Site Coordinator to identify potential hazards and safety concerns. This person will be responsible in making provisions to avoid problems during state festival.



Thespys Chair- [Jenava Harris](#)

Description: The main responsibility of this Chair is to coordinate Thespys for Jr and Sr Festivals.

Expo Chair-

Description: The responsibility of the vendor expo chair is to seek out and become the point of contact with vendors for festival. The chairperson will collaborate with the Festival Coordinator on vendor fees and sponsorships. The chair will also communicate with the vendors and colleges/universities wishing to set up a table/display and layout the expo area for the festival.



Webmaster- [Abby Curry](#)

Description: The Webmaster is responsible for organizing and maintaining the website for AR Thespians. This coordinator will be responsible for collecting information and posting to the website. This area needs to be accessible to the delegates throughout the year and needs to be updated regularly.



Workshop/Guest Artist Chair- [Jessica Fisher](#)

Description: A number of workshops covering a variety of topics will be available at the festival. Many of these workshops should be participatory in nature and some of the workshops may be offered more than once. The average length of the workshop will be sixty minutes. Workshop presenters may come from colleges/universities, community theatre, professional theatre, and/or high school troupe directors.

Arkadelphia Thespian Jr. Festival Chairs



Jr. Festival On-site Chair (Festival Host)- & [Tony Terrell](#)

Description: The Jr. festival on-site chair is responsible for all arrangements that need to be made at the festival site. This includes preparations at the festival site.. The chairperson will work closely with the Chapter Director and/or festival coordinator in finalizing all details with the facilities and equipment. The host school will also be responsible for creating the festival atmosphere. This includes overseeing of guides, signage, and working with the decorating committee and clean-up committee.



Jr. Workshop/Guest Artist Chair- [Jessica Fisher](#)

Description: A number of workshops covering a variety of topics will be available at the festival. Many of these workshops should be participatory in nature and some of the workshops may be offered more than once. The average length of the workshop will be sixty minutes. Workshop presenters may come from colleges/universities, community theatre, professional theatre, and/or high school troupe directors.



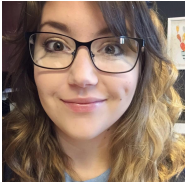
Jr. Eventsential Chair- [Justyn McEntire](#)

Description: The Eventsential Chair collaborates with the Festival Coordinators to create the Eventsential guide for festival attendees.



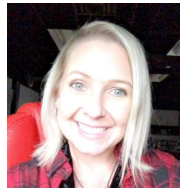
Jr. Registration/OpenWater Chair- [Hollie Shepherd](#)

Description: The Registration Chair oversees registration, setting appropriate deadlines and making sure that all forms are consistent and clear. Create and coordinate online registration for all events throughout the year and provides information to the Webmaster. The chair develops AR Thespian OpenWater Platforms for festivals.



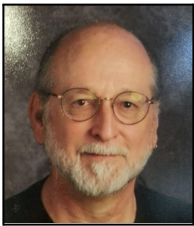
Jr. THESPYS Chair- [Jenava Harris](#)

Description: The main responsibility of this Chair is to coordinate Jr. Thespys.



Jr. Awards Chair- [Lori Dial](#)

Description: The responsibility of the Jr. Awards Chair is to coordinate awards for Jr. Festival.



Jr. Security Chair- [Alan Malcolm](#)

Description: The Security Chair will work closely with the Festival On-Site Coordinator to identify potential hazards and safety concerns. This person will be responsible in making provisions to avoid problems during the Junior Festival.